



#59941

UPLIFTED FOR THE LORD

PREPARATION: *Helium filled balloons in purple, yellow and green with Bible verses attached and weighted to hold them in place. Divide those attending into three groups. Assign each group a color – purple, yellow or green. Provide each person with a copy of the Litany of Praise.*

Leader reads the following INTRODUCTION:

One of the reasons we are here today is to uplift and encourage each other through God's Word. We read in 1 Thessalonians 5:11: *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.* Paul's words are as appropriate today as when he first wrote them, almost two thousand years ago.

Today we gather to encourage women in their walk with the Lord. By providing opportunities for spiritual growth the LWML encourages women to be uplifted for the Lord.

Take a look at the balloons in this room. Just a few hours ago they were flat and empty. In fact, they were rather useless lying on the shelf in the store. But once they were filled with helium they seem to come to life. The balloons certainly are lifted up now. In fact, if they weren't tied down, they would float away. Up, up, up...there would be no stopping them.

Wouldn't it be great to be that uplifted for the Lord? Instead, we sometimes find ourselves feeling a little flat and empty. We may even wonder what purpose we have in this life. It takes something stronger than helium to lift us up. God provides that for us through the work of the Holy Spirit.

The words of St. Paul in Thessalonians remind us to encourage each other. We do this when we read and study God's Word together. We do this by praying for each other. We do this by gathering together for worship as we keep our hearts and minds focused on Christ. God enables us to put our faith into action.

We often use colors in our worship to symbolize elements of our faith. Today, purple, yellow and green surround us for a reason. These three colors will help us focus on the Triune God. He is the reason why we do what we do.



- *Purple – the color of royalty. Today we honor the King of kings and Lord of lords.
- *Yellow – the color of light. Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.
- *Green – is the color of life. God creates and sustains life for all eternity.

We have divided into three groups by color – purple, yellow and green Let us join together in reading the litany.

UPLIFTED FOR THE LORD – A LITANY OF PRAISE

INVOCATION

Leader: We gather together in the name of God, the Father.

ALL: The King of Creation;

Leader: In the name of God, the Son.

ALL: The Light of the World;

Leader: And in the name of God, the Holy Spirit.

ALL: The Giver and Sustainer of life. Amen.

Leader: *“For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them”*
(Matthew 18:20).

ALL: Thank You, Lord, for being here with us today. Keep us mindful of Your presence.

Leader: *Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord* (Acts 3:19).

ALL: Father, forgive us when we fail to do Your will. Cleanse our hearts from all sin. Refresh us with Your loving kindness and mercy.

RESPONSE OF FAITH

Leader: Purple is the color of royalty. What is our response to the King of kings?

PURPLE: *Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen* (1 Timothy 1:17).

ALL: Glory be to the King of kings.

PURPLE: *Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord* (Luke 19:39a).

ALL: Glory be to the King of kings.

PURPLE: *People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God* (Luke 13:29).

ALL: Glory be to the King of kings.

Leader: Yellow is the color of light. Who is the Light in our lives?

YELLOW: *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life (John 8:12)."*

ALL: **Let Your Light shine in us, O Lord.**

YELLOW: *For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8).*

ALL: **Let Your Light shine in us, O Lord.**

YELLOW: *For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth (Acts 13:47)."*

ALL: **Let Your Light shine in us, O Lord.**

Leader: Green is the color of life. How do we receive everlasting life?

GREEN: *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies (John 11:25)."*

ALL: **Thank You, Lord, for the gift of life.**

GREEN: *"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full (John 10:10b)."*

ALL: **Thank You, Lord, for the gift of life.**

GREEN: *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23).*

ALL: **Thank You, Lord, for the gift of life.**

Leader: *Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise (Psalm 48:1a).*

PURPLE: My soul will praise Him for He is the King of creation.

YELLOW: My soul will praise Him for He is the Light of the World.

GREEN: My soul will praise Him for He is the Giver and Sustainer of Life.

Leader: *Therefore encourage each other with these words (I Thessalonians 4:18).*

ALL: **Let the joy of the Lord fill our hearts and give us peace. Amen.**