

Autumn Prayer Tree

There are variations on this depending on whether you want to use real leaves or not and how messy you want to get!!

You can either:



1. Draw out a tree Trunk then print and cut out a number of leaves (left) and paste them together.
2. Print/cut out leaves and decorate a "homemade" trunk (to make the trunk, trace your child's arm from the elbow up, including the fingers, like the picture)
3. Draw the trunk and decorate with "Finger-paint" leaves
4. Write your prayer on each leaf, or the name of someone you would like to remember or pray for!
5. You can also go outside and collect real Autumn leaves and paste those on like the picture to the right.



Materials:

Printer, paper, scissors, glue, something to colour with, You will also need finger-paints if you choose the second option.



You will need to collect some leaves from outside if you choose the fourth option.

Instructions:



- Draw out or make your home-made trunk
- Cut out the leaves. This step may require adult assistance. Don't worry too much about getting them cut out perfectly.
- Colour pieces, as necessary. (For a change of pace, try using different mediums than you typically do, such as paints, crayons or pastels). Pastels smudged make really nice Autumn leaves!
- Write your prayer on each leaf, or the name of someone you would like to remember or pray for! Maybe get family, friends to do theres!!
- Glue the coloured leaves together or make handprint leaves, depending on the alternative you chose.
- You can glue the entire tree to a decorated background
- (blue construction paper, with green tissue paper for grass and white cotton balls for clouds works very nicely!).



An Autumn Prayer

*We see signs of summer's passing in golden leaves, shortening days,
misty mornings, autumn glow.*

*We sense its passing in rain that dampens, winds that chill,
Harvest's bounty placed on show.*

Creator God, who brings forth both green shoot and hoar frost, sunrise and sunset, we bring our thanks for seeds that have grown, harvests gathered, storehouses filled, mouths fed. And, as your good earth rests through winter's cold embrace, we look forward to its re-awakening when kissed by Spring's first touch. **Amen**