

Community-Developed

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Offertory Prayers A Sampling

1.

Generous God,
We don't give because you make us.
We don't give because anyone else is watching.
We give because we are grateful and because we want to be part of the work of your
kingdom in every way we can.
Jesus reminds us in the temple that the way our money helps or hurts others matters to you.
And so we ask that this money would help your reign to flourish. Amen.

2.

God, we make decisions about our money nearly every day,
Whether to buy that coffee,
When to replace that iPod,
Where to make investments for the future.
Help us to be faithful with what is in our hands,
As we trust you to be faithful with the world you hold in your hands.
Amen.

3.

God whose giving knows no ending,
We know how to say thank you when we receive.
Right now we say thank you as we give.
In our giving, hear our heartfelt gratitude for all that you are and all that we have.
Bless these gifts for your mission in the world,
And bless the other gifts we have to bring to your mission, opening our eyes to how you are
calling us to participate.
In Jesus' name, Amen.
Generous God,
Make us generous in your image.
Make us compassionate in your image.
Make us faithful in your image.
Bless these gifts and all the gifts we offer, that your kingdom may come on earth as it is in
heaven. Amen.

4.

God,
It's that time again when seasons change. We look at our wardrobes, our desk drawers, our
freezers, and see what we have and what we need for the season to come. As we
prepare our offerings, probe us to look at all of our wealth, to look at all that we have,
what we truly need, and all that others may need for the season to come. Bless our
gifts for your kingdom. Amen.

5.

God of abundance,
Counting out loonies, writing cheques, swiping credit cards, and clicking "submit payment"
are normal, everyday activities.
What doesn't seem normal to the rest of the world is when we interrupt our own desires to
feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, and visit the imprisoned.
But this is what we ask you to help us do with this money. May your kingdom come, God.
Amen.

6.

(Hold your wallet, or cheque, or card/bill/coin, make sure your neighbour has something)

God, bless our wallets,
Because they participate in our expressions of our faith in you.
Bless our cheques, our cards, our bills, and our coins,
Because they might be called into your kingdom.
If we have barely two pennies to put in the treasury,
or if we make many automatic withdrawal donations each month,
no matter who we are and what we have, you welcome our gifts.
Be in our sharing, our saving, and our spending,
and multiply each gift. Amen.

7.

God of love,
If we speak in the tongues of donors and investors, but do not have love, we are noisy gongs
or clanging cymbals.
And if we have investing powers, and understand all mysteries of interest rates and have all
faith so as to remove taxes, but do not have love, we are nothing.
Love never ends. As your love for us never ends, may our love for you never end, and may
we show it in all that we do and say. Receive these gifts with our love, and multiply
them in your love for all people. Amen.

8.

God of abundance, sometimes we have to learn how to have faith in the in-between.
When there doesn't seem to be enough, show us how your people take care of each other.
When we fear to share what we have, show us the grace of receiving an unexpected gift.
When we hang on tight for later, just in case, show us that you are in this very moment.
In these ways, teach us to give, to share, to offer ourselves for your kingdom work.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

9.

Listening God, the cost of discipleship seems reasonable as we bow our heads in prayer. Yet, when we think about the economic pressures in our lives – the mortgage, car payments, school supplies, tuition, and credit card debt – giving money is a challenge. Strengthen the connection between your call to discipleship and our giving habits. We strive to grow in generosity so that our giving is a reflection of our desire to be in a covenant relationship with you. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

10.

God, we look at our humble offerings and we think they might not change the world today. But they help us remember.

We remember that you are generous.

We remember that when we give our money, we mean that we're giving ourselves.

We remember that you working in us does change the world, letting your kingdom come on earth.

Bless all of these gifts. Amen.

11.

(Lent)

God of the desert, God of the garden,

By sharing our money, we proclaim

“One does not live by bread alone”,

“Do not put the Lord your God to the test”,

“Worship the Lord your God and serve only God”.

Let us witness to this in all things. Amen.

12.

(Palm Sunday)

Blessed are you, God, and the one who comes in your name. Like the palms laid down on a road long ago, we prepare to lay down our gifts, gifts that ready our world for your coming, gifts that open our eyes to your appearing. Let us not misunderstand your entry into our lives. Hosanna, save us, let us walk with you. Amen.

13.

(Christmas season)

God-with-us,

These are gifts for you. Gifts that will be spent on teaching each other about you, making opportunities to grow in love for each other, maintaining a space of hospitality in this building, and reaching outside our doors to those who need our support, so they, in turn, can share their gifts.

Teach us to give good gifts, for you are the giver of the best gift.

We thank you for Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

14.

(Christmas morning)

God in the flesh,

In this moment as gifts are being given and received, opened and enjoyed,

We pause to sit before the gift you gave to heal the world.

And we offer our meagre gifts of money back, a small expression of our tremendous gratitude.

In the name of the Christ child, Jesus, Amen.

15.

(Epiphany)

God, we have been made in your image.

So, in your generosity, make us generous.

In your faithfulness, make us faithful.

So that whatever gift we bring to you might be an offer of worship before you, as the gold, frankincense, and myrrh were before your son Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

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