

CHARGE TO THE PASTOR

Reverend _____, you are ordained to the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament and by the authority of Jesus Christ discerned by _____ Church, you are commissioned to preach and teach the word of God, lead the worship of Christ's church, administer the Holy Sacraments of the church and to be a faithful shepherd of the people of God.

Remember, therefore, how great a treasure is committed to your care. The people you serve are the flock of Christ for whom he gave his life. Never stop loving Christ the Shepherd and never cease caring for his sheep. Labor faithfully on their behalf and do everything in your power to bring all those entrusted to your care to mature faith and the knowledge of God.

I charge you, therefore, in presence of Jesus Christ: preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort. Be unfailing in patience and care for the people of god. Do the work of an evangelist. Fulfill your ministry.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord be kind and gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace. Amen.

This is quite a journey. Please continue to keep me in your prayers and thank you for being a part of the most sacred season of my life.