Weekly Worship Template for Gathering and Scattering Workers

Wondering how you can gather and scatter workers in a worship service incorporating worker testimonies and stories? Below you'll find a simple template for a call to worship and sending. Invite several workers to reflect on the examples and ask them to fill in the template with their own voice.

These testimonies not only allow workers to bring their work to God in worship, but also to share their experiences with their community for prayer. Consider using this basic structure for several weeks in a row, asking workers to share and be blessed. How might the voices of a few encourage the voices of many?

Call to Worship

Children of God,
Bring it to the altar and come as you are
    Bring your whole selves, your whole week
    Your sorrows and your joys
    Don't hide that which preoccupies you
    Don't ignore that which burdens
Bring your whole self to the altar
    Your work and your responsibilities
    Your victories and your triumphs
    God desires that you enter here with fullness of heart
Bring your stories of salvation and sadness
    Come and give them to the Lord

Template for Gathering

I bring my week of service and labor as a _____.
In this week, God equipped me to _____
I felt God's presence when _____
God calls me now to worship because _____

Examples for Gathering

These are meant to be examples (although they could be used in worship as well). As you invite your workers to participate and fill in their own gathering words from their own experience, these might help them see how to use the template above

I bring my week of service and labor as an Amazon driver

In this week, God equipped me to complete my routes safely, ensuring people received everything from books to bar soap, medical supplies to matcha tea.

I felt God's presence when I delivered a birthday package to a child, and completed a route for a colleague who went home for a family emergency.

God calls me now to worship because in the midst of dealing with goods and services, I worship the One who is the giver of all good gifts - always on time, always ready to receive, always riding with me blessing my work.

I bring my week of service and labor as a drug regulator for the Food and Drug Administration

In this week, God equipped me to analyze a clinical trial drug with the layers of scientific and medical knowledge he has given me. I approved this drug with my team and new medical options will be available to cure disease.

I felt God's presence when I read through the case studies of the hundreds of people who have responded positively to this medical miracle, giving them a chance of many more years of living.

God calls me now to worship because my incomplete knowledge is met and received by God who is above all, through all, and in all. To God be the glory in and through my work.

Sending Words

Friends, this is not the end of our worship but its beginning.

We go now into the city to continue lives of worship and service

In the marketplace and the storeroom

In the medical facility and the classroom

In the quietness of retirement and the hustle of household

And so we go to extend our worship into the world.

We go, to extend these songs of grace and mercy to our coworkers and classmates.

We go, to extend this table of hospitality to our neighbors and family members.

We go, trusting that God is at work in this world, using us and our gifts for his glory

We go, equipped with the power and presence of the Spirit who goes out before us and lights our path so that we might love and serve

Sending Template

God sends me out to my work as a _____.
In this week, may God equip me to _____
I pray for God's presence in _____
May God bless the work of my hands and yours as we together serve God's Kingdom

Examples for Sending

These are meant to be examples (although they could be used in worship as well). As you invite your workers to participate and fill in their own scattering words from their own experience, these might help them see how to use the template above

God sends me out to my work as a pediatrician.
In this week, may God equip me to care for the health and well-being of all God's children - strengthening bodies and engaging young minds. May God equip me to swiftly treat the minor and discern the potential major. May God keep me healthy that I might continue to serve.
I pray for God's presence when treating patients and families who suffer. When I see signs of abuse or neglect, let me act with loving care. When I know the diagnosis and am too scared to say it, soften my heart and my tongue to speak truth in love. When I am tired of treating colds and administering injections, remind me Great Physician of what it means to be an agent of healing in your broken world.
May God bless the work of my hands and yours as we together serve God's Kingdom

God sends me out to my work as an architect.
In this week, may God equip me to create that which is beautiful, that which is useful, and that which is safe. May God equip me to collaborate well with urban planners and permit offices, recognizing that a building never stands alone.
I pray for God's creativity when I have an empty blueprint in front of me and I don't know where to start. I pray for God's wisdom when I'm making final adjustments and tweaks. I

pray for kindness when the builder changes their minds. I pray for satisfaction in my work, recognizing I am always an important part of a larger process.

May God bless the work of my hands and yours as we together serve God's Kingdom

Written for the Worship for Workers Project of Fuller Seminary by Katie Roelofs from Washington, DC