

## **Act of Dedication/Rededication – Children, Youth and Families Work**

This church recognises and celebrates the important role children and young people play in our church family. We want to see them grow in faith, walking the way of Jesus today.

*If possible, call forward individuals by name to stand together at the front of the church.*

### **Dedication of new leaders**

Jesus has asked you to be a disciple and to serve children and young people here in ..... We ask you to make the following promises to show your love of Christ and your desire to share that love.

Do you love Jesus Christ and wish to continue to grow in your own wondering about God?

#### **New leaders: I do**

Do you promise, through sharing the of stories of God and through prayer, to help the children and young people in this church in their own wondering about God, and to grow in his love and to support their faith adventures within their families and friends at home and in the wider world?

#### **New leaders: I do**

Do you promise to provide a safe space for all, in accordance with the safeguarding policy of this church<sup>1</sup>?

#### **New leaders: I do**

### **Rededication of leaders**

Jesus has asked you to be a disciple and to serve children and young people in this church. Do you renew your promises to serve the families here in this church, and provide leadership, as an expression of your love of Christ and your desire to share that love?

#### **Children and youth work team: I do**

### **Re-dedication of children and young people**

Do you love Jesus Christ and want to go on a journey of exploration to find out more about him?

#### **Children and Young people: I do**

Do you promise to help each other as you work, learn and play together?

#### **Children and Young people: I do**

### **Affirmation made by Church Family**

**We are all walking the way of Jesus today, we are all his disciples. We promise to pray for each other, for the children and young people and for those we have appointed to work with them. We promise to share and live out our faith as an example to each other, and to learn more about the God we serve with the children, young people and families in our midst.**

Let us pray:

God of many names,

You give each of us special gifts and skills and today we celebrate your call on those named this morning to serve this church in a ministry with children and young people.

We give to you our past, with its joys, sadness, and mistakes; our present, with its celebrations, difficulties, hopes and fears; our future, with its pain and promise of what is ahead.

trusting the hand that made the world

trusting the spirit that breathes life

trusting the love that will not let us go

We thank you that you will give us all we need and that we can always trust in you to lead us in our faith discovery.

We thank you that through our wondering and exploring of the stories of faith, we can as a church grow in your love.

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<sup>1</sup> Current URC Good Practice or the appropriate denominational equivalent in an LEP

May your blessing be upon those called to share with our children and young people, and may we encourage and support them through our prayers and through our practices.

In the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

**Notes for those preparing this service.**

This is a celebration of the ministry with children, young people and families in this church. We would encourage you to use children and young people to lead this service, alongside the leaders. Wherever possible we should do things together and include all the children however small.

During the prayer have different voices to reflect the people who have just been dedicated: leaders, children, young people and families.

April 2023: Children's and Youth Work and CYDO+ team