Enough: Worship Resources

**Opening Prayers**

Option 1
God of hope, we come to you in the midst of a world fraught with troubles. Although the darkness is powerful, open our eyes, Lord, to the light of your presence. Give us faith to stand against the voices of division and violence. Through your Spirit remake us into hope-filled disciples, discovering lives attune to your wonder, and sparking in others a desire to know you more. In the name of the One who comes to us, we pray, Amen.
*-Rev. Nancy J, on her blog,*[*Wonderings through life and other such nonsense.*](http://ruminari.wordpress.com/2010/12/03/advent-2a-call-to-worship/)

Option 2
Light of Christ, awaken us this hour to the glory of your presence in our midst. Shine among us in such a way that the darkness without and within may be pushed back, such that we might truly see what is really real. Help us to recognize our sin for what it is. Enable us to behold the world as you created it to be, as you created us to be. Empower us to move from darkness to light, from sin to new life. May your light within us shine through into worship this day, as all days. This we pray in the name of the Word made flesh, the light which is the light of all people. Jesus Christ. Amen.
*-Peter Haynes, and posted on the*[*Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren website*](http://rockhay.tripod.com/worship/prayers-etc/opening.htm)

Option 3
We thank you for this place and the people that we find here. We thank you for the call you have placed upon each of us, for the call we have together. Give us soft hearts, open minds, and attentive ears today. Help us to give ourselves to you and your call upon us as freely as you gave yourself to us.
-[www.nathanwattwood.blogspot.com/2012/10/pastoral-prayer-for-stewardship.html](http://nathanwattwood.blogspot.com/2012/10/pastoral-prayer-for-stewardship.html)

Option 4*(based on 1 Chronicles 29)*
Oh God, this is not just a place for people to meet each other, but a place for you to meet us. We have made it the best place that we can to greet you with honor. Everything we bring here comes from you. So, here we are, God, our God, giving thanks to you, praising your beautiful name. Everything comes from you; all we’re doing is giving back what has come from your generous hand. And so we give from the heart. And we see all of us doing the same, giving freely, willingly, and with joy! All praise and honor and glory is yours forever. Amen.

Option 5
Creator God, author of all that is and lover of all that you have made, deepen our awareness of your mighty acts past and present and your constant presence with us every moment of our existence. Invade our minds, senses, and hearts like a quiet sunrise, a refreshing rain, a beautiful bouquet, a commanding voice, a trusted companion, and a loving touch—because we want to know you and remember who you are with every breath we take. By the power of your grace, transform us more and more until we become beautiful reflections of your presence and likeness in all that we do and are, as we offer all that we are and have to you in the name and spirit of Christ. Amen.*-p. 32, Three Simple Questions by Rueben Job*

Option 6 “For Courage to do Justice”-UMH 456
O Lord, Open my eyes that I may see the needs of others; Open my heart that I may hear their cries; open my heart so that they need not be without comfort; let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed, and use me to bring them to those places. And so open my eyes and my ears that I may today do some work of peace for You. Amen.

Option 7
Living God, remind me often today where I find my identity. May I never forget that I am your beloved child. May I listen for and hear your faintest whisper, feel your slightest touch, respond quickly to your call, yield to your word of correction, rejoice in your companionship, and serve you faithfully all the days of my life.
Thank you for hearing my prayers and accepting my life. I offer them to you as completely as I can in the name and Spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen.
*-p. 49, Three Simple Questions by Rueben Job*

Option 8
Tender Shepherd, gather us together as your flock, defend us from division, save us from sin, lead us in paths of righteousness, justice, peace, unity, and love, help us discern wisely and well your will and way; and grant us grace to follow faithfully wherever you may lead us, for we are yours and want to follow you alone. Grant us grace to do so, we pray, in the name and Spirit of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray… “Our Father…” Amen.
*-p. 69, from Three Simple Questions by Reuben Job*

Option 9 (based on Ephesians 4:1-16)
One body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all, take this patchwork collection of persons and quilt together your church. Like old pieces of cloth, take these words and songs and prayers, take our thoughts and inner hungers, and join them all together into a new and living fabric—the purpose of which is to cover and color your world (or at least our corner of it) with grace and love. In Christ. Amen.
--posted on the Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren website: www.rockhay.tripod.com