

## **RITE OF INSTALLATION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION STAFF**

P: Dear sisters in Christ, you are to be installed as Christian Education Staff for the 2023-2024 academic year at Zion Lutheran Church, a work in which our Father in heaven has great joy.

P: Hear the Word of the Lord: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.” (Deut. 6:4-7)

P: Beloved in the Lord, you are to assist me, the minister of Word and Sacrament, in the instruction of God’s people according to His holy Word. You are to prepare yourselves for this work by your individual and corporate study of the Word of God and the faith drawn from it as it has been delivered to us in the Small Catechism. While holiness of life and obedience to Christ are expected of all members of the congregation, it is especially important that you show yourselves, by word and example, to be faithful to Him in service and Christian devotion.

P: In the presence of God and of this congregation, I therefore ask you: Do you accept the position entrusted to you, and do you promise faithfully to carry out your duties, trusting in the Lord and conforming yourself to His Word in accordance with the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? If so, then answer: I do. ***I do.***

P: Beloved in the Lord (to congregation), you have heard the promises of faithfulness spoken by these women. Do you promise to support them in their work, to remember them in your prayers, and to work with them to the best of the abilities that God has given you, so that He may be glorified and His work be done in our midst? If so, then answer: We do. **Congregation: We do.**

P: Sisters in Christ, I install you as *Christian Education* Staff of Zion Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **ALL: Amen.**

P: The almighty and most merciful God enlighten and strengthen you in your service that you may be good and faithful leaders and teachers to the glory of His name and the salvation of His people.  
**ALL: Amen.**

P: Let us pray. O Lord, grant to these Your people the gifts of wisdom and discretion, kindness and faithfulness, so that they may effectively teach and guide, and grant to all Your people a ready willingness to learn. Let the knowledge of Your Word be preserved and extended among us so that all may know and praise You now and forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

P: Go in the name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. The Almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **ALL: Amen.**

## **LAUNCH DAY SKIT**

Turbo: Hello friends! I’m glad you’re here for our Launch Day! My name is Turbo, and I am a special astronaut! Each week I blast off on a very important mission! Do you think it would be fun to fly in my rocket on an important mission?

I see you have your space packs on, and it looks like you are getting ready to be a part of my space crew! But first, I need to know that you will try to follow the rocket rules.

Rocket rule number one: Love God and put Him first in your life!

Can you try to do that?

Ok – let’s hear you say .... I love God, He is first in my life!

Rule number 2: Listen to Him!

Rule number 3: Follow Him!

Rule number 4: Worship the one true God, no one else!

Let’s all say them – repeat after me.

Rocket rule number 1: Love God and put Him first in your life!

**Love God and put Him first in your life!**

Rule Number 2: Listen to Him! **Listen to Him!**

Rule number 3: Follow Him! **Follow Him!**

Rule number 4: Worship the one true God, no one else! **Worship the one true God, no one else!**

Turbo: Great job! If you are part of my crew, these are the rocket rules we try to follow! Now, the first thing we need to do is check the fuel tank on the rocket and see if we have enough fuel to blast off. I have a robot friend Astrobot and he will tell us if our fuel tank is empty or full.

Astrobot – can you hear me?

Astrobot: (a voice from the balcony) Hello space crew! How can I help you today?

Turbo: Astrobot, we need to see if we have enough fuel in our Rocket to blast off. Will you please tell us if our fuel tank is empty or full?

Astrobot: Warning! Warning! Your fuel tank is empty!

Turbo: (Worried) Oh no! There is no fuel in our tank! We cannot blast off without a full tank. It looks like we need to call for help. Let’s ask Pastor Rockrohr for some help.

Pastor: Hi there! I hear that your fuel tank is empty. You need a story from God’s Word to fill you up! Do you know where we find God’s Word?

Turbo asks the Kids: Where do we find God's word? The Bible!

Pastor: That's right! When you fill up on God's Word, you'll be ready for every important mission. Today's Bible story comes from a book in the Bible called Luke, I read from 18:15-17.

Children's message:

Turbo: That was a great job crew! Now, Astrobot, tell us if today's Bible story filled up the rocket's fuel tank?

Astrobot: Fuel tank is full!

Turbo: Now that our tank is full of God's Word, and before we blast off, let's take some time to sing our song for the congregation and then they can sing with us too, ok?

Children sing: [tune of "Jesus loves the little children"]

Today is Sunday school launch day, we came so God can show the way.  
We will learn of Jesus' love and our heavenly home above,  
Won't you pray for us along the way? (Children sing 2x)

The Congregation sing:

**Today is Sunday school launch day, we came so God can show the way.**  
**We will learn of Jesus' love and our heavenly home above,**  
**Won't you pray for us along the way?**

*(Congregation helps sing words in bold print)*

Oh, you can't get to heaven - **Oh you can't get to heaven**  
on roller skates - **on roller skates**  
Cause you'd roll right by - **cause you'd roll right by**  
those pearly gates - **those pearly gates**  
**Oh you can't get to heaven on roller skates**  
**Cause you'd roll right by those pearly gates.**

Oh, you can't get to heaven - **Oh you can't get to heaven**  
In a rocking chair - **in a rocking chair**  
Cause a rocking chair - **cause a rocking chair**  
won't get you there - **won't get you there**  
**Oh you can't get to heaven in a rocking chair**  
**Cause a rocking chair won't get you there.**

Oh, you can't get to heaven - **Oh you can't get to heaven**  
in a limousine - **in a limousine**  
Cause the Lord don't sell - **Cause the Lord don't sell**  
no gasoline - **no gasoline**  
**Oh you can't get to heaven in a limousine**  
**Cause the Lord don't sell no gasoline.**

Oh, you can't get to heaven - **Oh you can't get to heaven**  
in a big spaceship - **in a big spaceship**  
Cause a big spaceship - **Cause a big spaceship**  
can't make the trip - **can't make the trip**  
**Oh you can't get to heaven in a big spaceship**  
**Cause a big spaceship can't make the trip.**

You can only get to heaven - **you can only get to heaven**  
by believing in Him - **by believing in Him**  
By believing in Jesus - **by believing in Jesus**  
our Savior and Friend - **our Savior and Friend**  
**You can only get to heaven by believing in Him**  
**Cause believing in Jesus is the way to get in....**  
WHERE? **HEAVEN**

**SERMON NOTES** – Sept 10 – “Taking Care of Each Other – Especially the ‘Little Ones’”

- I. Verses 1-20 are all part of Jesus' teaching on taking care of each other. Serving one another.
  - The disciples wanted to know “great” in God's kingdom according to the \_\_\_\_\_
  - Jesus shows them the opposite of the world's thinking – not “great” but humble.
    - One who is humble before God is one of the little ones. Adults too.
- II. But even more... the least in God's kingdom need to be served. (vs 5-9)
  - If we serve even a child, we serve Jesus. (Also the “least,” the little one, in God's kingdom.)
  - If we lead a child or the humble away from Jesus,
    - God's wrath and punishment is great against us.
  - Resist such sin to fall away or lead others away from Jesus!
- III. God the Father's Will Is to Save the Little Ones, the Humble (vs 10-14)
  - There are angels assigned to the little ones, do not despise them. (A mystery)
  - God searches out the lost little ones and rejoices when they are found.

IV. Watching Over One Another – Guarding against sin that separates from God and His people.