



LWML Pledge Responsive Reading

Explanation

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League has a 75-year history. Part of that history is the LWML Pledge written in 1955 by the Rev. William Fricke, which reminds us of the essence of our reasons for being in mission and our pledge of commitment to our Lord. Every time we recite the LWML Pledge we are recommitting ourselves to God's Mission Work. This is a commitment we make intentionally and with honor.

Leader: What is a pledge?

Group response: A pledge is a promise, a vow, an intent.

Leader: LWML women hold to a promise of service. Today, as we read our pledge together, let us look closely at why we are making the promise, what we are promising, and how we intend to carry out that promise in action.

Leader: Why do we make this pledge? The answer is in the pledge itself. Let's recite together:

Group recitation: "In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption" AND "in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields."

Leader: *We are pledging in gratitude and in obedience to our risen Lord and Savior.*

Leader: What do we promise?

Group recitation: "We dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have" and "we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us."

Leader: *We are pledging to be fully engaged and serve willingly.*

Leader: How do we show our commitment?

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Group recitation: “What do we consecrate to our Savior?”:

- our hands to work for Him,
- our feet to go on His errands,
- our voice to sing His praises,
- our lips to proclaim His redeeming love,
- our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom,
- our will to do His will,
- and every power of our life

Leader: *By the power of the Spirit, we are pledging our whole selves; body, heart and mind. Consecrate means to devote or dedicate to some purpose. As Lutheran Women in Mission, we consecrate our whole selves to the spreading of His Gospel message through Bible study, service, and supporting LWML Mission Grants.*

Group recitation: Our goal: “the great task” of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him.”

Leader: Note the words “we” and “our” used in this pledge. We don’t make this commitment alone. We make it with our sisters and brothers in Christ. Together, a mighty blessed collection of His creation. And not only are we making this pledge to God, we are also making it to one another. Promising to work in partnership and harmony as women who *Serve the Lord with Gladness.*

Leader: And together we say:

Group recitation: “Amen.” Lord, let it be for us. Amen.