Psalm 100: A Psalm of Thanksgiving

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. 
Worship the LORD with gladness; 
come into his presence with singing. 

Know that the LORD is God. 
It is he that made us, and we are his; 
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 
Enter his gates with thanksgiving, 
and his courts with praise. 
Give thanks to him, bless his name. 

For the LORD is good; 
his steadfast love endures forever, 
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Rites of Passage: Libation

In African tribes, the libation was used to give thanks for the blessings of God, particularly for one’s ancestors. The libation is one way all present at the ceremony can actively participate in worshipping God. A live plant is provided. The person doing the libation can poor or sprinkle the water on the plant while giving God thanks for family, food, shelter, or special needs fulfilled. After each pouring, the community says, Ashe (so be it). We offer the following libation for first year freshmen and their parents.

Prayer: We thank God for all who have gone before us, all who have kept the struggle. (pour water) 
Ashe 
We thank God for our families on whose shoulders we stand. (pour water) 
Ashe 
The water is a symbol of the life force of the universe that nourished them and nourishes our souls with new life, health, and strength. (pour water) 
Ashe 
We are being renewed daily by the power of the Holy Spirit in us, and we are born again as children of faith, through the saving grace of Jesus Christ. (pour water) 
Ashe 
We thank God for all Rust College graduates who have gone before us, who gave us a foundation. In the name of Jesus, Amen

Adapted from: Daughters of Imani: A Christian Rites of Passage for African American Young Women; and Young Lions: A Christian Rites of Passage for African American Young Men