

Teacher Dedication Service

Listen to the Word of God as it is written in the Gospel of St. Luke, the 24th Chapter, beginning at verse 13. This resurrection day account teaches us much about what Jesus believed the role of the teacher should be. *(Read Luke 24:13-35 from your Bible)*

Leader:

—(name of person(s) being dedicated) Christ charges you by his own example. Walk along side those to whom you are called to minister. Listen, to hear what is on their hearts and discover what understanding they already bring to those concerns. Remember that even Jesus seemed frustrated by their slowness to comprehend, yet he offered to them the scripture that would illuminate their search. Jesus was willing to leave them to themselves to work out their answers, or to stay with them into the simple daily rituals of life, waiting for the Spirit of truth to open their eyes. When Jesus knew they had been empowered by their knowledge, he withdrew and let them go and teach others. This is the model for you to exemplify and for others to follow: By following Jesus' example, you are called to walk beside your students, to **listen** to their needs, to **share** the Word of God, and then to **stand back** and watch their eyes open and their own calls materialize.

Leader: God has called you to a special ministry. Will you serve with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Educator: I will.

Leader: Will you be a faithful teacher, proclaiming the good news, teaching faith and caring for people, and in your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Educator: I will.

Let us join in a prayer of thanksgiving -

Gracious God, we thank you for the gifts revealed in your servants, and for their willingness to nurture those gifts and to offer them to your church in love. Remind them always that wisdom is yours to give to all who ask. Let their wisdom be shown by a life well-lived, by deeds done in the humility that comes from true wisdom. Pour out your blessing upon these teachers and upon your church, that all of us would be good stewards of your gifts to us, and continually seek to know you, even as we are known. For we ask these things in the name of the Great Teacher, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.