

## **CLOSING WORSHIP**

*A HYMN or SONG may be included here*

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

**Heavenly Father,**  
**as we seek to serve you as individuals and together,**  
**help us to be “the salt of the earth”**  
**by what we say, and how we live.**

**Inspire us to pray out,**  
**to live out,**  
**to speak out,**  
**and to turn out.**

**Inspire and guide us by your Spirit**  
**so that others will see our good works**  
**and give praise and glory to you,**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

Diocese of York

**Generous Churches Making and Nurturing Disciples**

# *Five Marks of Growing Churches*

**Worship Material  
for  
Session Two**

# **Influence**

# OPENING WORSHIP

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth:  
**Worship the LORD with gladness.**

Come into his presence with singing:  
**Enter his gates with thanksgiving.**

Enter his courts with praise:  
**Give thanks to him and bless his name.**

*A HYMN or SONG may be included here*

## BIBLE READINGS

*1 Peter 2.9-12 (New Revised Standard Version)*

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honourable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

*Matthew 5 13.-16 (New Revised Standard Version)*

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

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## CONCLUSION

Lord Jesus, as we gather in your name:  
**Inspire us and guide us by your Spirit.**

May all that we think and do and say:  
**Bring glory to your holy name.**

May blessing and honour and glory and power:  
**Be yours for ever and ever.**  
**Amen.**