

Installation of a Principal

1 PRESENTATION

A representative of the governing body [school council chair] leads the principal to the altar, and says to the director:

N, I present to you N, who has been called/ appointed to serve as *the principal of* — (name of school).

2 WORD OF GOD

The director says one of the following to the congregation/assembly.

EITHER

Friends in Christ: St Paul says: Do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

OR

Friends in Christ: St Peter says: Each one of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very word of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

3 DECLARATION OF INTENT

The director says to the principal:

N, you have been called/appointed as *the principal of* — school. You are required to teach and act in accordance with God's word as confessed by the Lutheran church. Do you intend to carry out your duties faithfully? (If so, say 'Yes, I do'.)

Yes, I do.

4 INSTALLATION

The principal kneels. The director says to him/her:

N, I install you as *principal of* — school, in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The installed principal stands and faces the congregation.

5 RECEPTION

The director says to the congregation/assembly:

Members of this *congregation/school community*: Receive N as *the principal of* — school. Pray for him/her, honour and support him/her, and work peacefully together with him/her.

6 GREETING

The representative of the governing body and others greet the principal with an appropriate passage of Scripture and/or with a handshake and a word of welcome.

One of these passages may be used: 1 Chronicles 28:20 (Be strong . . .); Psalm 37:5; 1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 Corinthians 12:4–6; 1 Corinthians 15:58 (Be steadfast . . .); Philippians 1:9–11 (This is my prayer . . .); 2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17; 1 Peter 4:10; 2 Peter 1:5–8 (Make every effort . . .).

7 PRAYERS

*The representative, director and the principal face the altar. The **minister** says one of the following prayers or another prayer.*

EITHER

Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father: Since you have called us to serve each other with the gifts that we receive from you, equip N with the gifts of your Holy Spirit, so that this community may be built up as it honours and serves you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

Let us pray.

Lord God, we thank you that you have given various tasks to your church, and people to carry them out. Help N to use the gifts that you have given him/her, by serving *your congregation/this school* through his/her teaching. Give him/her the gift of your Spirit, so that he/she may willingly carry out his/her responsibilities. Bless each of us in our tasks, and help us to use our gifts to the praise and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, since you build up your church by the teaching of your word: Pour out your Spirit on N, so that in your name he/she may take care of your children and teach them to know you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

One of these prayers or another similar prayer is also said.

EITHER

Gracious God, as you have blessed our community in the past through this school, continue to bless its teachers and students, so that they may work with you for our church and country; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

Eternal God, whose wisdom maintains the order of the universe and sustains all life on earth: Bless all schools, so that they may be places for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

8 BLESSING

The minister says to the principal:

(May) God the Father give you his Holy Spirit to work in you and support you, so that you may serve our Lord Jesus Christ + faithfully.

Amen.

The principal and the representative return to their places.

The service continues.