

Intergenerational Worship

by Beth Barnett

Call to Worship - Gospel of Matthew



What this is: Call to worship liturgy with tactile symbol



Where it's used: Any intergenerational gathering



What's needed: Large rectangle of hessian, with 'Welcome' stencilled across it; words of liturgy displayed on screen or printed for participants.



Time: 2 minutes



Bible focus/theme: Gospel of Matthew; God with us.

Begin with the Welcome Mat folded in on itself 6 times - 3 times long ways, and three times the other way.

Have 4 people of varying ages carry the mat in as the call to worship begins. Taking a corner each, they slowly unfold the welcome mat, until it is flat on the ground.

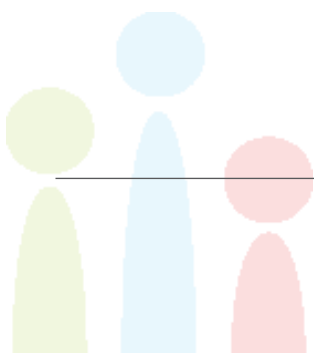
With each person holding a corner (the tallest holding the top corners and shorter people holding the bottom, lift the mat up vertically before your gathering - holding it in place until the call to worship is finishing.

Lay the mat down flat on the ground at the front of your gathering space.

While this is happening have 4 other people lead the call to worship, dividing the lines between them.

The words should be declaimed strongly - a hearty shout!

Welcome Mat and other items gathered at the close of an inter-generational service, North Ringwood Uniting Church, Victoria, Australia.



VCCE

**children
& families**

God is with us!

God is with us!

The Gospel of Matthew shouts out this welcome.

God is with us!

This is God's wonderful world

God is with us!

- and we are God's weird and wonderful people

- and here we are - in God's story

God is with us!

Full of life, in colourful variety,
enthusiastic flourishing,
and the pain of growth and grief.

Welcome to life here.

God is with us!

God is here.

God is with us.

God is putting out the welcome mat for the world.

All are welcome

All are invited

Here we all are - gathered on God's welcome mat,
covering the entire cosmos with glory.

God is with us!

Are our feet muddy and dusty
from our journey so far?

God's Welcome mat is for all to wipe their weary toes
upon.

God is with us!

Praise God!

God is with us!