



Persevere

WITH HOPE, FAITH & JOY

SERVICE OF
COMMISSIONING,
ORDINATION, AND
RECOGNITION

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING, ORDINATION, AND RECOGNITION

**Baltimore-Washington Conference
The United Methodist Church**

Friday, June 3, 2022
Glen Mar United Methodist Church
4701 New Cut Rd,
Ellicott City, MD 21043



Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling
Presiding

**BALTIMORE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022
SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING, ORDINATION, AND RECOGNITION**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN*

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

CALL TO WORSHIP*

L: The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you.

L We come today, persevering together, to praise the God of Hope, to hear the Holy Word in faith of the Word made flesh, and to seek for ourselves and others, the power, presence, and direction of the Holy Spirit, which fills our hearts with joy. Let us pray.

P: 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.

OPENING HYMN*

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

OPENING PRAYER*

Almighty God of Creation, it's been a long year, but you have promised us a future filled with hope, and so in confidence, we pray, "all shall be well." Lord Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, Emmanuel, God with us, amidst uncertain and chaotic events throughout the world, we remember how you displayed your faith on a cross with arms wide open, showering all of creation with your grace, and so we place our faith in you, and we pray, "all shall be well." Holy Spirit, despite any darkness and coldness we're currently experiencing in our own lives, you shine on us, warming our hearts as if we had just left Aldersgate, only to step fully into your kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven, filling us with unspeakable joy, and so with blessed assurance we pray, "all shall be well."

All shall be well. All shall be well. And all manner of things shall be well. AMEN.

AFFIRMATION, PRESENTATION, AND EXAMINATION

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 you are baptized, and be thankful.

ALL: We reaffirm our baptism and our common call to ministry. Thanks be to God!

**Stand as you are able.*

PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE ORDAINED, COMMISSIONED, OR RECOGNIZED

Having reaffirmed our baptism and common ministry, we will now present the candidates to be ordained, commissioned, or have their orders recognized today.

On behalf of the laity of local congregations who have recommended them in our local congregations. We present them with our prayers and support.

We, the members of the Board of Ordained Ministry, have examined these candidates according to the standards of our Discipline and this annual conference of The United Methodist Church. We present them with our prayers and support.

We present these persons for commissioning as provisional members preparing for ordained ministry as deacons and elders. We present them with our prayers and support.

Charles Anderson-Gray
Dawn Brooks-Tharps
Jonathan Rikard Brown
Marjorie Hurder Buhrman (Deacon)
Joshua Gillen
Dionne Hall

YouJung Jung
Bernardo Lourenco
Darryl Mason
Daein Park
Matthew Sichel (Deacon)
Kristin Weschler (Deacon)

We present these persons for ordination as deacons. We present them with our prayers and support.

Megan Blanchard
Kathleen Grace Charters
Tara Cressler Morrow

We present these persons for ordination as elder. We present them with our prayers and support.

Sherwyn Benjamin
Ian Collier
Lynne Humphries-Russ
Heerak Kim
Dong Eun Lee

Jean H. Lee
Isaiah Redd, Sr.
Matthew Paul Tate
Jeffrey Zalatoris

We also present SungHwan (Steven) Cho for Recognition of Orders in The United Methodist Church.

These persons are by God's grace to be ordained, commissioned, or recognized for set apart 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, possess the necessary signs of God's grace, and have demonstrated a profound commitment to serve Jesus Christ. Therefore, they believe them to be duly called to serve God.

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

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

ALL: We do! Thanks be to God!

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

ALL: With God's help, we will.

THE GENERAL EXAMINATION

My sisters and brothers 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 co-workers with all the people of God: With laity, bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors, provisional members, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missionaries, supply pastors, with all who serve God in the Church.

Remember 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 we may know 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 or licensed ministry?

CANDIDATES: 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: 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: 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: I will, with the help of God.

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

CANDIDATES: 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: I will, with the help of God.

Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, accepting and upholding 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: 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, fellowship, or membership into which you are ordained, commissioned, received or recognized? Will you give yourself to God through the order or fellowship 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: 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, so that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection.

ALL: Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of hope, may your ancient words inspire us to love you with all our strength and heart and mind and soul. Christ of faith, may your Word made flesh be made flesh again in us, through our loving actions towards neighbors, others, and even enemies.

Holy Spirit of joy, may the words we hear today abound in our hearts and stir up within us a divine confidence, enabling us to persevere in hope, faith, and joy, as we receive this ancient wisdom, and go forth, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. AMEN.

THE FIRST READING - HEBREWS 12:1-3 (NRSV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart.

The Word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL – JOHN 1:14 (NRSV)

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of our Lord!

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

SPECIAL MUSIC

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST PREACHER

Bishop LaTrelle Easterling

SERMON

Rev. Antoine Love, Baltimore-Washington Conference

APOSTLES CREED

OFFERING APPEAL TO BENEFIT CLERGY WELLNESS INITIATIVE

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING, ORDINATION, AND RECOGNITION

COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

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.

PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING AND 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. Send this person 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.

ALL: Amen.

MUSICAL SELECTION

EXAMINATION OF DEACONS FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP

A deacon is called to share in Christ's ministry of servanthood, to relate the life of the community to its service in the world, to lead others into Christian discipleship, to nurture disciples for witness and service, to lead in worship, to teach and proclaim God's Word, to assist elders and appointed local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, to interpret to the church the world's hurts and hopes, to serve all people, particularly the poor, the sick, and the oppressed, and to lead Christ's people in ministries of compassion and justice, liberation and reconciliation, especially in the face of hardship and personal sacrifice. This is the rule of life and work of a deacon.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of a deacon?

CANDIDATE: I do so believe.

Laying On of Hands and Prayer for Deacons

As these persons are ordained by God and the church for the ministry of deacons to which we believe she has been called by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for them.

MUSICAL SELECTION

We thank you, Living God, that in your great love you sent Jesus Christ to take the form of a servant, becoming obedient even to death on the cross, and now resurrected and exalted in the heavens. You have taught us, by his word and example, that whoever would be great among us must be a servant of all.

Give these servants grace to be faithful to her promises, constant in her discipleship, and always ready for works of loving service. Make them modest and humble, gentle and strong, rooted and grounded in love. Give them a share in the ministry of Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve.

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?

CANDIDATES: I do so believe.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR ELDERS

As these persons are ordained by the church for the office and work 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. **AMEN.**

MUSICAL SELECTION

RECOGNITION OF ORDERS

After due examination of your call and ministry in another part of Christ's holy church, we now welcome you to this communion.

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.

INVITATION TO HEAR GOD'S CALL TO ORDAINED MINISTRY

MUSICAL SELECTION

PRAYER

We thank you, gracious God, for raising up among us faithful servants.

Clothe them with your righteousness and grant that we, with them, may glorify you by giving ourselves to others. Amen.

CLOSING

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING*

PROCESSIONAL*

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

SENDING FORTH*

As you go forth, may you persevere in hope, faith, and joy as you serve God and your neighbor.

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

**Stand as you are able.*

SERVICE NOTES

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and Peninsula-Delaware Conference

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Rev. Laurie Tingley	Ordination Committee Liaison

THE 2022 CLASS OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

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Matthew Sichel
Kristin Weschler

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Jonathan Rikard Brown
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Jean H. Lee

Isaiah Redd, Sr.

Matthew Paul Tate

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Rev. James McSavaney
Recognition of Orders

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THANK YOU NOTES

MUSIC PROVIDED BY BWC CLERGY ENSEMBLE

Rev. Andre Briscoe Director

We thank today's guest preacher, Rev. Antoine Love,
Rev. Amanda Sayers and the congregation of Glen Mar UMC, Ellicott City, for hosting the Ordination Service.

