

ORDER FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE LAMB AWARD

The Lamb Award shall be presented at a church service, at a meeting of the church body or a jurisdictional unit thereof, at an area or national convention of the candidate's organization of which he/she is a member or as otherwise prescribed by the church body.

It is desirable that this award be presented only at a church service or a meeting of a church-related group with a recognized official present to lend dignity to the occasion and stature to the award.

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

<i>"Love Consecrates the Humblest Act"</i>	<i>(Lutheran Book of Worship 122)</i>
<i>"Children of the Heavenly Father"</i>	<i>(Lutheran Book of Worship 474)</i>
<i>"Shepherd of Tender Youth"</i>	<i>(Lutheran Book of Worship 471)</i>
<i>"Lord, Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend"</i>	<i>(Lutheran Book of Worship 470)</i>
<i>"Love in Christ Is Strong and Living"</i>	<i>(Lutheran Book of Worship 376)</i>

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 officiant 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 those who spend their time, talent and energy in "feeding your lambs." In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

The Scripture lesson for this occasion is John 21:15-17:

"When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?' He said to Him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' He said to him, 'Feed my lambs.'

"A second time He said to him, 'Simon, son of John, do you love Me?' He said to Him, 'Yes, Lord; You know that I love you.' He said to him, 'Tend my sheep.'

"He said to him the third time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love Me?' Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to Him, 'Lord, you know everything; You know that I love You.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'"

Following the Scripture reading, an officer of the group who recommended the candidate for the Lamb Award should read a brief summary of his/her accomplishments. Following this presentation, the citation should be read by an officer of the congregation (or body in convention), a member of the youth board or board of education of the Congregation, or another appropriate individual.

The officiating pastor or appointed person then places the Lamb 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 Lamb Award for 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 Lamb Award. We thank you, Father, for this gift to your church and to 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 and the young people of our church and 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, world without end. Amen.

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