

BLESSING OF A NEW HOME

Name _____

Date of Service _____

WORSHIP LEADER:

We begin in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen. We have gathered today to bless (_____) new home.

[The worship leader lights a candle.]

As I light this candle, I ask you to remember your baptism. Just as you were created in God's image and were claimed by God in baptism, God's promise to love you and be with you forever means that God in Christ will give you strength as you adjust to your new home.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 43:1-5 (paraphrased)

But now thus says the Lord who created you and formed you, Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, [_____]. You are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you. For I am the Lord your God, Your Savior. You are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you. Do not fear, for I am with you.

PRAYER:

Our gracious God, we pray that you will bless (_____) and their new home with your divine presence. Help them turn to you and those around them in trust and hope. Though their circumstances have changed, give them strength to accept this change. Help them to find continued meaning and goodness in life so that they will always find fulfillment in you; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

STAFF MEMBER:

My name is _____. I work as a _____

On behalf of the staff, I welcome you to our family. You are a unique creation of God who has special needs and wishes. We as a staff will care for you well! We invite you to let us know how you feel and what you need. We hope that the adjustment for you [and your family] will be an easy one. As you join our home, may you be blessed. *[The staff person shakes hands with the resident.]*

RESIDENT:

My name is _____. On behalf of the residents I welcome you as a new friend, and look forward to having you join us for conversation, meals, and activities. May you be blessed through the friendships you make here and the new opportunities that you will enjoy here. 87 *[The resident shakes hands with the new resident.]*

FAMILY MEMBER:

I know this is a difficult adjustment for you. It also is a difficult adjustment for me. It is not easy. I will continue to be here for you, just as I was with you in the past. I love you. We will continue to be blessed as a family whose members love and support one another. *[The family member gives the new resident a hug or gently squeezes her or his hand.]*

CHAPLAIN:

On behalf of the community of faith, I welcome you. While you and the other residents continue your church membership in your home congregation, I invite you also to worship here with us and attend our Bible studies. May you be blessed and continue to grow in faith here in our home. *[The chaplain shakes hands with the new resident.]*

PASTOR OR LAY CAREGIVER

You are an important and valued member of our congregation. We look forward to visiting you here in your new home. Because we know that it is difficult for you to attend worship in our church, we hope that you will feel free to worship here. While you worship here, you continue to be a member of our congregation. We will continue to visit you, bring you Holy Communion, and support you in faith. May you be blessed as you grow spiritually in your new home. *[The pastor or lay caregiver shakes hands with the member.]*

HYMN [I need thee every hour.]**WORSHIP LEADER:**

Just as was true of your previous home, [_____], here many areas of your new home are significant.

*[The worship leader walks **to the door.**]*

At this door to your room we read from Psalm 121:8, "The Lord shall keep your going out and your coming in, from this time on and forevermore."

Let us pray. O God, protect and guide [_____] as they enter and leave their room. Make all their comings and goings enjoyable experiences. Keep them safe day and night; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I make the sign of the cross upon your door as a sign of God's divine blessing.

*[The worship leader walks to the **sitting area.**]*

In this sitting area of your room we read from John 13:34, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Let us pray. O God, bless all visits that [_____] have with loved ones in their room and by telephone. Make the visits uplifting and encouraging, so that they renew and refresh [_____] in mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I make the sign of the cross upon this sitting area as a sign of God's divine blessing.

*[The worship leader walks **to the window.**]*

In this area of light at the window of this room we read from John 8:12, "Jesus spoke to them saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'"

Let us pray. O God, we give thanks for the light which comes into [_____]’s home through this window. May this light remind them of the goodness of your creation, and of the light of hope and peace which you give them each day. Fill them with the light of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I make the sign of the cross upon this window as a sign of God's divine blessing. Amen.

*[The worship leader walks to **the sleep area.**]*

In this sleep area of your home we read from Psalm 4:8, "I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety."

Let us pray. O God, bless this sleep area so that it may be for [_____] a place to fall asleep easily in your tender love and care, a place to sleep all through the night, and a place to arise rested and renewed for a new day with you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I make the sign of the cross upon this sleep area as a sign of God's divine blessing.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. I make the sign of the cross upon [_____] as a sign of God's divine blessing and love, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.