

Retirement of a Gift by a congregation

One: We give thanks for the generosity of the saints

Many: Who have passed on to us the stories of our faith.

One: Who thought not only of their current moment in time

Many: But who dreamed about providing for the future, for those like us who would come after them.

One: We remember *name, her/his* love for Christ and *his/her* belief in the power of music *or other appropriate descriptor* to lift the soul.

Many: We give thanks for *his/her* gift of this instrument *or other fixture* and for the music it created to enrich worship for three generations who have sung praises to God in this space.

One: As with all things that are created, there is a limit to life and usefulness, a moment that reminds us that we and are our possessions, indeed the whole earth, is finite and that only God is infinite and goes on forever.

Many: We remember with gratitude the service it has provided, as well as the one who saw that we should have it for a time to use. We release it from its sacred service to our congregation with joy and thanksgiving, and pray that we too, would look with hopeful eyes to the future and those who will follow us in the journey of faith.

All: Thanks be to God!