# Covenanting, Dedication and Installation

## Dedication of a Church Building

### Preface

The people will join in those responses in bold-face print. The people assemble outside or in a nearby building. The chairperson of presbytery presides.

#### Gathering

#### Greeting

All stand. The presider greets the community with scripture sentences appropriate to the season or occasion and/or the following dialogue.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
**And also with you.**

#### Statement of Purpose

#### Presider

Through the ages, God has moved the people of Christ to build houses of prayer and praise and to set apart places where God's presence is celebrated in word and sacrament. With gratitude for the building of N Church, we are now gathered to dedicate and consecrate it in God's name.

The people proceed to the door of the place of worship.

#### Presider

Open to us the gates of righteousness, that we may enter through them and give thanks to God.

The doors are opened by a representative of the congregation. The people enter to the singing of the processional hymn.

#### Processional Hymn

### Dedication of the Church Building

#### Presider

Let us pray.

Ever-living God, watchful and caring, our source and our end,
all that we are and all that we have is yours.
Receive the work of our hands as we dedicate this place.
We come to praise your name, to ask your forgiveness,
to know your healing power, to hear your Word,
and to be nourished by your table.
Be present always to guide and to judge,
to illumine and to bless your people.

#### Representative of the congregation

Come, Lord Jesus Christ.
You have opened for us a new and living way.
Make this a house of prayer and a sign of your presence.

Draw us to you when we gather together and when we come alone to rejoice and give thanks, to find comfort and wisdom, to be supported and strengthened. May it be here that we are made one with you and one with another, so that our lives are sustained and sanctified for your service.

#### Pastor

Come, Holy Spirit. You help us in our weakness.
Grant us your gifts and unite us in praise.
Open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts.

Dwell with us in the fullness of your power, when new members are added to your household, when we reaffirm our faith, as we grow in grace through the years, when we are joined in marriage, when we turn to you in need, and, at the last, when we are committed into God's gracious hands.

#### Presider

Blessed and Holy Trinity, everything in heaven and earth is yours.

#### People

**Amen.**

**We, the people of this congregation,**
**consecrating ourselves anew,**
**dedicate this house to the glory of God,**
**in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.**

Doxology

### The Service of the Word

#### Proclamation of the Word and Response

#### Dedication of the Pulpit

#### Presider

Blessed are you, O God Eternal;
in the beginning you spoke creation into being.
In all times your Word has been
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.
Grant that the Word proclaimed from this pulpit
may not return empty
but may conform us to the image
of Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

#### People

**Amen.**

**We set apart and dedicate this pulpit to the glory of God**
**and the reading and preaching of God's holy Word;**
**in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.**

#### Old Testament Lesson

Before the lesson the reader may say,

A reading from....

After the lesson the reader may say,

The Word of the Lord.

And the people say,

**Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

#### Psalm

#### Epistle Lesson

Before the lesson the reader may say,

A reading from....

After the lesson the reader may say,

The Word of the Lord.

And the people say,

**Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

#### Hymn, Canticle, or Anthem

#### Gospel Lesson

Before the lesson the reader may say,

The Gospel of Jesus Christ according to....

And the people respond,

**Glory to you, O Christ.**

After the reading, the reader may say,

The Gospel of Christ.

And the people respond,

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### Sermon

#### Hymn

### Dedication of the Font

#### Presider

Blessed are you, O God Eternal;
in the beginning you brought all creation
out of the primeval waters.
In all times you have claimed us as
your beloved children, born from the holy water of baptism.
Grant that all who are gathered under this sign
or enter into the water
may be one in Christ Jesus,
in whom we die and are raised to life eternal.

#### People

**Amen**.

**We set apart and dedicate this baptismal font to the glory of God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.**

Here persons may be baptized or renew their baptismal faith.

#### Prayers of the People

A lay member of the congregation or diaconal minister may lead these prayers. Intercessions or thanksgivings may be offered for:

* the church universal
* the world
* the local community
* those in need
* the departed.

A litany of prayers and responses may be used.

Let us pray to the Lord.
**Lord have mercy.**

or

Lord, hear our prayer.
**And in your love answer.**

The leader concludes the prayer with words such as these:

Confront us, O Christ, with the hidden prejudices
and fears that deny and betray our prayers.
Enable us to see the causes of strife;
remove from us all false sense of superiority.
Teach us to grow in unity with all God's children.
Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy now and forever.
**Amen.**

### Dedication of the Table

#### Presider

Blessed are you, O God Eternal;
in the beginning you revealed yourself
through the salvation story of a people.
In all times you have acted to save
those who gather in your name.
Bless this table
that all who bring their offerings
and share in the sacred meal
may know you through Christ Jesus
whose Body we are.

#### People

**Amen.**

**We set apart and dedicate this table for the glory of God where we present our gifts and eat and drink in communion with Christ and with one another in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.**

The Service of the Table may continue this liturgy.