

INSTALLATION OF A PARISH NURSE

This rite is intended for use at the installation of a Parish Nurse who serves the congregation full or part-time.

Those being installed stand before the altar.

M: Dear friends in Christ, in Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of his Body, the Church. Through Word and Sacrament you have been nurtured in faith. You have now been selected for position(s) of service to our Lord on behalf of this congregation. The Lord has entrusted you with an office which you are to carry out as his servant(s) and according to his Word. St. Paul writes concerning service in the Church: "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully."

The Lord seeks faithfulness from all who serve, as Scripture says, "It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." The Lord does not seek from us what he has not given to us. But when he does give a gift, his will is that we use it faithfully to his glory and for the benefit of his people.

You are also, as servants of Jesus Christ and workers in this congregation, to set for your own families and the whole Church the example of a Christian life. Make the Word of God your foundation and guide. Search it daily for comfort and instruction.

PROMISE

M: So that the congregation may be assured of your willingness to serve, I ask you, in the presence of God and this congregation:

Will you diligently and faithfully carry out the office entrusted to you, according to the ability which God gives you? If so, answer: I will, and I ask God to help me.

R: I will, and I ask God to help me.

INSTALLATION

M: I now install you as _____ of _____ Evangelical Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

The minister shakes the hand of those installed, addressing each by name.

M: May God grant you his Holy Spirit and give you wisdom and strength to carry out your duties, to his glory and for the good of his people.

EXHORTATION TO THE CONGREGATION

M: Members of _____, I urge you to regard these fellow believers as servants of Jesus Christ and God's gifts to his Church. Pray for them, support them in their service, and help them so that through the gospel ministry of this congregation more people will be reached for Christ and his Kingdom.

PRAYER

One of the following or another prayer is said.

M: Let us pray.

Prayer for church council members or for church workers in general

M: Merciful and gracious God, our lives are open before you, and you hear our promises. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit into the hearts of your servant, that he/she may carry out their duties with diligence, boldness, and wisdom.

Give him/her a spirit of devotion and prayer, that in every time of need they may present their requests to you. Help them be examples of what is good, that by their lives they may build up your congregation and give the enemies of the Church no cause for complaint. Make them a blessing to your believers; help them to work with their pastor and with one another; and grant that by their service the unity of this congregation may be strengthened, your name be hallowed, your kingdom enlarged, and your will be done; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

OR

Prayer for choir directors and organists

M: God of all grace and mercy, your goodness in Christ Jesus inspires us to sing for joy. We thank you for the gift of music and for fellow Christians who assist us in proclaiming your Word through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. We ask you to bless those who work to enrich your people's worship through music. Move them to use their gifts faithfully as they honor you. Strengthen your Church through their service that your name may be glorified; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Go, then, and give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

The almighty and merciful God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless and preserve you.
Go in peace.

The minister may thank those members leaving office with the following or other words.

M: In the name of the congregation we sincerely thank those members (*names*) who in the past year(s) have served the Lord and his Church in positions of leadership. May the Lord, our God, graciously reward them for all they have done to his glory and for the benefit of his Church.

Those installed return to their places.

The service may continue with the Prayer of the Church.