

ORDER FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE SERVANT OF YOUTH AWARD

The Servant of Youth Award should be presented at a regular worship service of the recipient's congregation.

The officiating pastor shall take a position before the altar after the singing of a hymn following the sermon and offering. Suggested Hymns are:

"Love Consecrates the Humblest Act"	(Lutheran Book of Worship 122)
"O God of Youth"	(Lutheran Book of Worship 510)
"Lord, Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend"	(Lutheran Worship 470)
"Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd"	(Lutheran Worship 475)

The candidate shall be escorted to the chancel by designated adults with whom the candidate has served and who put his/her name in nomination and by young persons with whom the candidate has worked/is working.

The officiating pastor shall face the congregation and say:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us pray..... O Lord, you have called your people into a great variety of vocations and avocations, not the least of which is work with your children and young people. So, this day, as we honor (name) your servant, we give thanks for all the who spend their time, talent and energy in serving your youth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Following the prayer, the following passage from the Gospel of St. Mark shall be read. It is suggested that an older youth or a parent read this lesson.

The Scripture lesson for this occasion is Mark 10:42-45:

Jesus called them (the disciples) together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Following the Scripture reading, an officer of the group who recommended the candidate for the Servant of Youth Award should read a brief summary of his/her service to youth. Following this presentation, the citation should be read by an officer of the congregation, a member of the youth board or board of education of the congregation, or another appropriate individual.

The officiating pastor then places the Servant of Youth Award around the neck of the candidate and says:

By virtue of the authority vested in me and in accordance with the guidelines established by the Lutheran Church bodies in the United States, I present you the Servant of Youth Award in recognition of your distinguished service to young people. May the blessings of our almighty God, Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit be and abide with you always. Amen.

The officiating pastor then invites the congregation to join in prayer.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, and confirm with your heavenly benediction, your servant, (name), on whom, this day, we have bestowed the Servant of Youth Award. We thank you, Father for this gift to your church and your young people.

We praise you for the efforts he/she has given on their behalf. With sincere devotion of mind and body, may he/she continue to offer You, Your Church, especially its young people, and our community service acceptable to your divine majesty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Following the prayer, the candidate and escort may return to their seats and the order of service may continue.