

The LWML Pledge

In fervent
gratitude for
the Savior's
dying love
and His
blood-bought
gift of
redemption
we dedicate
ourselves to

Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience
to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge

Him our willing service wherever and whenever He
has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands

to work for
Him, our feet
to go on His
errands, our
voice to sing
His praises,
our lips to
proclaim His
redeeming
love, our silver
and our gold to
extend His
Kingdom, our
will to do His
will, and every
power of our
life to the great
task of bringing
the lost and the
erring into
eternal fellow-
ship with Him.

Amen.

Rev. Harry Fricke

1955

Lutheran Women, One And All

Lutheran women, one and all,
We have heard the Gospel call.
We by faith have seen our Lord
Crucified and then restored.
We have seen Him pay the price,
For our sins a sacrifice.
Him we Lord and Christ acclaim
And unite to praise His name.

Lutheran women, young and old,
Well we know His challenge bold:
Help to take the Gospel light
To a world in darkest night,
By example in the home,
By inviting those who roam,
By our prayers for sinners lost,
By our gifts for missions' cost.

Lutheran women, coast to coast,
In the Lord a mighty host,
Let us all united be
In the Holy Trinity,
One in faith, in hope, and love,
Working for the Lord above,
Till, our earthly labors done,
We in heaven shall all be one.

*Tune: 495 LW, 892 LSB
Elmer A. Kettner*

Serve The Lord With Gladness

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
It is He alone
Who redeemed us sinners,
Guides us as His own
To enjoy the blessings
Of His love and grace,
Will at last in glory
Meet us face to face.
Onward, then, for Jesus!
Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
Glorify His name.

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
He gave us command
To proclaim His Gospel
Now in every land
So that fellow sinners
May, like us, be blest.
Leading them to Jesus,
We can serve Him best.
Onward, then, for Jesus!
Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
Glorify His name!

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
There’s no greater joy
Than to serve the Master,
Work in His employ.
As we build His kingdom
Angels, too, rejoice
Over every sinner
Brought to hear His voice.
Onward, then, for Jesus!
Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
Glorify His name!

*Tune: 518 LW, 662 LSB
Prof. Ernest Lewerenz*

In League with Our Lord

In league with the Father; creative and caring,
We broadcast good news to all people in need.
We offer our service, our gifts and our talents,
Be with us, dear Father, as we sow the seed.

Refrain

With care and compassion for all of God's people
We're women (servants) in mission who heed the command
To tell of Christ Jesus and make new disciples
In earth's farthest corners, throughout ev'ry land.

In league with the Son who was born in a manger;
Who opened His arms to the world on the tree.
O, Risen One, help us to reach out and comfort
All those who are yearning from sin to be free.

Refrain

In league with the Spirit, who moved o'er the waters
When time was beginning, help us now, we pray.
As we venture into the future, remind us
Of baptismal grace that we live in each day.

Refrain

So let us all tell of His dying and rising;
Give honor and praise to Lord Jesus our King,
Who reigns with the Father and Spirit forever.
In league with our Lord with one voice we will sing.

Refrain

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Mite Box Devotion

(1)

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior,
for calling us to be Your children,
for letting us know about Your love.

Please give us the compassion and courage
we need to share Your love in word and deed
with those whose lives touch ours.

With these gifts we share Your love
with those we cannot reach in person.
Bless the workers who serve in our behalf.

You've given us so much.
These are just tokens of our blessings.

Bible Reading:

“But who am I, and who are my people,
that we should be able to give
as generously as this?
Everything comes from You,
and we have given You
only what comes from Your hand.”

1 Chronicles 29:14 NIV

Hymn:

We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be;
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

*Hymn 441 TLH, v. 1, 6
405 LW; 781 LSB*

Mite Box Devotion (2)

Bible Reading:

“...He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:6, 7 RSV

Prayer:

Heavenly Father,
the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.
Send more workers into Your harvest fields.

Make us willing to be sent ones.
We may not go far. We don't always need to.
Many people around us do not believe in Jesus.
Move us to encourage them to put their trust in Him.

Give us loving, generous, cheerful hearts. Amen.

Hymn:

Lord of the living harvest
That whitens on the plain,
Where angels soon shall gather
Their sheaves of golden grain,
Accept these hands to labor
These hearts to trust and love,
And with them ever hasten
Your kingdom from above.

*Hymn 260 LW, v. 1
492 LH*

Installation Service

Meditation

“I Will Be With Thee”

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Today, as you assume the responsibilities and privileges of leadership in the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, there is a text of Scripture which is applicable. When God revealed Himself to Moses in the desert, the Lord said, “Put off your shoes from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” (*Exodus 3:5*)

God was calling Moses to a role of leadership. But Moses was offering excuses. Moses felt unworthy. “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?” (*Exodus 3:11*)

The Lord promised, “but I will be with you...” (*Exodus 3:12*)

Moses feared he would not have the confidence of the people, that he was incapable as a leader. He said, “I am not eloquent...I am slow of speech.” (*Exodus 4:10*)

Dear friends, the place on which you stand is holy ground. You stand before the Lord. You will be serving Him. He is sending you to be a leader among His people. His promises are as valid to you today as they were to Moses. He will always be with you. He will teach you what you shall do, if you seek His guidance.

Dedicate all that you are in loyal, loving, obedient service to Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

(This meditation may precede either of the following installation services, if desired.)

Installation of Officers

(1)

Installing Pastor or Officer: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

You have been called into the service of our Lord through the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The women of this organization have honored you by placing their trust and confidence in your abilities as Christian leaders. You in turn will honor our Lord by performing your duties to the best of your ability. In all our tasks we look to God for guidance in His Word.

"Let each of you look not only to his own interests but also to the interests of others."

"May you be strengthened with all power according to His glorious might for all endurance and patience with joy."

"Put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

In the presence of God and of your fellow members do you, (name) as president, (name) as vice-president, (name) as secretary, (etc.) accept the office to which you have been elected, and will you faithfully fulfill the required duties as God gives you grace, strength, and wisdom to the glory of Christ our Lord and in service to the LWML? If so, answer, "Yes, with the help of God."

Response: Yes, with the help of God.

Installant (to membership): Dear sisters in Christ, having heard God's Word and the promise of your officers, do you intend to encourage, help, and respect your elected leaders? Do you intend to rededicate yourselves to being living members of this organization? If so, then answer, "We do."

Members: We do.

Installant: May God bless you, elected officers and members, with His Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful stewards of Christ our Lord.

Let us pray:

Gracious God, grant us, Your servants, every spiritual gift necessary to complete our tasks in harmony with Your plans for us and for this organization. Lead us to discover our greatest potential as well as our limitations. Help us accept the humanity of one another. Most of all, instill in all of us daily dependence on You, our loving Father. Amen.

The God of peace make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Installation of Officers (2)

Leader (to elected officers): Dear sisters in Christ Jesus, you have come forward to assume the duties of your respective offices. I now ask you, are you aware of the responsibilities of your office, and are you willing to pledge yourselves to your task? If so, then answer, “Yes, with the help of God.”

Elected Officers: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: “Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. But we beseech you to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.”

Leader (to members): Dear sisters in Christ, having heard God’s Word and the promises of your officers, do you intend to encourage, help, and respect your elected leaders? Will you offer them your love, cooperation, and assistance and promise to pray for them? As one body, knit together, will you pledge yourselves to carry forward the goals of (society, zone, district) in whatever way the Lord asks of you? Then answer, “We will.”

Members: We will.

Leader: Lord Jesus, our Leader and Head, You have called us to be members of Your body, the church. We thank You for knitting us together in this one body. Together we rededicate ourselves to You with all that we are and have. We promise to serve You willingly. Show us where each of us may serve You best.

Take our hands and use them to care for our neighbor.

Take our feet and help us to go the extra mile for people in need.

Take our voices and listen to the praises we sing.

Take our lips and use them to tell others of Your gracious, redeeming love.

Take our dimes and dollars, and use them to extend Your kingdom.

Most of all, dear Jesus, take our will, and give us the power to do Your will—until all Your children, both far and near, are at last joined forever in eternity with You. Amen.

INSTALLATION OF DISTRICT OFFICERS

(3)

Pastor asks the newly elected district officers to come forward, join hands and form a small circle. Then he calls for the outgoing and remaining officers to join hands and form a larger circle around the newly elected officers.

Pastor (*speaking to the newly elected officers*): Dear Sisters in Christ Jesus, the Lord has called you for special service in His kingdom through your work with the _____ District LWML. By coming forward, you have demonstrated your willingness to assume the duties of your respective offices. I now ask you, are you aware of the responsibilities of your position and are you willing to pledge yourselves to perform the tasks set before you? And, whatever you do for the District LWML, will you do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to the Father? If so then answer, “Yes with the help of God.”

Newly Elected Officers: Yes, with the help of God.

Pastor: Having stated your intentions to perform the tasks required of you, “...I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and father of all who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one (of you) grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.” (Ephesians 4:1-7 NIV)

Pastor: Now will you step back and join the circle of sisters who have served before you, some of whom will remain to share in your work for LWML and others who will leave this circle to serve the Lord in other capacities.

Pastor: Dear Sisters, you stand on holy ground before the Lord. You have been or will be serving Him in the _____ District LWML. We thank those of you who will be leaving this special circle for all that you have done to further God’s kingdom within the District. Our prayers will continue to go with you in whatever direction the Lord leads you.

Pastor: (*As he calls each of the outgoing officers by name, she steps back and the gap in the circle is closed. When the outgoing officers stand outside the circle, the Pastor continues with a blessing for them.*) Our love and thanks to all of you in Christ Jesus. Go in peace to serve the Lord. Amen. (*After the blessing, the outgoing officers return to their seats.*)

Pastor: Now we have a different circle of friends and co-workers for God’s kingdom in the _____ District LWML. The circle has not been broken, but strengthened by our common love for Jesus and desire to share His story and His love. We do this in service for Him and it becomes our unity of purpose. Remembering that He is always with us to guide us, our circle will become stronger knowing that Christ is its center.

Pastor: (speaking to convention body): Dear sisters in Christ, having heard the promises of your duly elected officers to serve with the help of God, do you intend to hold them in high regard and encourage them in their service? Will you lift up your officers in prayer, offering them your love, cooperation and assistance? Will you let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts since as members of one body you were called to peace to serve the Lord? If so, then answer, “We will.”

Convention Delegates and Guests: We will.

Pastor (speaking to the assembly): Having given your pledge to love, respect, and pray for your Leaders, now please join hands for prayer.

Pastor: Holy Father, you have given different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit; different kinds of service, but the same Lord. We thank you for calling each of us to be a vital part of the body of Christ. Help us to work together in love and eagerly search out ways to share Your love with a world that is lost. Now in fervent gratitude for Your dying love and blood- bought gift of redemption, we renew our dedication to You, by pledging:

Our willing service wherever and whenever You have need of us.

Our hands to work for Your kingdom;

Our feet to go on Your errands;

Our voices to sing Your praises;

Our lips to proclaim Your redeeming love;

Our mites to extend Your kingdom;

Our will to do Your will;

Our service to bring the lost and erring into eternal fellowship with You.

Pastor (speaking to the newly-elected officers): May the grace of God be with you as you serve the Lord with gladness. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

Leader: We gather today in the name of our compassionate Savior, to give thanks for women like the Biblical Dorcas who use their willing hands to give comfort and life's necessities to those in need.

All: **We thank you, Father, for Dorcas of old and the women who follow in her footsteps, using their talent with needles and thread.**

Leader: To you, Merciful Lord, we give thanks for all the faithful women who, alone in their homes or in small groups, cut and sew together the colorful scraps of fabric to form tops of spectacular patterns and hues.

All: **Lord, we ask your blessings for these women as they create their labors of love.**

Leader: Lord, Source of all Comfort, we express our gratitude for the caring women who gather in members' homes and in church basements and fellowship halls to quilt, tie, and bind the "comforters".

All: **We thank you for the quilters and ask you to bind our hearts in love for the people these quilts will comfort in times of stress.**

Leader: Father, we now dedicate this rainbow of quilts to the glory of God and ask that you shower blessings upon the people of many colors who will use them for warmth, for shelter, for luggage, for sustaining life.

All: **Lord, teach us, also, to use our talents to reach out to the world's downtrodden people as these quilters have learned to do.**

Leader: Jesus, we ask that you continue to bless the work of the quilters, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, and Lutheran World Relief (*or substitute name of other organization to whom quilts are sent*).

All: **Bless their work, O Lord, and may it draw people to you.**

Leader: For to you, O Lord, is the glory forever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

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Current LWML officers are listed in each issue of the
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E-mail contact for officers is on the LWML Web site
under About Us.

