

church homecoming poem

church homecoming poem is an inspiring way to celebrate the tradition of homecoming within faith communities. This article explores the significance and meaning behind church homecoming poems, providing insights into their historical roots, spiritual importance, and creative approaches to writing them. Whether you're searching for ideas to create your own poem, looking for examples to share during a homecoming service, or interested in understanding how poetry can foster unity and reflection in a congregation, this comprehensive guide covers it all. You'll discover the various themes that church homecoming poems often highlight, tips for crafting heartfelt verses, and ways to incorporate these poems into your church's homecoming celebrations. The article also includes a table of contents for easy navigation and answers trending questions about church homecoming poetry, ensuring you have all the essential information at your fingertips.

- Understanding the Church Homecoming Tradition
- The Role of Poetry in Church Homecoming
- Popular Themes in Church Homecoming Poems
- How to Write a Church Homecoming Poem
- Examples of Church Homecoming Poems
- Incorporating Poems into Homecoming Celebrations
- Frequently Asked Questions about Church Homecoming Poems

Understanding the Church Homecoming Tradition

Church homecoming is a cherished annual event in many Christian communities, marking a time when former members, families, and friends return to their spiritual home to celebrate fellowship and faith. The tradition often includes special worship services, shared meals, music, and storytelling. At the heart of this gathering is the desire to honor the church's history, reconnect with loved ones, and affirm the shared journey of faith. The church homecoming poem has become an integral part of these celebrations, offering a creative and emotional way to express gratitude, remembrance, and unity. By understanding the roots and significance of the church homecoming tradition, participants can appreciate how poetry enriches the experience and strengthens bonds within the congregation.

Historical Background of Church Homecoming

Church homecoming dates back to the early 20th century in rural America, where close-knit communities would gather annually to celebrate their shared faith and heritage. These events provided opportunities for former members to reconnect, honor past generations, and welcome newcomers. Over time, the tradition has evolved, but its core purpose remains: fostering a sense of belonging and continuity within the church family.

Spiritual Importance of Homecoming

Homecoming is more than a social gathering; it represents a spiritual renewal and reaffirmation of commitment to God and community. It serves as a reminder of the church's enduring mission and the value of fellowship. Church homecoming poems help capture these feelings, offering words of hope, gratitude, and joy that resonate with both long-time members and newcomers.

The Role of Poetry in Church Homecoming

Poetry holds a unique place in homecoming celebrations by providing a medium for emotional expression, reflection, and connection. Church homecoming poems often set the tone for the event, opening hearts and minds to the significance of gathering together. They can be read aloud during services, included in programs, or displayed within the church, helping to create a welcoming and uplifting atmosphere.

Why Use Poetry for Homecoming?

A church homecoming poem can convey complex emotions and themes in a simple yet profound way. Through vivid imagery and heartfelt language, poetry celebrates the joys of reunion, the blessings of faith, and the memories shared within the congregation. Poems also serve as a bridge between generations, passing on traditions and wisdom through carefully chosen words.

Impact of Poetry on Congregation

When read aloud, church homecoming poems can inspire reflection, foster unity, and encourage spiritual growth. They often move listeners to tears, laughter, or renewed commitment, making them a powerful tool for enhancing the homecoming experience. By engaging both the mind and the heart, poetry helps deepen the sense of community and shared purpose.

Popular Themes in Church Homecoming Poems

Church homecoming poems often explore a variety of themes that resonate with congregations. These themes reflect the values, beliefs, and experiences of church members, making each poem unique and meaningful.

- Reunion and Fellowship
- Faith and Worship
- Gratitude and Remembrance
- Heritage and Tradition
- Hope and Renewal
- Unity and Community

Reunion and Fellowship

One of the most common themes is the joy of coming together as a spiritual family. Poems may highlight the excitement of seeing old friends, sharing stories, and renewing bonds that have stood the test of time.

Faith and Worship

Many church homecoming poems focus on the central role of faith and worship, expressing gratitude for God's guidance and celebrating the collective journey of belief. These verses often include scriptural references and messages of hope.

Gratitude and Remembrance

Poems may also honor those who have gone before, remembering their contributions and celebrating their legacy. Expressions of gratitude for blessings received and lessons learned are common, fostering a sense of appreciation and humility.

How to Write a Church Homecoming Poem

Writing a church homecoming poem requires thoughtful reflection and creativity. Whether you're an experienced poet or a newcomer, following a few key steps can help you craft a poem that resonates with your congregation and

captures the spirit of homecoming.

1. Reflect on the Homecoming Theme: Consider what homecoming means to your church and the emotions you want to convey.
2. Draw Inspiration from Scripture: Incorporate biblical verses or references that align with your message.
3. Use Vivid Imagery: Paint a picture of the gathering, the church, and the members through descriptive language.
4. Express Gratitude and Unity: Highlight the blessings of fellowship and the importance of community.
5. Keep the Language Simple and Heartfelt: Aim for authenticity and clarity, avoiding overly complex vocabulary.
6. Edit and Share: Review your poem for flow and impact, then share it with your church family.

Tips for Writing Effective Homecoming Poems

To create a meaningful church homecoming poem, focus on personal experiences and shared history. Use metaphors and similes to make your verses more engaging, and remember that sincerity often has a greater impact than elaborate language. Practice reading the poem aloud to ensure it flows well and connects emotionally with the audience.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

Avoid clichés, overly abstract concepts, or language that might be unfamiliar to your congregation. Stay true to the spirit of homecoming, and ensure your poem is accessible to all ages and backgrounds.

Examples of Church Homecoming Poems

Below are examples of church homecoming poems that capture the essence of reunion, faith, and gratitude. These samples can be used for inspiration or shared during your church's homecoming celebration.

Sample Poem: "A Welcome Home"

Within these walls, old stories blend

With laughter echoing through every bend.

We gather now, both young and old,

Our faith renewed, our hearts consoled.

Homecoming is God's gentle call,

To remember, rejoice, and cherish all.

Sample Poem: "Roots of Grace"

From humble seeds our church did grow,

With every prayer and every soul.

Homecoming brings us back to see

The roots of grace that let us be.

Together we stand, united and strong,

Carrying the legacy, singing the song.

Sample Poem: "Circle of Faith"

A circle unbroken, a family of faith,

Gathered in worship, God's love to embrace.

Homecoming reminds us, year after year,

That blessings abound when loved ones are near.

Incorporating Poems into Homecoming Celebrations

Church homecoming poems can enhance every aspect of the celebration. Whether they are read during worship, printed in bulletins, or displayed on church walls, these verses help set a tone of unity and reflection.

Ways to Share Homecoming Poems

- Opening or closing moments of the worship service

- Printed in commemorative programs or booklets
- Displayed on banners or posters within the church
- Included in newsletters or social media posts
- Used as prompts for group discussions or activities

Benefits of Including Poetry

Including poetry in your homecoming celebration fosters a deeper emotional connection among members, encourages reflection, and honors the tradition of creative expression. Poems can also serve as keepsakes, reminding attendees of the special event and the enduring bonds of faith.

Frequently Asked Questions about Church Homecoming Poems

This section addresses some of the most common questions about church homecoming poems, providing clear and concise answers to help you make the most of this meaningful tradition.

Q: What is a church homecoming poem?

A: A church homecoming poem is a piece of poetry written to celebrate and honor the tradition of homecoming within a church community. It expresses themes of reunion, faith, gratitude, and unity, and is often shared during special homecoming events.

Q: Why are poems important for church homecomings?

A: Poems add emotional depth and spiritual reflection to homecoming celebrations. They help articulate shared experiences and values, foster unity, and create memorable moments for attendees.

Q: How can I write a meaningful church homecoming poem?

A: Reflect on your church's history, the emotions you want to convey, and the central theme of homecoming. Use vivid imagery, simple language, and heartfelt expressions to create a poem that resonates with your congregation.

Q: What themes should I focus on in a church homecoming poem?

A: Common themes include reunion, fellowship, faith, gratitude, remembrance, heritage, hope, and unity. Choose themes that reflect your church's unique history and values.

Q: Can church homecoming poems be used outside of worship services?

A: Yes, church homecoming poems can be included in programs, newsletters, social media posts, and displayed within the church to enhance the celebration and share the spirit of homecoming with a wider audience.

Q: Are there specific styles or formats for church homecoming poems?

A: Church homecoming poems can be written in various styles, including rhymed verse, free verse, or narrative poetry. The most important aspect is that the poem is sincere and relevant to the occasion.

Q: How do I choose a poem for my church's homecoming event?

A: Look for poems that reflect your church's values, history, and the overall theme of the event. You may select an existing poem or write a new one tailored to your congregation.

Q: Can children and youth participate in writing homecoming poems?

A: Absolutely. Involving children and youth in writing or sharing poems fosters intergenerational bonds and encourages creative expression within the church.

Q: What is the best way to present a homecoming poem during the celebration?

A: Poems can be read aloud by a member of the congregation, printed in bulletins, or displayed visually in the church. Choose a presentation method that suits your event and audience.

Q: How can poetry strengthen the sense of community during homecoming?

A: Poetry captures shared emotions and experiences, helping to unite members in celebration, remembrance, and hope. It creates a sense of belonging and reinforces the church's mission and fellowship.

[Church Homecoming Poem](#)

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Church Homecoming Poem: Recapturing the Spirit of Reunion

Are you searching for the perfect words to express the joy and heartfelt connection of a church homecoming? Whether you're looking for a poem to recite at the event, to include in a program, or simply to capture the emotion of the day, you've come to the right place. This post offers a selection of original church homecoming poems, along with tips on writing your own, ensuring your heartfelt sentiments resonate deeply with your congregation. We'll delve into the themes that commonly define homecoming celebrations and explore how to craft poetry that captures their essence. Get ready to be inspired and find the perfect poetic expression for your church homecoming.

H2: The Power of Poetry in Church Homecoming Celebrations

Homecoming Sundays are more than just gatherings; they're celebrations of community, faith, and shared history. A well-crafted poem can elevate the experience, adding a layer of emotional depth and spiritual resonance. Poetry provides a unique opportunity to:

Strengthen community bonds: A shared poem can create a feeling of unity and belonging among attendees, reminding everyone of their connection to the church and to each other.

Express gratitude and appreciation: A poem can serve as a heartfelt expression of thanks to God, to church leaders, and to the members of the congregation.

Celebrate shared memories: A poem can evoke nostalgic feelings and celebrate the collective history and accomplishments of the church community.

Inspire hope and faith: A poem can uplift spirits and reinforce the importance of faith and community in the face of challenges.

H2: Themes to Consider for Your Church Homecoming Poem

Effective church homecoming poems often weave together several key themes. Consider incorporating elements of:

H3: Welcome and Reunion: Express the joy of welcoming back familiar faces and celebrating the reunion of the church family. Focus on the warmth and fellowship that defines the homecoming.

H3: Gratitude and Thanksgiving: Acknowledge the blessings received throughout the year, expressing gratitude for God's grace and the support of the community.

H3: Shared History and Legacy: Reflect on the church's history, highlighting significant milestones and acknowledging the contributions of past and present members.

H3: Hope and Future: Look towards the future with optimism, reaffirming the church's commitment to its mission and the strength of its community.

H3: Faith and Inspiration: Reinforce the importance of faith, hope, and love, inspiring attendees to continue their spiritual journey with renewed purpose.

H2: Example Church Homecoming Poems

Here are two original poems reflecting different styles and approaches to capture the essence of a church homecoming:

Poem 1: A Simple Welcome

The doors swing wide, a warm embrace,
Familiar faces, time and space,
Melding together, hearts alight,
Homecoming's joy, a blessed sight.
With grateful hearts, we gather near,
Sharing stories, year by year.
In God's love, our spirits soar,
Homecoming's grace, forevermore.

Poem 2: Reflecting on Years Gone By

Through changing seasons, years have flown,
Yet faith's foundation firmly's shown.
This sacred space, a haven true,
Where friendships blossomed, hearts anew.
We gather now, with grateful praise,
For blessings showered in countless ways.
May memories shared, forever keep,
Homecoming's promise, dreams to keep.

H2: Writing Your Own Church Homecoming Poem

Crafting your own poem allows for a deeply personal and meaningful expression. Here's a guide:

1. Brainstorm: Think about specific memories, events, or people that represent the essence of your church's homecoming spirit.
2. Choose a style: Will it be a formal or informal poem? Will it rhyme or be free verse? Consider the overall tone you want to convey.
3. Develop your theme: Select one or two key themes from the list above to focus on.
4. Write a draft: Don't worry about perfection at this stage; just get your ideas down on paper.
5. Revise and refine: Read your poem aloud, paying attention to rhythm, flow, and word choice. Make adjustments to improve clarity and impact.
6. Practice your delivery: If you plan to recite the poem, practice your delivery to ensure a smooth and confident performance.

H2: Beyond the Poem: Enhancing the Homecoming Experience

Remember that the poem is just one element of the homecoming celebration. Consider incorporating other elements to create a truly memorable event, such as:

Slideshow of photos: Showcasing past events and members.

Musical performances: Featuring hymns and other uplifting music.

Testimonies and stories: Sharing personal experiences that highlight the impact of the church community.

Conclusion

A church homecoming poem provides a powerful way to express the joy, gratitude, and unity of a special occasion. By incorporating key themes and crafting heartfelt verses, you can create a memorable and meaningful experience for your congregation. Use these ideas as inspiration to pen your own unique poem or adapt one of the examples provided. May your homecoming be filled with blessings and the spirit of togetherness.

FAQs

1. Can I use a poem from the internet for my church homecoming? While you can use a poem as inspiration, always ensure you have the right to use it and properly attribute the original author to

avoid copyright infringement. It's best to create your own original piece for a more personal touch.

2. How long should a church homecoming poem be? There's no set length. A short, impactful poem can be just as effective as a longer one. Aim for a length that feels appropriate for your audience and the overall event.

3. What if I'm not a poet? Don't worry! Even simple, heartfelt words can be powerful. Focus on expressing genuine emotion and let your sincerity shine through.

4. How can I make my poem more personal? Include specific details related to your church's history, traditions, or recent events. Mention specific people or groups within the congregation.

5. Where can I get feedback on my poem before the homecoming? Share your draft with trusted friends, family members, or fellow church members for their constructive criticism and suggestions.

church homecoming poem: *Little Girls In Church* Kathleen Norris, 2014-10-30 Although Kathleen Norris's best-selling *Dakota: A Spiritual Geography* has brought her to the attention of many thousands of readers, she is first and last a poet. Like Robert Frost, another poet identified with a particular landscape, she can reveal the miraculous in the ordinary, and she writes with clarity, humor, and deep sympathy for her subjects.

church homecoming poem: *Why I Wrote This Poem* William Walsh, 2022-12-20 An anthology of a different sort, this volume presents a representative sample of contemporary American poems in 2023, with a road map of their origins. Bringing a diversity of styles and sensibilities, 62 poets from across the United States--some well known, some up-and-coming--illuminate their craft. Each poet contributes one poem, accompanied by an essay discussing their creative process and how the verse came to fruition.

church homecoming poem: *Run to the Tomb*, 2016-03 This story-telling anthem distinctly captures the despondency surrounding the crucified Savior. A soulful gospel solo and lively music help portray the disciples' excitement when they realize that Jesus is indeed alive. O What a Happy Day!

church homecoming poem: *New and Selected Poems* Marjory Wentworth, 2014-03-14 An inspiring assortment of new and best of works by South Carolina's poet laureate *New and Selected Poems* includes more than fifty poems from Marjory Wentworth's previous three collections, *Noticing Eden*, *Despite Gravity*, and *The Endless Repetition of an Ordinary Miracle*, plus twenty-eight new poems. This collection serves as a capstone to Wentworth's tenure as South Carolina poet laureate, a title she has held since 2003. Thematically Wentworth's poems invite us to view nature as a site of reflection and healing, to consider the power of familial bonds and friendships, and to broaden our awareness of human rights and social justice. Regional settings appear throughout, indicative of Wentworth's commitment to represent her adopted home state of South Carolina in her work. She skillfully employs a variety of forms, from prose poems to sonnets to elegies to list poems, making for a rich and interesting trek through this best of collection of her poems to date. This collection includes a foreword by the poet Carol Ann Davis, author of *Psalm* and *Atlas Hour* and assistant professor of English at Fairfield University.

church homecoming poem: *Holding Up Half the Sky* Graham Joseph Hill, 2020-04-30 Women have played significant roles in ministry and leadership throughout the history of the church and the pages of the Bible. Today, women make up more than half the church, and do much of the mission, ministry, and discipleship in the life of the church. But women have often been held back from ministry roles. Graham Joseph Hill outlines the biblical vision for women in ministry and leadership. He offers a biblical and passionate call for women to be released to teach, to lead, to preach, to serve, to pastor, and to minister in every area of the church. The Bible paints a radical

vision of women, empowered and emboldened for full ministry participation in Christ's church. The biblical vision for women and for their role as teachers, witnesses, disciplers, and leaders transforms not only personal lives, but also the church and the world. This book offers a biblical case for women teaching and leading in the church. Hill then explores practical ways that we can empower and release more female leaders in the church, and ways that we can amplify the voices and honor the gifts of women in the way Jesus intended. Together women and men can revitalize the church and renew the world.

church homecoming poem: How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place (from "Requiem")

Johannes Brahms, Billie Nastelin, Organ and piano duet teams will appreciate Billie Nastelin's skillful arrangement of the beautiful How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place from the Brahms Requiem. Each player has opportunities with both melody and accompaniment, and congregations and audiences will request this over and over. Two copies of the music are included. Also arranged for organ/piano duet by Nastelin: And the Glory of the Lord, from Messiah (GOPD9901),

church homecoming poem: Word in the Wilderness Malcolm Guite, 2014-12-09 For every day from Shrove Tuesday to Easter Day, the bestselling poet Malcolm Guite chooses a favourite poem from across the Christian spiritual and English literary traditions and offers incisive reflections on it. A scholar of poetry and a renowned poet himself, his knowledge is deep and wide and he offers readers a soul-food feast for Lent.

church homecoming poem: *The Poet X* Elizabeth Acevedo, 2018-03-06 Winner of the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, the Michael L. Printz Award, and the Pura Belpré Award! Fans of Jacqueline Woodson, Meg Medina, and Jason Reynolds will fall hard for this astonishing New York Times-bestselling novel-in-verse by an award-winning slam poet, about an Afro-Latina heroine who tells her story with blazing words and powerful truth. Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. But Xiomara has plenty she wants to say, and she pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, reciting the words to herself like prayers—especially after she catches feelings for a boy in her bio class named Aman, who her family can never know about. With Mami's determination to force her daughter to obey the laws of the church, Xiomara understands that her thoughts are best kept to herself. So when she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, she doesn't know how she could ever attend without her mami finding out. But she still can't stop thinking about performing her poems. Because in the face of a world that may not want to hear her, Xiomara refuses to be silent. "Crackles with energy and snaps with authenticity and voice." —Justina Ireland, author of *Dread Nation* "An incredibly potent debut." —Jason Reynolds, author of the National Book Award Finalist *Ghost* "Acevedo has amplified the voices of girls en el barrio who are equal parts goddess, saint, warrior, and hero." —Ibi Zoboi, author of *American Street* This young adult novel, a selection of the Schomburg Center's Black Liberation Reading List, is an excellent choice for accelerated tween readers in grades 6 to 8. Plus don't miss Elizabeth Acevedo's *With the Fire on High* and *Clap When You Land*!

church homecoming poem: *Homecoming* Sue Ellen Frye, 2008-06 You are invited to Homecoming at Bethel Baptist Church in Shadyside, NC. The service promises an inspiring sermon and unexpected comedy. Get ready to enjoy a covered dish meal and to learn some of the cooks' recipes. After Homecoming, meet Estelle who sees a Naked Man in a distant yard. Next observe a beekeeper and his wife who care for The Last Swarm and spend a morning with Constance who insists on perfection in *Still Life*. Finally travel with two retirees who downsize and learn when to let go in *Granny's Bowling Ball*. EXCERPT FROM *Homecoming* Loretta Wiseman moved the coconut cake one more time. It took up almost a whole shelf in the refrigerator. Thank goodness tomorrow is Homecoming Sunday, she thought. I won't have to shift the milk carton and tea pitcher around this Tupperware cake holder anymore. Folks at Bethel Baptist looked forward to Loretta's coconut cake on Homecoming Sunday. Tuesday night she had mixed the shredded coconut, sugar, and sour cream. On Wednesday she made the cake layers and stacked them with the coconut filling. Then, it was a four-day wait. Keeping her husband Luke away from the cake was almost as much trouble as

making room for it in the refrigerator. Loretta pulled a package of Mom & Pop's country ham from behind the Tupperware cake cover. She balanced it on a carton of eggs in her right hand and closed the refrigerator. Loretta had worked at The Posy Patch until noon. Saturday was usually her day off, but there was a big funeral at the Presbyterian Church tomorrow. She had spent the morning making the casket spray of red roses and baby's breath. It was one of the biggest ones she had ever done. Loretta filled a pot with water and placed it on the large rear burner of her aging electric stove. She punched the high button. The eggs could boil while the ham was frying. Tomorrow morning she would get up early to boil the eggs, bake biscuits for the ham, and cook two packages of limas she had frozen back in July. Mandy, her daughter, would be coming tomorrow morning with her fruit salad. Mandy lived in Winston-Salem with her boyfriend Richard. Loretta and Luke liked Richard, a Wake Forest Law School graduate, but they did not approve of Mandy living with him. Four years ago when Mandy told her parents she was moving into Richard's new house, Loretta and Luke had raised a fuss. It was worse than when Mandy decided to transfer from a small Baptist college to the University in Chapel Hill. That university was where she picked up so many of her liberal ideas. Mandy came home telling Loretta and Luke which wine to drink with chicken, pork, or beef. Iced tea or strong coffee had always been good enough for them. She talked about abortion rights, women's rights, and gay rights. Luke and Loretta thought she sounded like a leftist. Their daughter did have a good paying job thanks to the interview her college arranged with a bank. Until she landed that position, Mandy had vowed she would go to New York City to find a job. Loretta and Luke were thankful their only child did not end up in the North. Winston-Salem was only an hour and a half away. Mandy had not spent a night under her parent's roof in four years. Luke had made it clear to his daughter she would not share a bed in his house with a man who was not her husband. You're twenty-three. Why don't you get married? he had asked her. We're not ready. We want to make sure this'll work. Mandy had explained. As Loretta fried ham for her biscuits, she thought of her daughter's words. She was past being angry and hurt with Mandy. But she really didn't understand today's young people. Seemed like they were not ready to face the real world. The phone rang and interrupted her thoughts. She glanced at the stove clock and saw its hands at 5:30. Luke's calling to find out what's for supper, thought Loretta. Her hands ached. He'd have to be happy with a BLT tonight. He could save his appetite for Homecoming. Hello, Loretta said as she

church homecoming poem: *Children and Youth Say So!* G. Chambers, 2006-08 Skits, recitations, and poetry for Black History month, Kwanzaa, and other celebrations in the church--Cover.

church homecoming poem: Tell It Again Larry Caylor, 2012-06-25 A Collection of Poems, Musings and Children's Stories

church homecoming poem: *Classic Poetry Collection (Includes 18 Titles)* ReadHowYouWant.com, Limited, Various, 2012-01-24 This collection contains, The Ballad of the White Horse by Gilbert Keith Chesterton, Andromeda and Other Poems by Charles Kingsley, Ballads by William Makepeace Thackeray, Don Juan by Lord George Gordon Byron, Moments of Vision and Miscellaneous Verses by Thomas Hardy, Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins by Gerard Manley Hopkins, Poetical Sketches by William Blake, Satires of Circumstance, Lyrics and Reveries, with Miscellaneous Pieces by Thomas Hardy, Selected Poems by William Blake, Selected Poems by Robert Browning, Selected Poems of Oscar Wilde by Oscar Wilde, The Four Zoas by William Blake, THE LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN by Geoffrey Chaucer, The Poetical Works of John Dryden by John Dryden, Time's Laughingstocks and Other Verses by Thomas Hardy, Troilus and Criseyde by Geoffrey Chaucer, Wessex Poems and Other Verses by Thomas Hardy, Selected Prose of Oscar Wilde by Oscar Wilde, Eugene Onegin by Alexander Sergeevich Pushkin,

church homecoming poem: *The Singing Bowl* Malcolm Guite, 2013-10-25 Malcolm Guite's eagerly awaited second poetry collection 'The Singing Bowl' takes its name from the breathtakingly beautiful opening poem, a sonnet which connects poetry and prayer. It includes poems that seek beauty and transfiguration in contemporary life; sonnets inspired by Francis and other outstanding saints; poems centred on love (which might be used at weddings), others on parting and mortality

(which might be used at funerals). A further group, "Jamming your Machine", searches for the life of the spirit in the midst of the modern era and includes an ode to an iPhone.

church homecoming poem: *Chasing God, Serving Man* Tommy Tenney, 2001 This guide is distinctively designed to help the reader develop the principles set forth in the book. Explore further, practical ways of balancing worship to the Lord with service to fellow man.

church homecoming poem: God Has a Name John Mark Comer, 2024-10-15 What you believe about God sets the foundation of the person you will become. In *God Has a Name*, pastor and New York Times bestselling author John Mark Comer invites you to rethink many of the prevalent myths and misconceptions about God and weigh them against what God actually tells us about himself. After all, what you believe about God will ultimately shape the type of person you become. We all live at the mercy of our ideas, and nowhere is this more true than our ideas about God. The problem is many of our ideas about God are wrong. Not all wrong, but wrong enough to form our souls in detrimental and disheartening ways. *God Has a Name* is a simple yet profound guide to understanding God in a new light--focusing on what God says about himself in the Bible. This one shift has the potential to radically alter how you relate to God, not as a doctrine, but as a relational being who responds to you in an elastic, back-and-forth way. John Mark Comer takes you line by line through Exodus 34:6-8--Yahweh's self-revelation on Mount Sinai, one of the most quoted passages in the Bible. Along the way, Comer addresses some of the most profound questions he came across as he studied these noted lines in Exodus, including: Why do we feel this gap between us and God? Could it be that a lot of what we think about God is wrong? Not all wrong, but wrong enough to mess up how we relate to him? What if our God is really a projection of our own identity, ideas, and desires? What if the real God is different, but far better than we could ever imagine? No matter where you are in your spiritual journey, *God Has a Name* invites you to step into a fresh and biblically rooted vision of who God is that has the potential to alter your life with God and shape who you become.

church homecoming poem: Knoxville, Tennessee Nikki Giovanni, 1994 Describes the joys of summer spent with family in Knoxville: eating vegetables right from the garden, going to church picnics, and walking in the mountains.

church homecoming poem: Folding Chairs on the Sand Sue Harford Ferdig Allerton, 2023-08-01 Little did Cliff Henderson know when he launched his idea to develop the 'Sand Hole,' Coachella Valley, into the upscale city of Palm Desert the revelations that lay before him. His endeavor led him to 'discover' a small group of faithful bible readers on his newly purchased land. Joining them, the group grew to become the church of General Eisenhower and his wife, Mamie. The history of the early church begins with folding chairs on the desert sand under the blue sky to a magnificent church building that seats more than a thousand people. The city of Palm Desert that Cliff developed became everything he had hoped as the 'smartest address in the desert.' Movie stars and captains of industry bought property to build their vacation and retirement homes designed by some of the finest architects of desert homes. The Palm Desert shopping district, El Paseo, favorably competed with upscale shopping districts of New York and Hollywood. Soon magnificent resorts with 18-hole golf courses went in along with golfing fundraisers that started with the words, Bob Hope Classics. With the development of Palm Desert, neighboring areas developed as well, all upscale and host to many different sports, such as tennis, swimming, golfing, bicycling, and triathlons.

church homecoming poem: Amazing Peace Maya Angelou, 2010-11-03 This dazzling Christmas poem by Maya Angelou is powerful and inspiring for people of all faiths. In this beautiful, deeply moving poem, Maya Angelou inspires us to embrace the peace and promise of Christmas, so that hope and love can once again light up our holidays and the world. "Angels and Mortals, Believers and Nonbelievers, look heavenward," she writes, "and speak the word aloud. Peace." Read by the poet at the lighting of the National Christmas Tree at the White House on December 1, 2005, Maya Angelou's celebration of the "Glad Season" is a radiant affirmation of the goodness of life.

church homecoming poem: An American Vein Danny Miller, Sharon Hatfield, Gurney Norman,

2005 *An American Vein* is an anthology of literary criticism of Appalachian novelists, poets, and playwrights. The book reprises critical writing of influential authors such as Joyce Carol Oates, Cratis Williams, and Jim Wayne Miller. It introduces new writing by Rodger Cunningham, Elizabeth Engelhardt, and others.

church homecoming poem: Waiting on the Word Malcolm Guite, 2015-08-31 For every day from Advent Sunday to Christmas Day and beyond, the bestselling poet Malcolm Guite chooses a favourite poem from across the Christian spiritual and English literary traditions and offers incisive seasonal reflections on it. A scholar of poetry as well as a renowned poet himself, his knowledge is deep and wide and he offers readers a soul-food feast for Advent. Among the classic writers he includes are: George Herbert, John Donne, Milton, Tennyson, and Christina Rossetti, as well as contemporary poets like Scott Cairns, Luci Shaw, and Grevel Lindop. He also includes a selection of his own highly praised work.

church homecoming poem: Dante's Commedia Vittorio Montemaggi, Matthew Treherne, 2010-03-15 In *Dante's Commedia: Theology as Poetry*, an international group of theologians and Dante scholars provide a uniquely rich set of perspectives focused on the relationship between theology and poetry in the *Commedia*. Examining Dante's treatment of questions of language, personhood, and the body; his engagement with the theological tradition he inherited; and the implications of his work for contemporary theology, the contributors argue for the close intersection of theology and poetry in the text as well as the importance of theology for Dante studies. Through discussion of issues ranging from Dante's use of imagery of the Church to the significance of the smile for his poetic project, the essayists offer convincing evidence that his theology is not what underlies his narrative poem, nor what is contained within it: it is instead fully integrated with its poetic and narrative texture. As the essays demonstrate, the *Commedia* is firmly rooted in the medieval tradition of reflection on the nature of theological language, while simultaneously presenting its readers with unprecedented, sustained poetic experimentation. Understood in this way, Dante emerges as one of the most original theological voices of the Middle Ages. Contributors: Piero Boitani, Oliver Davies, Theresa Federici, David F. Ford, Peter S. Hawkins, Douglas Hedley, Robin Kirkpatrick, Christian Moevs, Vittorio Montemaggi, Paola Nasti, John Took, Matthew Treherne, and Denys Turner.

church homecoming poem: Parable and Paradox Malcolm Guite, 2016-05-27 Since the publication of the bestselling *Sounding the Seasons*, Malcolm Guite has repeatedly been asked for more sonnets. This new collection offers a sequence of 50 sonnets that focus on many passages in the Gospels: the Beatitudes, parables and miracles, teachings on the Kingdom, and the 'hard sayings' - Jesus' challenging demands with which we wrestle. In addition this collection includes: •A sequence of seven sonnets on 'The Wilderness', exploring mysterious stories of divine encounter such as Jacob's wrestling with the angel. •Poetic reflections on music, hospitality and ecology. •Seven short poems celebrating the days of creation. •A biblical index pairing the poems with scripture readings for use in worship.

church homecoming poem: Poetry Suzi Mee, 1990

church homecoming poem: In a Prominent Bar in Secaucus X. J. Kennedy, 2007-09 2008 American Library Association Notable Book in Poetry For more than half a century, readers and listeners have taken special pleasure in the poetry of X. J. Kennedy. *In a Prominent Bar in Secaucus* is an ample gathering of his best work: memorable songs, startling lyrics, poems that tell poignant stories, character studies that vie with those of Edwin Arlington Robinson. A master of verbal music, Kennedy has long been praised for his wit and humor; as this collection reveals, many of his poems also reach surprising depths and heights. Donald Hall comments, many of Kennedy's poems are wit itself. His wit is his way of understanding. No one else writing is capable of the effects in which Kennedy specializes. This book skims the cream from several slim volumes and six past collections including the prize-winning *Nude Descending a Staircase*, *Cross Ties*, and *The Lords of Misrule*. It restores to print over fifty poems unavailable for decades and adds more than two dozen new poems collected for the first time. Kennedy has long occupied a unique place in American poetry; In a

Prominent Bar in Secaucus now offers the first comprehensive collection to span his entire career.

church homecoming poem: Poetry and Prayer Francesca Bugliani Knox, John Took, 2016-03-03 Interdisciplinary and ecumenical in scope, Poetry and Prayer offers theoretical discussion on the profound connection between poetic inspiration and prayer as well as reflection on the work of individual writers and the traditions within which they stand. An international range of established and new scholars in literary studies and theology offer unique contributions to the neglected study of poetry in relation to prayer. Part I addresses the relationship of prayer and poetry. Parts II and III consider these and related ideas from the point of view of their implementation in a range of different authors and traditions, offering case studies from, for example, the Bible, Dante, Shakespeare and Herbert, as well as twentieth-century poets such as Thomas Merton, Denise Levertov, W.H. Auden and R.S. Thomas.

church homecoming poem: Nikki Giovanni, Poet of the People Judith Pinkerton Josephson, 2000 Profiles the life of Nikki Giovanni, from her childhood in Knoxville and Cincinnati to her career as an out-spoken, influential, award-winning poet.

church homecoming poem: Something Told the Wild Geese Rachel Field, 2018-04-09 Rachel Field an American novelist, poet, and children's fiction writer. Who is best known for the Newbery Award-winning Hitty, Her First Hundred Years, now has a newly completed title to add to her list of works, Something Told The Wild Geese. a new and fully illustrated children's book based on the poem written by Rachel field.

church homecoming poem: The Song of Lunch Christopher Reid, 2010-09-23 Lunch in Soho with a former lover - but Zanzotti's is under new management, and as the wine takes effect fond memories give way to something closer to the bone. A mock-elegy for the heady joys of old-time Soho, The Song of Lunch displays the full range of Christopher Reid's wit, craft and human sympathy.

church homecoming poem: Nikki Giovanni Virginia C. Fowler, 2013-01-24 This book offers a comprehensive examination of the life and work of Nikki Giovanni, one of the most prolific and well-known poets to emerge during the Black Arts Movement. Nikki Giovanni: A Literary Biography focuses on one of the most widely read poets to emerge from the Black Arts Movement, providing a thorough examination of Giovanni's life and work, from her earliest volume of poetry, Black Feeling Black Talk, to the recent Bicycles. The book addresses Giovanni's preoccupation with historical themes and the past, and demonstrates the pervasiveness of music in Giovanni's poetry. Drawing on extensive interviews with Giovanni's friends and family, this book offers biographical information not previously available in other publications. It references material from Giovanni's prose works to illuminate and contextualize the analysis of her poetry, examining its highly allusive and topical nature. The book also shows the intersections of Giovanni's biography and the public history of the United States from the 1960s to the present, making it of interest to general readers as well as those studying American and African-American poetry or black feminism.

church homecoming poem: Erna Brodber and Velma Pollard Violet Harrington Bryan, 2021-11-15 Erna Brodber and Velma Pollard, two sister-writers born and raised in Jamaica, re-create imagined and lived homelands in their literature by commemorating the history, culture, and religion of the Caribbean. Velma Pollard was born in St. Catherine, Jamaica. By the time she was three, her parents had moved to Woodside, St. Mary, in northeast Jamaica, where her sister, Erna, was born. Even though they both travel widely and often, the sisters both still live in Jamaica. The sisters write about their homeland as a series of memories and stories in their many works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. They center on their home village of Woodside in St. Mary Parish, Jamaica, occasionally moving the settings of their fiction and poetry to other regions of Jamaica and various Caribbean islands, as well as other parts of the diaspora in the United States, Canada, and England. The role of women in the patriarchal society of Jamaica and much of the Caribbean is also a subject of the sisters' writing. Growing up in what Brodber calls the kumbla, the protective but restrictive environment of many women in the Anglo-Caribbean, is an important theme in their fiction. In her fiction, Pollard discusses the gender gaps in employment and the demands of marriage and the

special contributions of women to family and community. Many scholars have also explored the significance of spirit in Brodber's work, including the topics of "spirit theft," "spirit possession," and spirits existing through time, from Africa to the present. Brodber's narratives also show communication between the living and the dead, from Jane and Louisa (1980) to Nothing's Mat (2014). Yet, few scholars have examined Brodber's work on par with her sister's writing. Drawing upon interviews with the authors, this is the first book to give Brodber and Pollard their due and study the sisters' important contributions.

church homecoming poem: The Moon Before Morning William Stanley Merwin, 2014 In luscious and purposeful language, W.S. Merwin's new poems examine our essential relationships with the natural world.

church homecoming poem: The Christian-Evangelist Index, 1863-1958, 1962

church homecoming poem: The English River Virginia Astley, 2018 Virginia Astley has been a much admired songwriter and musician since the 1980s, known for her engaging lyrics as well as for her melodious style. 'The English River' is her first book-length poetry collection, showing many new sides to this multi-talented artist: as poet, nature writer, storyteller and photographer.

church homecoming poem: A Nation with the Soul of a Church O. C. Edwards Jr., James Dunkly, 2013-08-12 From the very beginning, religious leaders have influenced the course of American history—sometimes for better, sometimes for worse. This book examines those Christian sermons that set or changed the course of the nation. What did 18th-century preacher Jonathan Edwards really mean to convey with his Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God sermon? What Southern minister did most to encourage secession of the Southern states from the Union? And why does Martin Luther King Jr. need to be remembered for more than his I Have a Dream speech? This book examines the sermons that have shaped American history from the Massachusetts Bay Colony to the Obama administration. It provides extended biographical treatments of those who preached them, thereby providing readers with the historical context of the sermon, an explanation of what made these orations so effective, and an understanding of the role of religion in American history. Author O.C. Edwards Jr. supplies insightful and interesting coverage of Christian preachers and sermons that will engage anyone interested in America's religious or social history. The book addresses the religious philosophies and speeches of individuals such as William Sloan Coffin Jr., Russell Conwell, Charles Coughlin, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Billy Graham, Anne Hutchinson, Martin Luther King Jr., Patricia Merchant, John Winthrop, and Jeremiah Wright.

church homecoming poem: The Prodigal Derek Walcott, 2014-09-09 Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott's *The Prodigal* is a journey through physical and mental landscapes, from Greenwich Village to the Alps, Pescara to Milan, Germany to Cartagena. But always in the music of memory, water, abides St. Lucia, the author's birthplace, and the living sea. In this book of poems, Derek Walcott has created a sweeping yet intimate epic of an exhausted Europe studded with church spires and mountains, train stations and statuary, where the New World is an idea, a wavering map, and where History subsumes the natural history of his unimportantly beautiful island home. Here, the wanderer fears that he has been tainted by his exile, that his life has become untranslatable, and that his craft itself is rooted in betrayal of the vivid archipelago to which, like Antaeus, he must return for the very sustenance of life.

church homecoming poem: The Poetry of Thomas Hardy J. O. Bailey, 2018-02-01 This handbook provides the background necessary for fully understanding the nearly one thousand poems of Hardy. As it treats the poems individually and often supplements the analysis of a poem by relating it to other poems and to passages in the fiction, every comment helps build a portrait of Hardy as a poet. Originally published in 1970. A UNC Press Enduring Edition -- UNC Press Enduring Editions use the latest in digital technology to make available again books from our distinguished backlist that were previously out of print. These editions are published unaltered from the original, and are presented in affordable paperback formats, bringing readers both historical and cultural value.

church homecoming poem: The Underground Church Robin Meyers, 2012-11-15 A new

way to follow Jesus that draws on old ways of following him. Prominent progressive writer, speaker, and minister Robin Meyers proposes that the best way for the faithful to recapture the spirit of the early Christian church is to recognize that Jesus-following was - and must be again - subversive in the best sense of the word because the gospel taken seriously turns the world upside down. No matter how the church may organize itself or worship, the defining characteristic of the church of the future will be its Jesus-inspired countercultural witness.

church homecoming poem: The Donna Angelica and the British Enlightenment Poets

A.D. Cousins, 2024-08-29 The aim of the book is to propose new interpretations of poets who are among the most valued and discussed in the British Enlightenment. In fulfilling its aim, the book covers English poetry—and intellectual history—from the Restoration to the later eighteenth century. It examines how the myth of the donna angelica (the angelic lady), ancient in origin but given its best-known form within the medieval literature of fin'amor, lives on beyond the Middle Ages and the Renaissance into the Enlightenment. To be more precise, it studies how some major Augustan poets appropriate and recreate what, for convenience, can be called the donna angelica topos (or, the angelic lady motif). They do so for a great many reasons linked with quite diverse circumstances. Nevertheless, the myth's intellectual richness, emotional intensity, and inherent ambiguities mean that it offers each of them a powerful way for articulating, interpreting, exploring refractions of eros—whether singly or diversely directed, concerned with sexuality or spirituality, informing personal or public experience. The myth has as many faces, so to speak, as does desire; it is one and yet many. Thus, the book pursues a particular fable of eros that appears in a multiplicity of texts in a multiplicity of guises. It studies how some of the most interesting poets from Dryden to Crabbe bring the angelic lady motif into modernity.

church homecoming poem: Liquid Bones Godsell, Sarah, 2018-12-14 Liquid Bones takes poems as needle and thread, weaving in small and big breaths, in magic and in memory, tracing in stitches, stitching inside stories, exploring the sky. Emotions are explored in soft black and white tones sometimes, in defiant blooming in other moments.

church homecoming poem: What Your Third Grader Needs to Know (Revised and Updated)

E.D. Hirsch, Jr., 2015-08-25 Give your child a smart start with the revised and updated What Your Third Grader Needs to Know What should your child learn in the third grade? How can you help him or her at home? This book answers these important questions and more, offering the specific shared knowledge that thousands of parents and teachers across the nation have agreed upon for American third graders. Featuring sixteen pages of full-color illustrations, a bolder, easier-to-follow format, and a thoroughly updated curriculum, What Your Third Grader Needs to Know is designed for parents and teachers to enjoy with children. Hundreds of thousands of children have benefited from the Core Knowledge Series. This edition, featuring a new Introduction, gives today's generation of third graders the advantage they need to make progress in school and to establish an approach to learning that will last a lifetime. In this book you'll discover • Favorite poems—old and new, from the traditional rhyme "For Want of Nail" to Lewis Carroll's whimsical poem "The Crocodile" • Literature—including Native American stories, African folktales, European fairy tales, classic myths from ancient Greece, stories from ancient Rome, and more • Learning about language—the basics of written English, including sentence structure, parts of speech, and a first look at writing a report or letter • World and American history and geography—journey down the great rivers of Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia, visit ancient Rome, and experience the earliest days of America with the Pilgrims and Native Americans • Visual arts—an introduction to masterworks by Rembrandt, Henri Matisse, Mary Cassatt, and others, with full-color reproductions and fun, do-it-yourself activities • Music—the fundamentals of appreciating, reading, and making music, plus great composers, instruments, and sing-along lyrics for songs such as "Bicycle Built for Two" and "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" • Math—stimulating lessons ranging from counting money to solving division problems, numbers through 100,000, graphs, and the metric system • Science—fascinating discussions on the natural world, the cycles of life, the human body and its systems, and the environment, with accompanying activities and stories about famous scientists such as Copernicus

and Alexander Graham Bell

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