

The Spiritual Discipline of Tithing



Worship I

THE APPROACH TO GOD

VOTUM AND SENTENCES

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth. **Amen.**

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;

**for he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the rivers.**

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

**Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.**

They will receive blessing from the Lord.

Psalm 24.1-5a

SALUTATION

2 Peter 1.2

CONFESSION

Gracious God, in whose service we long ago dedicated our lives, we confess that we are prone to sin and seldom inclined to obedience. We go soon to play, late to prayer. We are quick to serve ourselves, hesitant in our service to others; eager to get, reluctant to give; full of good intentions, slow to fulfill them. We fear adversity, cling to prosperity. O merciful God, grant us your forgiveness. Restore us, that our wills may be obedient. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

2 Corinthians 5.17, 18a

Believe this good news and go forth to live in peace. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

LESSON

1 Kings 17.8-16

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION (meditation or "wondering questions")

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

Hendon LM

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

O God, we praise the strength of your love. Where there is hunger, raise up your love. Where there is hurt and persecution, empower your love. Where there are lies, speak your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Where nations are angry and plot against one another, bring your love. Where powers cripple and destroy what you have made, bring your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Where our fears keep us from offering Christ to all in need, bring your love. When we experience jealousy, bring your love. When we clutch possessions to ourselves, bring your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

O Lord, increase our affection. Increase our compassion. Increase our joy. Show us what we do not see. Magnify our love.

O God, giver of love, have mercy on us.

We thank you for the power of divine love and for the presence of your love in one another. Guide us all finally into that greatest love who is Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6.24-26

Take My Life and Let It Be

FRANCES R. HAVERGAL

H. A. CÉSAR MALAN

1. Take my life and let it be Con - se - cra - ted,
 2. Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse
 3. Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways, on - ly,
 4. Take my sil - ver and my gold - Not a mite would
 5. Take my will and make it Thine - It shall be no
 6. Take my love - my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its

Lord, to Thee; Take my mo - ments and my days - Let them
 of Thy love; Take my feet and let them be Swift and
 for my King; Take my lips and let them be Filled with
 I with - hold; Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry
 long - er mine; Take my heart - it is Thine own, It shall
 treas - ure store; Take my - self - and I will be Ev - er,

flow in cease - less praise, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
 beau - ti - ful for Thee, Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
 mes - sag - es from Thee, Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
 pow'r as Thou shalt choose, Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
 be Thy roy - al throne, It shall be Thy roy - al throne.
 on - ly, all for Thee, Ev - er, on - ly, all for Thee.*

Tune: HENDON (Alternate, TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, adapted)

Prayers adapted from *Pray to the Lord: Prayers for Corporate Worship*, Commission on Worship, Reformed Church Press, 1988; and *Intercessions for the Christian People*, Gail Ramshaw, ed., Pueblo Publishing Company, 1988.