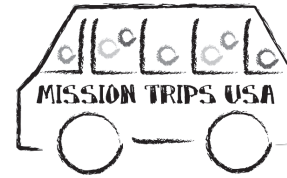


Sample Commissioning Service



Leader:

The time has come for you to go forth from this place as representatives of this congregation, but more importantly, as ambassadors for Jesus Christ.

Workers:

We are prepared to travel to (destination), where there is (describe place or people who you'll work with). We intend to remind those with whom we work that we are their brothers and sisters in Christ, one in the spirit.

All:

(Singing) We are one in the spirit, we are one in the Lord; we are one in the spirit we are one in the Lord and we pray that all unity may some day be restored; and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, and they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Leader:

The trip you are about to take is a journey shared by the entire congregation. Just as we have supported you throughout the year as you gathered the resources necessary to make this journey, we will continue to support you in prayer while you are gone and will look forward to hearing from each of you when you return.

Workers:

We are all very grateful for the support we have had from our congregation for this effort. While we are away, we promise to represent (your congregation) with our best efforts. And, once we return, we will share the good news of our trip, confident that God will touch all of us, through this experience.

All:

(Singing) We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand; we will walk with each other, we will walk

hand in hand and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land, and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Leader:

While you are away, you will be immersed in a culture entirely different from yours. The work may be as exhausting or tedious as it is fun and rewarding. What is it that compels you to do this thing?

Workers:

We believe that our faith in God through Jesus Christ comes alive when we put that faith into action. We do this work not just because we are needed, but because our faith needs exercise. Having done this work in a faraway place, we plan to return more ready to work on God's behalf in our own families, church, and community.

All:

(Singing) We will work with each other, we will work side by side, we will work with each other, we will work side by side and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride, and they'll know . . .

Leader:

May God go with you and keep you safe. And may this offering we are making, together as a congregation, glorify God our creator, Jesus our redeemer, and the Holy Spirit, our constant companion.

All:

(Singing) All praise the Creator, from whom all things come, and all praise the Christ Jesus, God's only son; and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one, and they'll know . . .



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