

FAITH AND WORK

A guide for the prayer of the people in public worship

This guide is designed to encourage lay people in paid employment or volunteers to lead the prayers for other people with a focus on the organisation where they work.

1. Before you begin, read the gospel appointed for the Sunday you are leading the prayer. Sit with the text in your own meditation and prayer, and listen for how God's Word moves your heart.
2. Speak for up to five minutes about your work (daily life). It may be helpful for you to describe where you work, your position, and what you do. What do you do that you find enjoyable, challenging?
3. How are you aware of God's presence in your work? What is God calling you to in your work?

Perhaps you could use these two questions to tell something of your ministry at work, your service, your concerns, your witness.

3. The prayer of the people has a traditional format that may direct your prayer.

For the church

- For the corporate life of the church, and its responsiveness to the issues and concerns of your working life.
- For the Christian presence in your workplace, and how it is may be faithful to Christ.

For the workplace

- Pray for the presence of God in the midst of the issues and groups you are attentive to, such as the spirit of the organisation, the needs of specific groups experiencing injustice, ethical or social conflict, or personal indignity, the service your organisation provides, and those serviced by the organisation.
- For individual people whose joys and sorrows you wish to bring before God.

For the congregation

- For your own needs as a faithful Christian at work and in life.
- For any at your work or in the congregation who are remembering the anniversary of a death.

- For the life of the congregation, especially its faithfulness in prayer for each other in our daily living.