

Liturgy for Welcoming an Interim Minister

(With thanks to Philip Swan and the Diocese of Lichfield)

Leader: People of God, the Rev. XX has been appointed by the Bishop of XX to be Interim Minister here in the parish of XX for a period of XX. We welcome him into our midst to be a guide, support and encouragement. We thank him for his willingness to be with us in our time of transition. Let us together ask God's blessing upon XX and upon the work we will do together in Christ's name.

Loving God, thank you for sending XX during this special time in the life of our church. We ask you to empower him with your Holy Spirit, that his preaching and teaching may show forth your loving presence, that his council might be blessed with your wisdom and insight and that all our work together will bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Leader: XX, will you seek to be faithful to Christ as you discern the way ahead?

IM: I will by God's grace.

Leader: People of God will you commit yourself to support XX through prayer and action in his time here as our Interim Minister in this benefice, to allow this to be a season of blessing and to be open to the new thing God would do amongst us, in us and through us?

People of God: **We will by God's grace.**