

+PRESBYTERY SERVICE OF ORDINATION

(Ordination is an act of the whole church carried out by the presbytery, setting apart a person to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. The ordination service shall ordinarily take place in the presence of the congregation of which the candidate is a member, and in the location for the regular worship of that congregation. The service shall focus upon Christ and the joy and responsibility of the mission and ministry of the Church.)

NOTE: † indicates elements required by the Book of Order

PRELUDE

+CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN OF PRAISE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI or SONG OF PRAISE

+SCRIPTURE READING(S)

+SERMON

(A sermon appropriate to the occasion shall be preached.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

+OFFERING

(Offerings are given to the presbytery to be used for the support of candidates under the care of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.)

+SERVICE OF ORDINATION

+OPENING COMMENTS

(The Presbytery Moderator or appointee shall briefly state the proceedings of the presbytery preparatory to the ordination and shall point out its nature and importance.)

+PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

(An elder from the candidate's home church usually presents the candidate to Presbytery.)

+CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

(The Constitutional questions shall be posed by the Presbytery Moderator or appointee.)

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

I DO

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church Universal, and God's Word to you?

I DO

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

I DO and I WILL

Will you be a minister of the Word and Sacrament in obedience to Jesus Christ under the authority of Scripture, and continually guided by our confessions?

I WILL

Will you be governed by our church's polity and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among our colleagues in ministry, working with them subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

I WILL

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors and work for the reconciliation of the world?

I WILL

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

I WILL

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love?

I WILL

Will you be a faithful minister, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith, and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the governing bodies of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I WILL

+PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

(The candidate, having answered the questions in the affirmative, shall kneel, if able, and the Presbytery shall, with prayer and the laying on of hands, ordain the candidate to the office of Minister of the Word and Sacrament. The member presiding shall then say:

+DECLARATION

_____, you are now ordained a minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Church of Jesus Christ. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.

+WELCOME

(The members of the presbytery commission, and others as may be appropriate, shall welcome the new minister into the ministry of the Word and Sacrament.)

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

(Gifts may be presented to the new minister.)

CHARGE TO THE ORDINAND

(A person chosen by the ordinand may give a brief charge.)

+BENEDICTION

(At the conclusion of the ordination service, the new minister may make a brief statement and shall pronounce the benediction.)

POSTLUDE