

INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR LOCAL CHURCH OFFICIALS

Minister:

Dearly beloved, we meet here now in the presence of God that we may recognize His call upon those of our fellowship into leadership positions within God's church. These persons called to this responsibility of stewardship – not merely to be servants of men – but primarily to be servants of Christ. They have been duly elected to this place or responsibility and now stand ready to pledge their intent in fulfilling the duties entrusted to their care. Let us, likewise, pledge our support of them with encouraging words and prayerful remembrance.

Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank You that You have called us into Your church and have given us tasks to perform. Help us to be aware that you have entrusted us with accomplishing great things for the advancement of Your kingdom on earth. Send now Your Holy Spirit upon these, Your servants who are called to leadership position within this congregation. Endue them with heavenly wisdom that they might have the mind of Christ in the decisions they make. Help them to employ the gifts with which You have prepared them. May Your church be blessed by their service and may they find joy in serving You. Amen.

Charge to the Leaders

Minister:

Beloved, this congregation has elected you to a position of leadership. We have confidence that you will prove yourselves to be a "workman that need not be ashamed." It is a great honor to be chosen to administer and supervise the work of the church. You now present yourselves in response to the call of the church to be installed into the active duties of your office. It is appropriate that you now answer the following questions:

Minister:

Do you willingly accept the responsibilities of the office to which you have been elected and do you promise to perform the duties of the office as diligently and effectively as possible?
If so, answer: I DO.

Minister:

Will you endeavor to lead an exemplary Christian life to set a proper example for others?
If so, answer: I WILL DO SO WITH THE HELP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Minister:

Will you agree to live in harmony with the Evangelical Congregational Church Discipline?
If so, answer: I WILL DO SO WITH THE HELP OF JESUS CHRIST.

Minister:

Will you promote the peace, unity, and effectiveness of the church; and, in cooperation with other officers, foster the blending of all efforts to fulfilling the mission statement of this church?
If so, answer: I WILL, GOD BEING MY HELPER.

Minister:

Will you pray daily for your church, her pastor(s) and her lay leaders – that we may be effective in carrying out our Lord's Great Commission?
If so, answer: I WILL.

Minister:

Please kneel and examine your heart asking God to reveal any weaknesses you may need to address. Also ask your heavenly Father to equip you in a marvelous way for the task that lies upon you. *(Pause for silent prayer and reflection.)* May the Almighty, who has given you the will to accept this office,

also grant unto you the grace and strength to properly fulfill the duties and responsibilities required. Amen.

Charge to the congregation

Minister: *(to the congregation)*

Members of the Body of Christ, we recognize the call of Christ, received by these members of our fellowship, as they have been elected officers of _____ Church. God, in His sovereignty has arranged for their election for His service. It is now our obligation to support them by our loyalty and prayers, seeking with them, and for them, consecration from on high that they may be empowered for this calling with reverence and faithfulness to the glory of God.

As members and friends of _____ Evangelical Congregational Church of _____, to whose service these officers have now pledged themselves, will you promise your loyal cooperation and prayer support in the home and the church? If so, answer: "We will."

Minister:

Let us pray. [A prayer of dedication should be offered at this time.]

The Commission

Minister:

In accordance with the Discipline of this church and by the authority vested in me as a minister of Jesus Christ, I hereby solemnly commission you as officers called to the high privilege of leadership in _____ Evangelical Congregational Church of _____. Go as you have been chosen. Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

Benediction

"To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only god our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

Suggested Hymns:

A Charge to Keep I Have
Come, Christians, Join to Sing
Come, Thou Almighty King
Come, Ye That Love the Lord
Faith of Our Fathers
I Gave Myself for Thee

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Rise up O Men of God
Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
Take My Life and Let It Be
Joy In Serving Jesus

Suggested Choruses:

As for Me
Be Ye Holy
Bind Us Together, Lord
I Am Not Mine Own
I Will Keep My Mind Stayed on You
Reveal Your Father – Heart to Us
Make Me A Servant
Make Me Like You
Make Me, Lord, a Dreamer

Cleanse Me
Hear, O Lord
Here I Am
Micah 6:8
Open Our Eyes
Lord, I Will
Seek Ye First
Spirit of the Living God
We Choose the Fear of the Lord