

Intergenerational Worship

by Beth Barnett

Intergenerational Prayer

Exodus 12:1-14 Year A Proper 18 Sept 10, 2017



What this is: Interactive Prayer



Where it's used: Any intergenerational gathering; Early Word



What's needed: 3 Pillar candles, 3 art images by Chris Booth (Illustration B) one image wrapped around each of the candles; matches; tapers; tealight candles, magazines/newspapers



Time: 5 minutes



Bible focus/theme: Exodus 12:1-14; God's presence

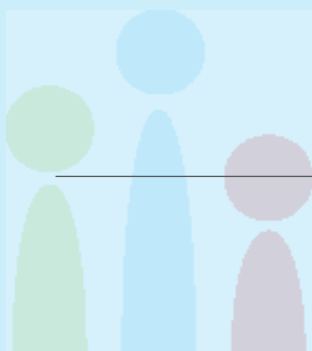
Introduction

As we have been exploring the stories of Exodus, we have noticed that God's presence is represented in fire.

Our three candles show three examples of God's presence

- a surprising blazing bush in the middle of the wilderness that never finishes burning
- the fire in every Hebrew slave home, roasting their meal, giving light and warmth in a dark night when death is near.
- leading the slaves forwards out to freedom into the future

Today in our prayers we gather around these three candles and the stories they tell us to pray for the world, our community and ourselves.



Loving God

We are drawn by the call of your holy presence

You hear the cries of your creation and so we bring our prayers to your loving care today

For those whose lives have taken difficult directions, and who feel that you are far away.

Let your presence blaze with light and warmth.

For those who are waiting for your call and purpose

Let your presence blaze with light and power

For those whose nation has been filled with harsh violence and oppression for as long as anyone can remember

Let your presence blaze with light and justice

For those who must leave all they know as home and risk the unknown

Let your presence blaze with light and protection

For those who are afraid of losing power and privilege, and are tempted to further greed and oppression

Let your presence blaze with light and truth

For those for whom death has come too near

Let your presence blaze with light and hope

Amen.

Ways to use this liturgy:

Aurally – read the liturgy aloud, with various members of your community reading the prayer ‘For those who...’ and your whole community responding with ‘Let your presence blaze...’

As the lines are spoken for each prayer, a member of your gathering lights a tea light with a taper from one of the three ‘story’ candles.

Visually – Write each of the prayer couplets on a separate piece of A4 paper. Display these around your space with your candles in a central place. Invite your gathering to move around and read the prayers for themselves with one another in twos or threes* then light a tea light with a taper from the ‘story’ candles.

Investigatively/Reflectively - Write each of the prayer couplets on a separate piece of A4 paper. Display these around your space with your candles in a central place. Provide copies of Newspapers, Time and National Geographic magazines for people to browse and use a prompt for praying more widely for the world.

- if you are happy for the literature to be disassembled, encourage them to tear out pictures or paragraphs or headlines and add these under the prayers on each A4 page.

*See the Gospel reading for today Matt 18:19-20

Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.

Find high resolution original art files here
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/OBzY1iy990r0kaWp0ekpPSFo0WG8>

Candle Art Illustration B

