



# A SERVICE FOR WORSHIP AND DEDICATION OF WORK AT CHARGE CONFERENCE

## About This Resource

Charge Conference is about much more than receiving reports and setting goals. The purpose for both is to help a congregation assess and plan for ministry that contributes to the growth of Disciples of Jesus Christ. Thus it is appropriate to come together for worship and praise, to dedicate the work together to God's glory, and to prayerfully enter into planned ministry for the coming year. You may want to use only parts of the service included here. You may want to use the format, but change elements to reflect more of the nature of your congregation. Or you may want to use this in entirety. Consider prayerfully what will be most appropriate for your situation.

## GREETING:

In the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, we come to worship.

## PRAISE BE TO GOD

## OPENING HYMN:

"Lord You Give the Great Commission" – The United Methodist Hymnal (584)

## SCRIPTURE

Matthew 28:19-20

## Brief Reflection on Scripture and the Work Being Dedicated Today.

(The reflection serves as a reminder that we seek to be involved in ministry where those who are without the knowledge of the love of God are gathered into the ministry; where worship connects us to God; where all are presented opportunities to grow in Christian discipleship, where the witness of disciples impacts the world, and where generosity is reflected in all that the congregation does. At the conclusion of the reflection, ask for those presenting the work and goals to step forward. Here it is appropriate for the goals to be read for all to hear.)

## PRAYER LITANY:

One: Today we have prayerfully considered the ministry of this congregation.

**Many: We will continue our prayers as we work together.**

One: We have set our goals, knowing we are called to make a difference not just in this church, and in this community, but in the world.

**Many: We affirm these goals as outward signs of our call to be faithful to the Gospel.**

One: We acknowledge that the work ahead may be difficult and challenging, but always rewarding.

**Many: We call upon God's love and power to strengthen and prepare us for the ministry before us.**

One: We recognize that although as one, we might be weak, as part of the community of Christ, we are strong.

**Many: We dedicate all that we have planned to the glory of God. Amen**

HYMN OF DEDICATION:

"Bless Thou the Gifts" – The United Methodist Hymnal (587)

PRAYER:

"A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition" – The United Methodist Hymnal (607)

CLOSING HYMN:

"This is a Day of New Beginnings" – The United Methodist Hymnal (383)

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

With hearts, minds, and eyes wide open

Go from this place to work for God's kingdom here on Earth

Be sustained by God's grace and love

Be filled with God's spirit

And be united with your brothers and sisters in Christ so that

All you meet this day and every day will be touched by God's spirit.

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