ORDER FOR THE RECEIVING AND DEDICATION OF MEMORIALS, GIFTS, AND FURNISHINGS

At the appointed time in the regular order of worship, after the Doxology in the first Order, the service may take place at that part of the church where the memorial, gift, or church furnishing is to be received, using for each the prayer designated. The order for each is as follows:

Sentences

The minister may use the following Sentences from Scripture, and the Prayer, before he calls for the presentation of the gift.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!

Psalm 96:6, 7

Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed and glorious Lord God, by whose power, wisdom, and love all things are enlightened and made perfect, be merciful to us and bless us and cause thy face to shine upon us, that what we now do in thy name and for thy Church may please thee, who art blessed forever. Let thy work be manifest to thy servants, and thy glorious power to their children. May thy favor be upon us, and establish thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish thou it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presentation

The minister may then call upon the person who makes the presentation and shall receive it for the church. The presenter may use the following form:
In memory of __________ (or in the name of __________), we present this _________ to God for use in his church and ask that you receive it to the praise and glory of the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The minister may respond:

With gratitude to almighty God, we receive this _________ as a sacred trust and call on all who shall use it to treasure it with reverence and godly fear.

And now, in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, we set aside this _________ to the glory of God in the worship of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

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

The minister may use one of the following prayers which ever is appropriate to the occasion, before he leads the people in the general prayers, after which the service closes with a hymn or a benediction.

Prayer

FOR DEDICATING AN ORGAN

O Lord, Maker of all things, whose praise is set forth in all thy works, accept, we pray thee, the offering of this organ which we thy servants here present to thee, and which we devote to thy glory and to the showing forth of thy praise in this house of prayer. Grant that when the musician shall play, thy hand may be upon him and come on thy people, that at the sound of the organ they may lift up their voices in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. Inspire them to make melody in their hearts to thee and to sing with spirit and with understanding to the end that they may be united with those who stand before thy throne saying, “To him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever”; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR THE DEDICATION OF PULPIT AND/OR LECTERN

Most merciful God, whose Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path, and who art pleased to make us understand thy will by thy holy Word, let thy blessing rest on the __________, which we devote to thy service.
Grant, we pray thee, that the glorious Gospel of thy Son, our Lord, may be made known to thy worshiping people and become effectual unto faith and eternal life. When thy holy Word is read and preached in this place, may we who hear both perceive and know what things we ought to do, and receive grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same, to the end that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith; and we, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that we may be filled with all thy fullness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR THE DEDICATION OF A COMMUNION TABLE

O God, who by the life and death and rising again of thy dear Son consecrated for us a new and living way into the holiest of all, accept us through him, we pray thee, and hear us as we dedicate this Communion Table to the worship of thy house. As Christ our Lord in his passion gathered his disciples around the table of fellowship, so grant that when we gather to receive his body and blood we may be united in the fellowship of his suffering, and be made like him in love. Help us, we pray thee, through the grace of thy Holy Spirit, always to draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, with minds and consciences cleansed, to receive the Sacrament of Christ’s body and blood; that we may hold fast the confession of our hope without waver ing and stir up one another to love and good works and be made partakers of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR THE DEDICATION OF COMMUNION VESSELS

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who of old commanded thy servant Moses to consecrate the vessels of the sanctuary for use in thy worship, receive, at our hands, we pray thee, these vessels which we set apart and separate from all ordinary and common uses to the holy service of thy house in the Sacrament of the body and blood of our Savior. Accept and bless them, we pray, that they may be made holy to thee in the ministration of the means of grace given through him who for us men and our salvation came down from heaven. Grant that we, in receiving thine own gifts of bread and wine in thankful remembrance of his death and passion, may by the power of the Holy Spirit be made true partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to the glory of thy most holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
FOR THE DEDICATION OF A BAPTISMAL FONT

Almighty God and gracious heavenly Father, who of thine infinite mercy and goodness promised to us that thou wilt be not only our God, but also the God and Father of our children, accept, we pray thee, this Baptismal Font, which we devote to thy service for the honor and glory of thy name. Bless and consecrate it that it may be a vessel of thy covenanting grace to us and to our children. Grant that all who are brought here for baptism may be baptized by thy Holy Spirit, and be received into the Church of thy dear Son; that they may be separated from the world and sin and belong wholly to him whose ensign and banner they bear. By thy Word and Spirit guide them through the days of their years to their life’s end, so that they may live worthy of the name that is above every name, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR THE DEDICATION OF OTHER APPOINTMENTS

The following prayer may be fittingly used to dedicate any addition to the appointments of a church which is to be used in services of worship. All other gifts may be recognized but should not be dedicated.

Almighty and gracious heavenly Father, who desirest that thy people worship thee in the beauty of holiness, accept, we pray thee, the gift of our hands and hearts for the beautifying of thy church. Bestow thy blessing on us now as we devote to thy service __________, for the use and adornment of this holy place. May all who worship here be conscious of thy presence and be drawn into the fellowship of thy Spirit and satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

General Prayers

Hymn

Benediction