

FORMAL LITURGICAL CLOSING FOR INTERNSHIP

(to be adapted as desired)

Introduction

For the past (*# months*) we of (*name of church*) have been a teaching congregation in partnership with Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. Intern (*intern name*) has served under the supervision of mentor pastor (*MP name*) and Perkins faculty supervisor (*FS name*). Our congregation has been represented by a Lay Teaching Committee chaired by (*LTC name*). (*Intern name*) has learned the skills of ministry and lived the life of a minister in our church.

Mentor Pastor

As your Mentor Pastor I have shared ministry with you,
guided you in maturing faith,
and taught you in theological reflection.
I thank God for your ministry here
and pray Christ to guide you.

Congregation

Thanks be to God for ministry shared.

Lay Teaching Committee

As Lay Teaching Committee we have accepted your ministry
and spoken the truth in love
as you grew in God's calling for you
in word, sacrament, order, and service.
We thank God for your ministry here
and pray the Holy Spirit to inspire you.

Congregation

Thanks be to God for covenants kept.

Intern

As Intern I have offered myself
as one called and committed to ministry in the church.
Your teaching and truth offered in love
are parts of my ministry through all of my days.
I thank God for the grace to grow here and to go forth.

Congregation

Thanks be to God for grace to grow.

As Teaching Congregation

we have offered you our heritage of faith

and seen in you

the promise of the gospel shared in years to come.

God bless, protect and use you

today, tomorrow, and forever more.

Amen.

Suggested hymns:

Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

Go Forth for God