

Sending Out in Prayer Closing Devotion for CRE 2024



You have been entrusted with rights and responsibilities that affect all of us and the ministry we hold dear. As leaders of this congregation, we ask for your commitment to the values and mission we share in Christ:

Do you promise to be faithful to the gospel of Jesus in the governance of this church?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you notice and nurture the gifts, questions, and ideas of the people you represent in this role?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you communicate with proactive and faithful transparency for the sake of the whole congregation?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you acknowledge the unknown and unknowable about being church, practicing honesty, humility, and courage in times of change?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Do you promise to discern and do what is right, even when it disrupts our status quo, and especially when it asks something difficult of us for the sake of our neighbors?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Equipping God, give us new eyes to see your vision and ears to hear your plan for this community of faith. When we lead and serve with confidence in your bold grace, our labor is not in vain. Bless each of these leaders with courage and kindness, patience and tenacity, good humor and great hope, so that together we are able to do immeasurably more than we could have asked for or imagined on our own. Amen.

May God fill your hands and heart with work that is real. We bless your vocations: your home, your work, your relationships, and all the ways you serve. May God give you the strength and passion to lead well through thick and thin. We bless your successes and failures: all the ways you try, create, and explore in the name of Christ. May God root you in wisdom and faith and Sabbath rest. We bless your leadership and your self-care: may this work refresh and inspire you.

This Little Light of Mine ELW #677

1 This little light of mine,
I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine,
I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine,
I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2 Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go,
I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go,
I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3 Jesus gave it to me,
I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me,
I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me,
I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.