SERVICE OF **COMMISSIONING &** ORDINATION

Sunday, June 16, 2024 • 10 a.m. PT • Central Church







The Service of Word and Table for Commissioning and Ordination

* = Please rise in body or spirit.

Welcome to the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference and to the many families and friends who are here both in person and virtually for those persons being commissioned and ordained today. We are so happy you are here and hope you experience God's presence in this significant worship service. There are many places for you to participate in this service so we have provided the words here in this guide in **bold** and we will display them on the screen for those joining us from home. We hope this guide will assist you in understanding the rituals of this meaningful liturgy.

What does it mean to be commissioned?

The act of commissioning provisional members acknowledges and affirms God's call and the candidates' response, gifts, abilities, and training for servant leadership; invokes God's grace for true service; credentials candidates to lead the church and equip others for ministry; calls candidates to enter a time of evaluation of their effectiveness for lifelong service as ordained ministers; offers candidates the support of the annual conference. Commissioning may be compared to the experience of the early church in Antioch when the Holy Spirit instructed the community to "set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them" (Acts 13:2).

What does it mean to be ordained? The rite of ordination is the climax of a process in which the faith community discerns and validates the call, the gifts, and effectiveness for apostolic ministry by agency of the Holy Spirit. As a liturgical act, ordination is also understood as the public prayer of the church confirming the Spirit's call to individuals and asking for them gifts and power for the ministry of deacon or elder. Ordination of deacons and elders is both to an office and for a lifetime. Ordination confers a new identity in the life of the church as well as authority for ministry. Upon ordination, ordained deacons and elders become accountable to the whole church, to the community of the ordained, and to the order of deacons or elders of which they are a part. In the rite of ordination, ordinands express loyalty to The United Methodist Church, accepting its order, liturgy, doc-

trine, and discipline; accept the responsibility of accountability to the Bishop and to the annual conference; and are charged with authority for leadership in their places of service. This year calls for special celebration as it is the 25th anniversary of the Order of Deacons!

Why Laying on of Hands? The laying on of hands with prayer by the Bishop is an ancient and essential part of the Christian ordering of ministry. The Second Epistle to Timothy 1:6 ("... rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands") reminds us of both the antiquity of this tactile prayer and the bestowal of gift in its exercise. While the act of laying on of hands occurs in several rites of the church (baptism, healing services, acts of blessing and commissioning), the meaning of the laying on of hands in commissioning of probationers and ordination is carried and communicated by the form of this ritual action and the context and words that accompany it. In commissioning, a Bishop lays hands on the shoulders of the candidates as a sign of sending into ministry for a specified period of time. In ordination, a Bishop lays hands on the head of the candidate as a sign of the impartation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit for a lifetime of ministry.

ENTRANCE

GATHERING MUSIC 1 "Trumpet Tune in G "

Brass Quintet & Organ

WELCOME

Nancy Tam Davis, Lay Leader

*CALL TO WORSHIP 2

Nancy Tam Davis, Lay Leader

We come to this place to praise God and celebrate the call and gifts of those named among us.

> We give thanks for these leaders! We have known them and loved them, and delight to witness this holy covenant and special moment in their lives.

We join with those, near and far, in person and online in this time of celebration and affirmation.

We thank you for family and friends, pastors and mentors, counselors and confidents, professors and colleagues who have nurtured and grown us in faith and service.

We invite you, O God, to send your Holy Spirit to be upon us in this service.

Shine your light on us.

Encourage us for the future church these pastors
will co-create with you and with their colleagues in ministry.
In the name of the One who was, and is, and is to come, amen.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMNS 3, 4

Brass Quintet, Organ, Congregation

"Praise be to God, the Almighty" – URWB #63

- Praise be to God, the Almighty, who rules all creation!
 my soul, worship the wellspring of health and salvation!
 Let all who hear now to God's temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!
- 2. Praise be to God, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning, bringing new life, in great mercy redeeming, sustaining.

 Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do, ponder God's gracious ordaining.
- 3. Praise be to God, who works justice, who ends all oppressing! God's name most holy let Israel always be blessing! Rise up on wings! Healing and wholeness God brings! Always God's deeds be confessing!
- 4. Praise be to God! O forget not God's manifold graces!
 All that has life and breath, one song of gratitude raises!
 Let the amen sound from God's people again. Gladly forever sing praises.

Holy, Holy, Holy!/ Santo! Santo! (UMH 64/65) Vs 1 and 4 in Spanish, 2 and 3 in English

1. ¡Santo! Santo! Santo! Señor omnipotente, Siempre-el labio mío loores te dará. Santo! Santo! Te-adoro reverente, Dios en tres personas, bendita Trinidad.

- 2. Holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, Which, wert and art, and evermore shalt be.
- 3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see, Only thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, Perfect in power, in love and purity.
- 4. Santo! Santo! Santo! La gloria de tu nombre Vemos en tus obras en cielo, tierra-y mar; ¡Santo! ¡Santo! ¡Santo! te-adorará todo-hombre, Dios en tres personas, bendita Trinidad.

*GREETING AND PRAYER

The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

We come together to praise God, and to seek for ourselves and others the power, presence, and direction of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray:

Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts. Give your grace to all servants of your church, that we may with diligence and faithfulness fulfill our various ministries.

Grant that we your people may follow where you lead, perfect our ministries, and live in joyful obedience to your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Ministry is the work of God, done by the people of God.

Through baptism all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers, the Church, Christ's body, made visible in the world.

We all share in Christ's ministry of love and service for the redemption of the human family and the whole of creation. Therefore, in celebration of our common ministry, I call upon all God's people gathered here:

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

All: We remember our baptism and affirm our common ministry.

PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE COMMISSIONED AND ORDAINED

Who presents these candidates to be ordained and commissioned?

On behalf of the laity of local congregations who have examined and approved these candidates, and on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry of this annual conference, which has recommended these persons, and this annual conference, which has approved them...

I present these persons to be commissioned for the work of elders and deacons...

We present these persons to be ordained elders and deacons...

These persons are by God's grace to be commissioned and ordained to ministry in Christ's Holy Church. Those authorized by the Church to inquire about them have discerned that they are persons of sound learning and of Christian character, and possess the necessary signs of God's grace, and have demonstrated a profound commitment to serve Jesus Christ. Therefore, we believe them to be duly called to serve God.

We ask you, people of God, to declare your assent to the commissioning and ordination of these persons.

Do you trust that they are worthy, by God's grace, to be commissioned and ordained?

People: We do! Thanks be to God!

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

People: With God's help, we will!

THE GENERAL EXAMINATION

My siblings in Christ, you have been called to an ordained or commissioned status in set apart ministry. The church now confirms your calling.

As ordained or commissioned ministers, you are to be coworkers with all the people of God: the laity, bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors, provisional members, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missioners, supply pastors, with all who serve God in the church.

Remember that you are called to serve rather than to be served, to proclaim the faith of the church and no other, to look after the concerns of God above all.

So that we may know that you believe yourselves to be called by God and that you profess the Christian faith, we ask you:

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of ordained ministry?

Candidates & Ordinands: I do so believe.

Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Candidates and Ordinands: I do so believe and confess.

Are you persuaded that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and are the unique and authoritative standard for the church's faith and life?

Candidates and Ordinands: I am so persuaded, by God's grace.

Will you be faithful in prayer, in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you?

Candidates and Ordinands: I will, with the help of God.

Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ?

Candidates and Ordinands: I will, with the help of God.

Will you, in the exercise of your ministry, lead the people of God to faith in Jesus Christ, to participate in the life and work of the community, and to seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people?

Candidates and Ordinands: I will, with the help of God.

Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, accepting its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline, defending it against all doctrines contrary to God's Holy Word, and committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you, and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?

Candidates and Ordinands: I will, with the help of God.

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the life of the order into which you are ordained or commissioned?

Will you give yourself to God through the order in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day?

Candidates and Ordinands: I will, with the help of God.

May God, who has given you the will to do these things, give you grace to perform them, that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection.

Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION OF PREACHER

Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth

INTRODUCTION TO THE SCRIPTURE READING

Nancy Tam Davis

SCRIPTURE READING: John 4:4-17

Rev. Kristin Ellison-Oslin

The Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Lydia Muñoz

CHORAL RESPONSE 5

"O, Spirit All Embracing"

AC Choir

SPECIAL OFFERING

Mary Johnston Hospital - Faith that Works

OFFERTORY⁶

"Westminster Abbey"

Brass Quintet & Organ

THE EXAMINATION OF PERSONS BEING COMMISSIONED

By affirming the covenant of baptism, all members of Christ's Holy Church pledge to serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

Christ gave all of us this command:

"Ask the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest."

We have asked, and the Lord has answered.

These sisters and brothers know our Savior's concern for God's people, see the plentiful harvest, and are ready to respond generously to the Lord in the words of the prophet: "Here I am; send me."

Urged on by the love of Christ and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, they now come to declare in public their desire to live out the covenant made at their baptism by binding themselves to the service of God under the supervision of the bishop and the guidance of colleagues in full connection and by being appointed to share as servant leaders in the body of Christ. Today we commission them to service as they continue to prepare for ordained ministry among us.

THE PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

God of the apostles and prophets, of the martyrs and teachers, you raise up men and women to be apostolic leaders in your church. By your Holy Spirit help these, your servants, to understand and live the mystery of your love with boldness and joy.

Deepen their sense of purpose as they exercise commissioned ministry. Empower them, and those who will walk with them to guide their ministry, together with all of your people, to heal the sick, love the outcast, resist evil, preach the Word,

and give themselves freely for your name's sake.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Name.

Send *Him/Her/Them* now to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, to announce the reign of God, and to equip the church for ministry, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Piano, Holly Harty

EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

An elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole church: to preach and teach the Word of God and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion;

to lead the people of God in worship and prayer;

to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ;

to exercise pastoral supervision,

to order the life of the congregation and the connection,

to counsel the troubled, and declare the forgiveness of sin;

to lead the people of God in obedience to Christ's mission in the world;

to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people;

and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church and in service in and to the community.

This is the rule of life and work of an elder.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of an elder?

Ordinands: I do so believe.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR ELDERS

As these persons are recognized or ordained by God and the church for the ministry of elders to which we believe they have been called by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for them.

.We praise you, eternal God, because you have called us to be a priestly people, offering to you acceptable worship through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Apostle and High Priest, Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.

We thank you that, by dying, Christ has overcome death and, having ascended into heaven, has poured forth gifts abundantly on your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up Christ's body, and to fulfill your gracious purpose in the world. Give to these your servants the grace and power they need to serve you in this ministry. Make them faithful pastors, patient teachers, and wise counselors. Enable them to serve without reproach, to proclaim the gospel of salvation, to administer the sacraments of the new covenant, and to offer with all your people spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for each ordinand.

Almighty God, pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit, for the office and work of an elder in Christ's Holy Church. **Amen.**

to preach the Word of God, to administer the Holy Sacraments and to order the life of the church; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: affirm the action, saying Amen.

RECOGNITION OF FULL MEMBERSHIP

Rev. Megan Madsen, after acceptance of the transfer of your ordination in the Church of the Nazarene in February of 2022, and following due examination of your call and ministry to Christ's Holy Church by our Board of Ordained Ministry, we now welcome you to this communion and receive you into Full Membership as an Elder.

You have given assurance of your faith and Christian experience.

You have renewed the vows of your ordination and embraced our own committing yourself to accept and uphold faithfully the doctrine, liturgy, and discipline of The United Methodist Church.

We rejoice that you have been called to serve among us, and pray that God may guide your ministry.

Rev. Megan Rae Madsen, we now recognize you as an Elder in Full Connection in The United Methodist Church.

All: affirm the action, saying Amen.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, and all who seek to be at peace with God and one another.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING 7

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is a right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turn away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him

to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant

by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended,
he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.
On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,

gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise, and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, because we all partake of the one loaf.

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & INVITATION TO MINISTRY

We have six stations for receiving the bread and cup today and our newly commissioned and ordained Elders and Deacons will be serving you. When the ushers dismiss your pew, please head to the station indicated. All the bread is gluten free - you will be given a piece of bread and invited to dip it in the shared cup. We will also have single-serve communion sets. Please choose the option that is best for you. If you prefer to receive where you are seated, please signal to an usher and the servers will come to you.

Additionally, if you are experiencing and discerning a call to ministry, you are invited to respond to the call that God has placed on your heart by visiting the center table. There you will find *Invitation to Ministry Response Cards* which we encourage you to fill out and pass to Rev. Geoff Helton, Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, or Rev. Derek Nakano, SeaTac District Superintendent, who are both prepared to receive them. If you would like Geoff or Derek to pray for you and your call to ministry, please indicate your desire and they will be blessed to pray for you.

The table is set, our ministers are prepared to serve, let us come and enjoy the feast of Christ!

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION SONGS 8,9,10

"One Bread, One Body" - UMH #620

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all, One cup of blessing which we bless. And we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

- 1.Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain*
- 2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*
- 3. Grain for the fields, scattered the grown, gathered to one, for all. *Refrain*

"Come to the Table of Grace" - W&S # 3168

- 1. Come to the table of *grace*. (repeat) This is God's table, it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of *grace*.
- 2. Come to the table of peace...
- 3. Come to the table of love...
- 4. Come to the table of joy...
- 5. Come to the table of grace...

"Eat This Bread" - UMH #628

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry. Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst. (Repeat)

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Let us pray.

We thank you, gracious God, for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us, and united us in the communion of your Holy Spirit.

We bless you for raising up among us faithful servants.

Clothe them and us with your righteousness and grant that we, with them, may glorify you by giving ourselves to others, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

The grace of Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all always.

Go in peace to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do.

We are sent in Christ's name. Thanks be to God!

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" - UMH #89

- Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love, Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away.
 Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!
- 2. All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
 Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.
- 3. Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine; Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.
- 4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began; Love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.

Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife; Joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

*POSTLUDE "Jubilation" 12

Thank you to our music accompanists:
Piano, Holly Harty
Organ, Debbie Dickman
Brass Quintet:
Trumpet, John Nelson and Beat Schmid
Horn, Carey Simpson
Trombone, Rich Carterby
Tuba, Phillip Simpson

- 1. Written by Rev. Debbie Sperry. USED WITH PERMISSION
- 2. Trumpet Tune in G by Jeremy Banks. Published by Morningstar. USED WITH PERMISSION
- 2. Written by Rev. Debbie Sperry. USED WITH PERMISSION
- 3. Praise Be to God, the Almighty, Words by Joachim Neander, 1680. Translation by Catherine Winkworth, 1863. Music: Traditional (Lobe Den Herren). Arranged by Jeremy Bankson, USED WITH PERMISSION
- 4. Holy, Holy, Holy !Santo! Santo! Santo! UMH#64/65 Words by Reginald Heber, 1826 (Rev. 4:8-11). Music by John B. Dykes, 1861. Public Domain. Translation by Juan Bautista Cabrera, 1989. Arranged by Jeremy Bankson. USED
- WITH PERMISSION
- 5. O, Spirit All Embracing, Words by Delores Dufner, OSB. Music by Gustav Holst. Setting by Richard Proulx. © 1988 GIA Publications, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc. ONELICENSE SONG #05410.
- 6. Westminster Abbey by Jeremy Bankson. Published by Morningstar. USED WITH PERMISSION
- 7. The Great Thanksgiving, A Service of Word and Table 1, UMH pg 9-11, © 1972 The Methodist Publishing House; © 1980, 1981, 1985 UMPH; © 1986 Abingdon Press. ONELICENSE SONG #46066.
- 8. One Bread, One Body UMH #620 By John B. Foley, © 1978; harm. By Gary Alan Smith, 1988 | © 1978, 1988 John B. Foley, SJ, Published by OCP ONELICENSE SONG #80673
- 9. Come to the Table of Grace W&S #3168 By Barbara Hamm © 2008 Barbara Hamm CCLI SONG #7034085 ONFLICENSE SONG #97461
- 10. Eat This Bread UMH #628 Words by Robert Batastini and the Taizé Community, 1982 (Jn. 6:35) | Music by Jacques Berthier, 1982 | © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé France; by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc.CCLI SONG #7134705 ONELICENSE SONG #00891
- 11. Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee UMH #89 Words by Henry Van Dyke, 1907; st. 4 alt. 1989 | Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr. By Edward Hodges, 1864
- 12. Jubilation Composed by Jason D. Payne from the collection, Jubilation! Published by Lorenz Music

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