

20 C M B 23

A Blessing of the Home

The blessing of the home is a prayer for God to watch over the place where we live

LEADER: The Lord is with you;

FAMILY: And also with you.

ALL: Peace be to this house and to all who live, work, and visit here.

LEADER: The three wise men came to Bethlehem in search of the Lord. They brought to him precious gifts: gold to honor the newborn king, incense to the true God in human form, and myrrh to anoint his body, which one day would die like our own.

Let us pray. O God, you once used a star to show to all the world that Jesus is your Son. May the light of that star that once guided wise men to honor his birth, now guide us to recognize him also, to know you by faith, and to see you in the epiphanies of the daily experiences of our lives.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord — Jesus born of Mary — shall be revealed.

FAMILY: And all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.

ALL: As the Wise Men once sought your brilliant light, O Lord, so may we seek to live and work in your splendor.

LEADER: O God of Light, bless this (our) house and this (our) family. May this be a place of peace and health. May each member of this family cultivate the gifts and graces you have bestowed, dedicating our talents and works for the good of all.

Make this house a shelter in the storm and a haven of rest for all in need of your warmth and care. And when we go out from this place, may we never lose sight of that Epiphany star.

FAMILY: As we go about our work, our study, our play, keep us in its light and in your love.

A Blessing of the Chalk for Marking the Door

LEADER: Lord Jesus, through your Incarnation and birth in true human form, you have made all the earth holy. We now ask your blessing upon this simple gift of your creation — chalk. We use it as a tool to teach our children, and they use it as a tool in their play and games. Now, with your blessing, may it become a tool for us to mark the doors of our home with the symbols of your wise servants who, so long ago, came to worship and adore you in your first home.

People in turn mark the doorway with one or more of the symbols: 20 C M B 23

LEADER: May we, in this house, and all who come to visit, to work, and to play, remember these things throughout the coming year. May all who come and go here find peace, comfort, joy, hope, love, and salvation, for Christ has come to dwell in this house and in these hearts.

ALL: May we be Christ's light in the world. Amen.

Christus Mansionem Benedicat

May Christ bless this dwelling.

SOURCE: The United Methodist Discipleship Ministries Worship website

A Blessing of A Business

LEADER: The Lord is with you;

RESPONSE: And also with you.

ALL: Peace be to this business and to all who pass through these doors

LEADER: O God of Truth, bless this business. May the commerce conducted within these walls be fair and beneficial to both buyer and seller. May all who trade do so with respect, honor, integrity, and professionalism. May a spirit of love and compassion govern each transaction

RESPONSE: As we go about our work, keep us in Your love.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, through your Incarnation and birth in true human form, you have made all the earth holy. We now ask your blessing upon this simple gift of your creation — chalk. With your blessing, may it become a tool for us to mark the doors of this business

People in turn mark the doorway with one or more of the symbols: 20 C M B 23

LEADER: May all who come to trade remember these things throughout the coming year. May all who come and go here find peace, comfort, joy, hope, love, and salvation, for Christ has come to dwell in these hearts.

ALL: May we be Christ's light in the world. Amen.

A Blessing of A School

LEADER: The Lord is with you;

RESPONSE: And also with you.

ALL: Peace be to this school and to all who pass through these doors

LEADER: O God of Wisdom, bless this school. May the students and teachers diligently pursue truth since all truth comes from You. May all those who work and study here be kept safe. May each new discovery bring all who enter this building closer to You and to each other.

RESPONSE: As we go about our studies, keep us in Your love.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, through your Incarnation and birth in true human form, you have made all the earth holy. We now ask your blessing upon this simple gift of your creation — chalk. With your blessing, may it become a tool for us to mark the doors of this school

People in turn mark the doorway with one or more of the symbols: 20 C M B 23

LEADER: May all who come to study remember these things throughout the coming year. May all who come and go here find peace, comfort, joy, hope, love, and salvation, for Christ has come to dwell in these hearts.

ALL: May we be Christ's light in the world. Amen.

General Blessing of A Building

LEADER: The Lord is with you;

RESPONSE: And also with you.

ALL: Peace be to this building and to all who pass through these doors

LEADER: O God of Love, bless this building. For all those who enter here, grant them safety, grant them comfort, and grant them rest. Let them find welcome here. Let this be a place where laughter is heard and friendship grows. Let this be a place where Your word is prevails. Let this be a place where Your kingdom grows in the hearts and souls of all who pass through these doors

RESPONSE: As we go about our daily lives, keep us in Your love.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, through your Incarnation and birth in true human form, you have made all the earth holy. We now ask your blessing upon this simple gift of your creation — chalk. With your blessing, may it become a tool for us to mark the doors of this building

People in turn mark the doorway with one or more of the symbols: 20 C M B 23

LEADER: May all who come here remember these things throughout the coming year. May all who come and go here find peace, comfort, joy, hope, love, and salvation, for Christ has come to dwell in these hearts.

ALL: May we be Christ's light in the world. Amen.