Closing Prayer

Lord, Jesus Christ,
We belong to You
You are our light, our hope,
and our strength.
You have called us by name.
You have given us a sacred
mission to carry out in this
world;
You have called us Your
friends.
You have poured light into our
darkness,
Empowering us to bring light to
others.

Set us on fire with an ever
deeper and ever more passion-ate faith, with hearts ready
to love, to forgive, and to serve,
So that the light we kindle in
our school will radiate to the
ends of the earth.

Lord, give us light, courage
and joy to move forward with
You
Through all that remains ahead
of us on this
mysterious and holy journey.
Amen

A Final Blessing

May the light of your soul guide you.
May the light of your soul bless the work that
you do with the secret love and warmth of
your heart.
May you see in what you do the beauty of
your own soul.
May your work never weary you.

May it release within you wellsprings of refreshment, inspiration and excitement.
May you be present in what you do.
May you feel the presence of God in all that
you do.
Amen.

- John O’Donohue
Anam Cara

Angels Among Us
...a prayer service in honour of our volunteers

“We are each of us angels with only one wing. We can only fly embracing each other…”
L. De Crescendo

Compiled by Les Miller and Melinda Rapallo
York CDSB

OECTA document,
Building Communities of Faith
Angels Among Us

Introduction
We gather today to celebrate our volunteers, the angels among us, who have devoted their time to our students and our school. Your love and devotion have enriched our school community in so many ways. God’s love has lived through your hands, your hearts and your actions.

Opening Prayer:
Take My Hands

Lord,  
Take my hands and let them  
Craft Your Work,  
Take my feet and let them  
Walk in Your Ways,  
Take my ears and let them  
See Your Word,  
Take my eyes and let them  
See Your World,  
Take my mind and let it  
Judge with Your wisdom,  
Take my heart and let it  
See with Your passion.  
Amen

- Les Miller

Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:7-10
A reading from the first letter of John.  
Dear friends, let us love one another because love comes from God. Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. And God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we might have life through Him...  
This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

A Psalm For All Who Keep God’s Word

All: Happy are those who are doers of the Word, who hear God’s Word and keep it.

Voice 1: One thing alone does God require and this is what we seek to accomplish:  
To do justice,  
To love tenderly,  
To walk humbly  
With our God.

All: Happy are those who are doers of the Word, who hear God’s Word and keep it.

Voice 2: The Word of God is a lamp to our feet.  
A lantern to our path,  
The light of the world,  
Crying out for a sign of hope  
And illumination.

All: Happy are those who are doers of the Word, who hear God’s Word and keep it.

Voice 3: The word of God is a spark of life living among the rubble.  
Igniting a global consciousness to ways we are one world only,  
A beacon burning Deep in the hearts of those who seek justice and peace.

All: Happy are those who are doers of the Word, who hear God’s Word and keep it.

Voice 4: The word of God is the Word made flesh  
In every generation,  
In the outcasts of the system,  
On the margins of prestige and power,  
On the down side of tradition,  
In every face  
And every place  
Where God’s own Spirit dwells.

All: Happy are those who are doers of the Word, who hear God’s Word and keep it.

Voice 5: Happy are all who love God’s Word and live it to the full,  
For they are like trees  
By rippling streams,  
Birds that soar high  
Singing.  
Prophets of a new age  
Bringing the Good News to all.

All: Happy are those who are doers of the Word, who hear God’s Word and keep it.

Christian Service: Learning to Serve—Serving to Learn
YCDSD Teacher Resource Document