## **Worship Resources for Publishing Sunday**

## **Prayer**

- **L:** Nurturing God, through caring homes, loving teachers and church friends, and strong resources that guide us to interpret your word, we are inspired to know you.
- C: Thank you, God, for the powerful gift of knowing you and belonging to your gathered community.
- **L:** Your word commands us to love you with heart, soul, and mind, and to talk to one another about our deep love for you—when we are at home and when we are away, when we lie down and when we rise.
- C: Thank you, God, for loving us—and calling us to love you.
- **L:** Your word tells us about the good news of God's salvation through Jesus, and what it means to follow Jesus into the world.
- C: Thank you, God, for calling us to follow Jesus—and to share this good news by loving our neighbors as ourselves.
- **L:** Creating God, today we celebrate the potential of our publishing ministry to bring the good news of Jesus to life through timely resources, aided by insights from Anabaptist-Mennonite experience.
- C: God, we ask your blessing on this challenging process.
- **L:** Today we celebrate all who support current and future publishing efforts with their talents, eager interest, prayers, and donations of money and time.
- C: We especially thank you for writers and editors, readers, teachers and learners who develop Sunday school curricula and other study resources.
- **L:** Loving God, we pray that these resources, including the new *Gather 'Round* Sunday school curriculum, will fulfill its mission to nurture children, youth, and adults in becoming followers of Jesus.
- C: God, we pray that the resources produced through Mennonite Publishing Network will guide us to know and love you, interpret your word, belong to your gathered community, and share your good news. Amen

## Other worship resources

**From scripture:** Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Luke 10:27; Matthew 18:20. These are the three key texts for the new Sunday school curriculum, *Gather 'Round: Hearing & Sharing God's Good News. Gather 'Round* will begin in Fall 2006.

From Hymnal: A Worship Book

Prayers: 672, 725

Songs: 385 (What gift can we bring)
487 (Teach me, O Lord)

543 (I long for your commandments)

From Sing the Journey: Hymnal A Worship Book, Supplement 1

Offering song: 60 (Lord of all good)

• Sending: 158

## What is Publishing Sunday?

On the church-wide calendar of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada, the last Sunday of September is designated as Publishing Sunday. This is a day to celebrate published materials such as hymnals, Sunday school curriculum, books, magazines, websites and other resources essential for congregational life and for individual spiritual growth. This is also a time to pray for the many people who develop these resources and for the church-wide agency, Mennonite Publishing Network, which is jointly owned by Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA.





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