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**Services for
the Ordering of Ministry
in The United Methodist Church, 2017-2020
as Revised by Action of the 2016 General Conference**

Prepared by
The General Board of Discipleship,
The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and
The Office of Christian Unity and Inter-religious Relationships
in collaboration with
The Council of Bishops

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35

36

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This edition of *Services for the Ordering of Ministry in The United Methodist Church* marks a significant evolution in the development of our ordinal.

For some years, there have been requests to provide an alternative version of the ordination service. The second service for ordination, commissioning, and recognition of orders in this edition includes more contemporary language and a more interactive format that expresses more fully our church's growing appreciation for the baptismal vocation of all Christians and the work of the Holy Spirit in baptism and Christian discipleship. In designing services or ordination for annual conferences, bishops are invited to use either form of service in its entirety or choose equivalent elements from either as may seem most appropriate for their settings.

In addition, a new rite for the reception of members in full connection has been included in the appendix. This may be used as part of the ordination service, following ordination per se, or as a rite of recognition during the clergy session when persons are elected into full membership.

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151 **Theological and Liturgical Introduction**

152

153 In ordination, the Holy Spirit acts to maintain the priority of the gospel by setting
154 apart men and women called to apostolic leadership.

155 The pattern for this response to the call is provided in the development of
156 the early church. The apostles led in prayer, teaching and preaching,
157 ordered the spiritual and temporal life of the community, established
158 leadership for the ministry of service, and provided for the proclamation
159 of the gospel to new persons and in new places. The early church,
160 through the laying on of hands, set apart persons with responsibility to
161 preach, to teach, to administer the sacraments, to nurture, to heal, to
162 gather the community in worship, and to send them forth in witness. The
163 church also set apart other persons to care for the physical needs of
164 others, reflecting the concerns for the people of the world. These
165 functions, though set apart, were never separate from the ministry of the
166 whole people of God. Paul states (Ephesians 4:1-12) that different gifts
167 and ministries are given to all persons. The Wesleyan tradition has, from
168 the beginning, encouraged a culture of call and a community of
169 discernment, which affirms and supports the ministry of all Christians
170 and identifies and authorizes persons into ministries of the ordained.

171 Ordination to this ministry is a gift from God to the church. In
172 ordination, the church affirms and continues the apostolic ministry
173 through persons empowered by the Holy Spirit.

174 *Book of Discipline—2016 (proposed)*, ¶¶ 302 and 303.1

175 In using these services for the ordering of ministry we welcome God’s gift and the
176 empowering of the Holy Spirit, who continues this apostolic ministry among us.
177 The services herein provide basic liturgical resources for ordaining,
178 commissioning, receiving full members, recognizing and consecrating persons for
179 ministry in The United Methodist Church in accordance with the 2016 *Book of*
180 *Discipline*.

181

182 Upon the approval of these texts and guidelines by the 2016 General Conference,
183 this resource supersedes all previous versions and becomes the basis for all
184 services of ordination, commissioning, reception, recognition and consecration
185 across the worldwide United Methodist connection. *Book of Discipline—2012*,
186 ¶ 415.6.

187

188 “A Service of Word and Table for the Ordination of Elders, Deacons and Local
189 Pastors, the Commissioning of Provisional Members, the Recognition of Orders,
190 and the Recognition of Associate Members (Traditional)” collects our services for
191 these purposes, with suitable revisions, into a single, combined service.

192

193 “A Service of Word and Table for the Ordination of Elders, Deacons and Local
194 Pastors, the Commissioning of Provisional Members, the Recognition of Orders,
195 and Recognition of Associate Members (Alternative),” while based on our
196 existing texts, substantially re-envisioned both the actions and the language of
197 ordination to call greater attention to the work of the Holy Spirit and the role of all
198 the baptized in the acts of ordination.

199
200 “The Order for the Consecration of Bishops” is the 1992 text contained in *The*
201 *United Methodist Book of Worship*, with necessary adaptations to accommodate
202 changes made to the *Books of Discipline* since that time.

203
204

205 **POLICIES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE SERVICES OF ORDINATION** 206 **IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

207 **A. Ordination, Commissioning, and Reception of Full Members**

208 Ministry in the Christian church is derived from the ministry of Christ,
209 who calls all persons to receive God’s gift of salvation and follow in the
210 way of love and service. All Christian ministry is grounded in the
211 covenant of baptism by which we are initiated into the body of Christ
212 and called into a life of discipleship. The sacraments of Baptism and
213 Lord’s Supper ground the ministry of the whole church. They are
214 celebrated in the Christian community as means of grace. Thus, the
215 whole church receives and accepts God’s grace and call, and all
216 Christians participate in this continuing ministry of God in creation (see
217 ¶¶ 120 - 140).

218

Book of Discipline—2016 (proposed), ¶ 301.1

219 Acts of ordination, commissioning, reception, consecration and recognition of
220 ministries are anchored in the sacrament of baptism and the ministry of the
221 baptized. These sign-acts are based on what is already implicit in baptism and rest
222 upon the essential ministry given to all Christians in baptism. “By Water and the
223 Spirit: A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism” (*The Book of Resolutions—*
224 *2012*, ¶ 8031) states, “Through baptism, God calls and commissions persons to the
225 general ministry of all Christian believers.” The statement continues, “The vocation
226 of those in representative [certified, commissioned, consecrated, and ordained]
227 ministry includes focusing, modeling, supervising, shepherding, enabling, and
228 empowering the general ministry of the church . . . [and] is grounded in the same
229 baptism that commissions the general priesthood of all believers.”

230 **1. Ordination of Elders and Deacons**

231 Anchored in the baptismal call to lives of love, justice, and service, there are some
232 Christians whose “gifts, evidence of God’s grace, and promise of future
233 usefulness are affirmed by the community, and who respond to God’s call by
234 offering themselves in leadership as set-apart ministers” (*Discipline—2012*, ¶
235 301.2; see also ¶¶ 133 and 138).

236

237 Ordination is chiefly understood as the act of the Holy Spirit. As a liturgical act,
238 ordination is also understood as the public prayer of the church confirming the
239 Spirit’s call to individuals and asking for gifts and power for these persons in the
240 ministry of elder or deacon.

241

242 The rite of ordination is a significant “high moment” in the process by which the
243 faith community discerns and validates the call, the gifts, and effectiveness for
244 apostolic ministry by agency of the Holy Spirit. The sign of ordination, however,

245 like baptism, should be understood not as a graduation, but as an *initiation* into
246 the way of life of the order into which the candidates are being ordained. That
247 way of life is governed by the vows attending each ordained office. These vows,
248 in turn, specify how these set-apart ministers, together with sisters and brothers in
249 their order, are called and held accountable to live out their baptismal vocation
250 within the life of the church for the sake of the world.

251
252 Because the vows of ordination are specifications of our common baptismal
253 covenant, both the processes leading to ordination and full conference
254 membership and the ritual of ordination include the active participation of all of
255 the baptized. The processes of ordination typically begin with a local
256 congregation's discernment of God's call to individuals for service as ordained
257 leaders, continue with support and scrutiny as they prepare for this work, and are
258 ratified by the clergy session in electing them to the office and work of an elder or
259 deacon. The service of ordination celebrates and seeks the Spirit's power to enact
260 what we have together discerned as the baptized.

261
262 Ordination of elders and deacons is both to an office and, when the ordained are
263 later elected into full membership, for a lifetime of service. Ordination confers a
264 new role in the life of the church as well as authority for leadership in specific
265 forms of ministry. The new role of the ordained in the life of the church is
266 claimed in relation to Christ and his call to leadership and service among the
267 baptized for the life of the world. The authority given is exercised in stewardship
268 of the mysteries of the gospel and of the church's mission in the world.
269 Ordination itself is ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit.

270
271 Upon ordination, ordained elders and deacons become accountable to the whole
272 church, to the community of the ordained, and to the order of elders or deacons of
273 which they are a part. In the rite of ordination, candidates express loyalty to The
274 United Methodist Church, vowing to "accept and uphold" its order, liturgy,
275 doctrine, and discipline. They also accept the responsibility of accountability to
276 the bishop and to the annual conference. Finally, they are charged with authority
277 for leadership in the places of service to which they may be appointed.

278 **2. Commissioning of Provisional Members**

279 By the prompting of the Spirit, the church has always sent persons into various
280 forms of ministry and mission, including specific service as missionaries, work
281 team members, and certified workers in specialized ministries.

282
283 Commissioning may be compared to the experience of the early church in
284 Antioch when the Holy Spirit instructed the community to "set apart for me
285 Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them" (Acts 13:2). The
286 provisional period and the mentoring relationship that characterizes it can also be
287 seen in light of the relationship between Paul and Ananias (Acts 9) when the
288 newly called evangelist was guided toward the fullness of his calling by the more
289 seasoned leader.

290
291 The act of commissioning provisional members

292

- 293 • acknowledges and affirms God’s call and the candidates’ response, gifts,
294 abilities, and training for servant leadership;
295
- 296 • invokes God’s grace for true service;
297
- 298 • credentials candidates to lead the church and equip others for ministry;
299
- 300 • calls candidates to enter a time of evaluation of their effectiveness for lifelong
301 service as ordained ministers, and
302
- 303 • offers candidates the support of the annual conference.
304

305 Commissioning provisional members has been a way to relate these persons to the
306 annual conference and to the ministry of the provisional members within the
307 annual conference. Commissioning has implied that the person is being sent for
308 service and the church invokes the Holy Spirit to empower commissioned
309 ministers during their time of provisional membership.
310

311 The period of provisional membership under commissioned ministry is concluded
312 when the person has successfully completed the requirements of the conference’s
313 residency program (§ 325) and is elected into a full membership by the full
314 members of the annual conference, or a decision is made not to proceed toward
315 full membership.

316 **B. The Prayer of Ordination**

317

318 In the traditional version of the Ordinal provided here (page 16), the bishop, as the
319 presiding minister in the annual conference and as a general superintendent of the
320 whole church, speaks the words and the people make the prayer their own by
321 audibly saying, “Amen.” In the alternative version (page 36), the voice of the
322 whole people is more actively involved, while it remains clear the bishop
323 functions as the presider who prompts the response and action of the people.
324

325 Both versions continue the historic practice of two manual actions for ordination.
326 In the first, which is ordination proper, the bishop lays hands upon the head of the
327 candidate and asks for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit for the office and work to
328 which the candidate is being ordained. In the second, which comprises the act of
329 authorization for ministry, the bishop lays hands upon or holds the hands of the
330 candidate as the bishop and/or the assembly speak words authorizing the newly
331 ordained to carry out their work among the people.
332

333 **C. The Laying On of Hands**

334 **1. The Role of the Resident Bishop**

335 The laying on of hands with prayer by the bishop is an ancient and essential part
336 of the Christian ordering of ministry. The Second Epistle to Timothy 1:6
337 (“ . . . rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my
338 hands”) reminds us of both the antiquity of this tactile prayer and the bestowal of
339 gift in its exercise.
340

341 While the act of laying on of hands occurs in several rites of the church (baptism,
342 healing services, acts of blessing and commissioning), the meaning of the laying
343 on of hands in ordination and the commissioning of provisional members is
344 carried and communicated by the form of this ritual action and the context and
345 words that accompany it. In commissioning, a bishop lays hands on the *shoulders*
346 of the candidates as a sign of sending into ministry for a specified period of time.
347 In ordination, a bishop lays hands on the *head* of the candidate as a sign of the
348 impartation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit for what is intended to be a lifetime of
349 ministry.

350

351 The laying on of hands is an essential part of the act of prayer in ordination. The
352 laying on of hands with prayer invokes the Spirit to empower those being
353 ordained for the work of the office to which they are called by God through the
354 church.

355

356 **2. The Roles of Other Clergy and Lay Leaders**

357 One or more representatives of the laity and one or more ecumenical
358 representatives may also be invited by the presiding bishop to assist in the laying
359 on of hands for elders and deacons. Laity and ecumenical representatives who are
360 laity or clergy in the same order as the ordinand may join others in the same order
361 by laying hands on the back or shoulders of the ordinand. Ecumenical
362 representatives who are bishops or have an equivalent role in ordination in their
363 own denominations may be invited by the presiding bishop to lay hands on the
364 head of the ordinand (if permitted in their own polity) or on the back or shoulders
365 of the presiding bishop.

366

367 Care should be taken to enable members of the congregation to see the laying on
368 of hands by the bishop and others. The bishop may limit the number of people
369 participating in the laying on of hands to ensure that candidates are not hidden
370 from the view of the congregation.

371

372 Non-ordained spouses and family members of candidates for ordination or
373 commissioning should not participate in the laying on of hands. Family members
374 and friends may be invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the
375 laying on of hands for a candidate.

376 **D. Instruments and Sign Acts for the Ordering of Ministry**

377 Ordinations and consecrations ritualize the distinctiveness of the different orders.
378 Thus, not only what is said but what is done and the signs and instruments
379 employed are significant. **Bishops and all being ordained, commissioned,
380 received, recognized or consecrated are strongly encouraged to wear an alb,**
381 the simple, ancient garment linked to baptism. Albs are available in several
382 colors. White or off-white is recommended to symbolize the tie to ancient
383 baptismal practice. (*Alb* comes from the Latin, *alba*, meaning “white”). The alb is
384 the foundational garment upon which are placed the distinguishing signs of office.

385

386 These are the distinguishing signs and instruments to be used in these services and
387 in the course of the ministries of those who receive them:

388

389 **For commissioned ministers and persons elected to Associate Membership**
390 *Stole*—none. The stole is a sign of ordained office. Non-ordained persons are not
391 to be presented with nor to wear the stole in their ministerial practice.
392 *Instruments*—none. A pendant cross may be presented. A pendant cross is not an
393 instrument of office, but a designation of devotion to Christ.

394
395 **For elder**
396 *Stole*—yoked at the back of the neck, hanging straight down from the shoulders
397 *Instruments*—chalice and paten.

398
399 **For deacon**
400 *Stole*—draped over the left shoulder and fastened under the right arm
401 *Instruments*—towel, pitcher and basin. A plumb line may also be presented.

402
403 **For bishop**
404 *Yoked stole*—to be worn from the beginning of the service
405 *Instrument*—crozier (pastoral or shepherd’s staff)

406
407 The Bible is an instrument common to all the orders of Christ’s ministry. A Bible
408 presented to those being consecrated, commissioned, or ordained should be either
409 a gift or one belonging to the candidate so that there is continuity between
410 presentation and use. It is recommended that the Bible received by those being
411 commissioned be presented again at the time of ordination.

412
413 Additional books may also be presented at this time. These services commend
414 presenting elders with the current editions of *The Book of Discipline* and *The*
415 *United Methodist Book of Worship*, and deacons with *The United Methodist Book*
416 *of Worship*.

417
418 Certificates of credentials (two documents, conference membership and ministry
419 status) may be presented at this time.

420
421 Holy Communion should normally be celebrated at services where candidates are
422 to be ordained. Newly ordained elders assisted by newly ordained deacons, may
423 serve the people, involving other elders, deacons, local pastors, diaconal
424 ministers, commissioned ministers, and laity as needed. Newly ordained deacons
425 may assist the bishop in preparing the table, serving, setting the table in order,
426 leading the intercessions, putting the table in order after Communion, and sending
427 the people forth.

428 429 **E. Reception as Full Members**

430
431 Receiving ordained elders and deacons into full membership is a solemn and
432 joyous occasion. These persons have shown themselves to be ready for a lifetime
433 of commitment to and effectiveness in ministry in The United Methodist Church
434 through several years of supervised learning and reflection on the practice of
435 ministry as an elder or deacon. As ordination rather than commissioning will
436 increasingly become connected with provisional membership, it is important that
437 the acts of receiving full members be experienced as the strong validation of
438 ministry and the ministry covenants they are intended to be.

439 **A Guide to Planning Services for the Ordering of Ministry**

440

441 There is no more complex annual liturgical task for most United Methodist annual
442 conferences than planning the services of ordination, commissioning, reception,
443 and recognition. The numbers of people involved, the time available in annual
444 conference sessions, and the limitations of the available worship space can make
445 planning a logistical and liturgical challenge. At the same time, these moments of
446 worship can and should be deeply formative and moving for the candidates and
447 the conference as a whole. The opportunity to celebrate Christ’s ministry through
448 all of the baptized and to set apart women and men as ordained leaders calls all
449 Christians to the deep roots of our faith and life in the church universal.

450 **A. General Guidelines**

451 These guidelines highlight some of the critical concerns that planners must
452 consider. These matters must be thought through within the context of an annual
453 conference’s worship style, the place it meets, and the numbers of candidates.
454 There are some basic principles to keep in mind:

455

456 **1. The bishop is in charge.** The resident bishop is responsible for the services.

457 See *Discipline—2012*, ¶ 415.6.

458

459 **2. Teamwork is essential.** The bishop consults with the conference board of
460 ordained ministry, the annual conference worship committee, and other annual
461 conference committees for the coordination and execution of these services.

462

463 **3. Long-range planning is critical.** Scheduling rehearsals, printing, graphic
464 design, assigning liturgical leadership, and a host of other matters may require
465 months of preparation.

466

467 **4. Authorized texts and rubrics *must* be used as provided in this resource.**

468 “Because ordinations are acts of the whole church, the text and rubrics of these
469 orders *shall* be used in the form approved by the General Conference.” (*Book*
470 *of Discipline—2012*, ¶ 415.6, emphasis added). The texts and rubrics allow for
471 some flexibility, including musical choices, the ability to substitute equivalent
472 elements between the traditional and alternative texts, and the possibility of
473 ordering the actions of commissioning and ordination in a variety of ways, as
474 modeled in the two versions. However, the services herein are the *only* ones
475 approved by General Conference for these purposes. Prior ordinals or practices
476 are superseded. There are profound denominational and ecumenical issues at
477 stake in the way annual conferences celebrate these services of The United
478 Methodist Church.

479

480 **5. Plan specific time allotments for the various parts of these services to**
481 **ensure everything flows well and the service does not drag or take too**
482 **long.** Ensure that the sermon, acts of worship, and movement of the people are
483 well rehearsed and kept within allowable time frames. While the sermon is an
484 important part of this service, it is only one part of the proclamation of the
485 gospel within it. The actions of ordination, commissioning, reception and
486 recognition, as well as reaffirmations of the baptismal covenant and the

487 celebration of Holy Communion also proclaim the gospel and invite response.
488 Remember: *Worship is primarily action with words attached as needed.*
489

490 **6. Rehearsal is essential.** Due to the complexity of these ritual acts and the
491 number of people involved, thorough rehearsal will ensure that each leader and
492 participant knows what he or she is to do and that adjustments can be made
493 prior to the service. Some annual conferences train and employ marshals or
494 vergers who guide the bishop, candidates, and other participants as they move
495 through the service.

496
497 Rehearsal should include, at a minimum, the movement into and out of the
498 worship space, the introductions of candidates, the readings, the ordination or
499 commissioning sequence, the ushers seating people and taking the offering, the
500 positioning of servers, and the sequence for celebrating and serving Holy
501 Communion. In most situations, technical aspects such as sound, light, and
502 digital equipment need to be checked and the sequences rehearsed.
503

504 **7. Anthems and other musical offerings may be used throughout these**
505 **services.** Choral calls to worship, responses to Scripture, offertory anthems,
506 and choral benedictions are appropriate. The annual conference music leader
507 should be involved in planning and rehearsing these services. All music should
508 support the movement of the rites and not distract from or impede them.
509

510 **8. Rubrics that invite fuller participation or greater clarity about the ritual**
511 **action of the services should be printed in the order of service.** The
512 ordination service is complex. For the congregation and other participants to
513 follow the actions and participate appropriately, they will need the road map a
514 printed program can provide. Relying on a screen alone to guide these services
515 is likely to lead to confusion rather than greater participation.
516

517 While some of the rubrics in these services are primarily for the leaders and
518 planners of the services, many should be printed in the actual service folder to
519 encourage understanding of what and who is addressed and to invite fuller
520 participation. For example, “*All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen*”
521 helps all to know that they join the prayer by their active and audible response.
522 “*The bishop, facing the ordinands, calls the people to prayer, using these or*
523 *similar words*” helps the congregation know that they are being addressed.

524 **B. Logistics Questions**

525 The following are fundamental decisions that need to be made as you design
526 services for the ordering of ministry:
527

528 **1. How many services?** Many annual conferences in The United States
529 have significantly reduced the amount of time they meet over the past few
530 quadrennia, in most cases by at least a full day. This makes it difficult for
531 most annual conferences to schedule multiple separate services of
532 ordination and commissioning. For this reason, this ordinal includes two
533 forms of a single service combining all necessary elements for ordination,
534 commissioning, the Recognition of Orders, and the Recognition of

535 Associate Members. If bishops wish to separate these elements into
536 separate services following the same pattern of worship (Entrance with
537 reaffirmation of baptism, presentation of candidates, ministry of the word,
538 examination of candidates, laying on of hands, Holy Communion,
539 Sending), they are free to do so.

540
541 **2. How will you orchestrate movement of bishop, assistants and**
542 **candidates in the laying on of hands?** The guiding principle must be
543 good order and visibility. Plan a pattern of movement that is simple and
544 allows for clear sight lines so that the assembly may visually participate in
545 the action. In some settings, the bishop and those joining in the laying on
546 of hands may move from candidate to candidate while the candidates are
547 kneeling in a line, circle, or semicircle. In other settings, the candidates
548 may move to the bishop one by one. The number of persons assisting
549 (other clergy of the same order, laity and ecumenical representatives)
550 should be guided by the size of the space available for ordination and the
551 need to avoid obstructing sight lines for all in the assembly. More than any
552 other part of these services, this action must be choreographed, rehearsed,
553 and implemented with great care.

554
555 **3. How will Holy Communion be celebrated?** Services of ordination take
556 place within a Service of Word and Table, with Holy Communion served
557 to the entire congregation. Holy Communion is at the heart of our identity
558 as Christians and our understanding of the work of ordained elders and
559 deacons. When the annual conference ordains persons within a Service of
560 Word and Table, the newly ordained immediately take their place to enact
561 liturgically the ministries to which they have been ordained.

562
563 The celebration of Holy Communion should be in keeping with our ritual in
564 *The United Methodist Book of Worship*. The bishop and worship planners are
565 encouraged to avail themselves of the guidance and options outlined in pages
566 16–32 in the *Book of Worship* and in the texts and rubrics below. Several
567 different complete forms of the Great Thanksgiving are included in these
568 services. See pages 31, 50 and 63 of this document.

569
570 Continuous serving of the people at multiple stations will allow more of the
571 newly ordained, commissioned, received, or recognized to serve and will
572 enable all to be served in a manner that is gracious but not overly long.
573 Depending on the layout of the space, the number of stations may be
574 calculated by dividing the total number of persons present by 50 and
575 providing at least as many stations as the result. For example, an estimated
576 attendance of 2000 would require at least 40 stations.

577
578

579 **C. General Rubrics**

580

581 **1. The resident bishop shall preside at the service.** The resident bishop in these
582 services is critical in our polity, ritual, and ecumenical relationships. Except in
583 cases of physical necessity, the resident bishop may not delegate the leadership of
584 elements of this service designated “Bishop” to other persons. If the resident

585 bishop should be physically unable to perform some of these elements, the
586 resident bishop may seek assistance from another active or retired bishop in her or
587 his college of bishops. The resident bishop may choose another bishop or person
588 of similar authority from another Christian denomination to preach.

589

590 **2. The service(s) of ordination should regularly include representatives of**
591 **other Christian communions, and particularly bishops or persons who are**
592 **authorized to ordain within these denominations.** Bishops or equivalent
593 officials from one or more of the denominations with which The United
594 Methodist Church is in full communion, other member bodies in Churches
595 Uniting in Christ, and member Churches of the World Methodist Federation
596 should always be invited to take part in these services. Bishops and officials
597 authorized to ordain may be invited by the resident bishop to participate in the
598 laying on of hands as their denominations may allow.

599

600 **3. The services should normally take place during a session of annual**
601 **conference.** While exceptions may be made in extraordinary circumstances,
602 holding services of ordination, commissioning and recognition within the
603 gathering of the annual conference best represents the nature of our polity.
604 Persons are ordained, commissioned, received or recognized through the
605 collaborative actions of the annual conference's Board of Ordained Ministry and
606 resident bishop, and are most likely to exercise their set-apart ministry primarily
607 within the bounds of the annual conference in which these services take place.

608

609 **4. The color for paraments, stoles worn or presented to ordinands, and**
610 **cinctures should be red.** Red has long use in the church as a sign as of the action
611 of the Holy Spirit in general, as well as in the acts of setting persons apart for
612 specialized ministry.

613

614 **5. The sermon should be addressed to the whole assembly, including the**
615 **candidates.** Ordination, commissioning, and acts of recognition involve the
616 whole church, laity and clergy in all orders and statuses. While the sermon may
617 include some address to the candidates, it should clearly remind everyone present
618 of their role in what the Holy Spirit is doing, is about to do, and will do in their
619 midst through their prayers and the laying on of hands, and the continuing
620 responsibility of all present to ensure what the Spirit has begun can grow and bear
621 much fruit for all.

622

623 **D. Abbreviations and Formatting Signs in These Services**

624 Abbreviations:

625 **UMH** *The United Methodist Hymnal*

626 **UMBOW** *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

627 **MVPC** *Mil Voces Para Celebrar*

628 **CLUW** *Come, Let Us Worship*

629 **TFWS** *The Faith We Sing*

630 **W&S** *Worship & Song*

631

632 Numbered pages without abbreviations preceding them refer to pages in this
633 document.
634
635 An asterisk (*) indicates an act of worship for which the congregation may be
636 invited to stand.
637
638 Items in plain brackets [] are optional and may be omitted, adapted, or relocated.
639
640 Items in parentheses () within the texts of the services indicate a choice of word
641 use is offered. Printed orders of the service should include only the words that
642 will be used.
643
644 Items in italicized print in the body of plain text prayers or other acts of worship
645 indicate that adaptation or adjustments in the language may need to be made.
646
647 Following the style of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church—*
648 *2016*, “*Church*” indicates The United Methodist Church, and “*church*” indicates
649 the church universal.
650

651 **The Service of Word and Table for**
652 **the Ordination of Elders and Deacons,**
653 **the Commissioning of Provisional Members,**
654 **Recognition of Orders,**
655
656 **and Recognition of Associate Members**
657
658 **(TRADITIONAL VERSION)**

659
660 *This service is the approved ritual for ordaining elders and deacons,*
661 *commissioning persons in the provisional relationship, recognizing the orders of*
662 *persons ordained in other communions, and recognizing associate members of the*
663 *annual conference.*

664
665 *Holy Communion should be celebrated as part of this service. An alternative*
666 *ending is provided for times where the sacrament may not be celebrated. A break*
667 *may be incorporated after the act of commissioning, if needed.*

668
669 *If there are persons whose ordination is to be recognized, they should be vested*
670 *with a red stole appropriate to their order from the beginning of the service.*

671
672
673 **ENTRANCE**

674
675 **GATHERING**

676
677 *Festive music may be offered while the people gather. The service may then*
678 *continue with a procession including the worship leaders, other participants in*
679 *worship, candidates, and bishop(s).*

680
681 **PROCESSIONAL HYMN ***

682
683 *Processional hymns are listed beginning on page 70.*

684
685 **GREETING AND PRAYER ***

686
687 *The bishop greets the people and they respond:*

688
689 The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

690
691 **And also with you.**

692
693
694 We come together to praise God,

695 to hear the Holy Word,
696 and to seek for ourselves and others
697 the power, presence, and direction of the Holy Spirit.

698

699 Let us pray.

700

701 **Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit**

702 **you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts.**

703 **Give your grace**

704 **to all servants of your church,**

705 **that we may with diligence and faithfulness**

706 **fulfill our various ministries.**

707 **Grant that we your people may follow where you lead,**

708 **perfect our ministries,**

709 **and live in joyful obedience to your will,**

710 **through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

711

712

713 **RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY**

714 **AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

715

716 *The bishop, standing near a baptismal font, shell, or vessel of water, begins:*

717

718 Ministry is the work of God,

719 done by the people of God.

720 Through baptism

721 all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers,

722 the church, Christ's body, made visible in the world.

723 We all share in Christ's ministry of love and service

724 for the redemption of the human family and the whole of creation.

725

726 Therefore, in celebration of our common ministry,

727 I call upon all God's people gathered here:

728

729 *The bishop may scoop and pour water from the font, shell, or vessel and say:*

730

731 Remember you are baptized, and be thankful.

732

733 **We reaffirm our baptism**

734 **and our common call to ministry.**

735 **Thanks be to God!**

736

737 *All people are seated.*

738

739

740

741

742 **PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE ORDAINED, COMMISSIONED,**

743 **OR RECOGNIZED**

744
745
746 *All but the bishop, candidates and their assistants may be seated.*
747 *The bishop remains by the font, facing the people.*
748
749
750
751 Bishop:
752
753 Who presents these candidates to be ordained, commissioned, or recognized?
754
755 *All Laity:*
756
757 **We have recommended them in our local congregations.**
758 **We present them with our prayers and support.**
759
760 *Members of the Board of Ordained Ministry:*
761
762 We have examined these candidates according to the standards of our Discipline
763 and this annual conference of The United Methodist Church.
764 We present them with our prayers and support.
765
766 *All Deacons in Full Connection:*
767
768 We present (*Names*) for ordination as deacon.
769 We present them with our prayers and support.
770
771 *All Elders in Full Connection:*
772
773 We present (*Names*) for ordination as elder.
774 We present them with our prayers and support.
775
776 *Board of Ordained Ministry:*
777 We present (*Full Names*) for commissioning as provisional members
778 preparing for ordained ministry as elders
779 and (*Full Names*) preparing for ordained ministry as deacons.
780 We present them with our prayers and support.
781
782 We also present (*Names*) for Recognition of Orders in The United Methodist
783 Church as (*Names*) for Recognition as Associate Members.
784 We present them with our prayers and support.
785
786 *After all the candidates have been presented, they remain standing, and the*
787 *bishop says:*
788
789 These persons are by God's grace
790 to be ordained, commissioned, or recognized for set apart ministry
791 in Christ's Holy Church.
792 Those authorized by the Church to inquire about them
793 have discerned that they are persons

794 of sound learning and of Christian character,
795 possess the necessary signs of God's grace,
796 and have demonstrated a profound commitment to serve Jesus Christ.
797 Therefore, they believe them to be duly called to serve God.

798
799 We ask you, people of God,
800 to declare your assent
801 to the ordination, commissioning, reception or recognition of these persons.
802

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

805
806 **We do! Thanks be to God!**

807
808 Will you uphold them in their ministry?

809
810 **With God's help, we will.**

811

812

813 **THE GENERAL EXAMINATION**

814

815 *All remain seated except the candidates and the bishop, who stand facing one*
816 *another. The bishop examines the candidates for commissioning, ordination, and*
817 *recognition:*

818

819 My sisters and brothers in Christ,
820 you have been called
821 to an ordained, commissioned, or recognized status in set apart ministry.
822 The church now confirms your calling.

823

824 As ordained or commissioned ministers and associate members,
825 you are to be coworkers with all the people of God:
826 With laity, bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors,
827 provisional members, diaconal ministers,
828 deaconesses, home missionaries, supply pastors,
829 with all who serve God in the Church.

830

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

835

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

840

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

843

844 **I do so believe.**

845

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

848

849 **I do so believe and confess.**

850

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

857

858 **I am so persuaded, by God's grace.**

859

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

864

865 **I will, with the help of God.**

866

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

869

870 **I will, with the help of God.**

871

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

877

878 **I will, with the help of God.**

879

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

885

886 **I will, with the help of God.**

887

888 Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission,
889 covenant to participate in the life of the order, [fellowship, or membership]
890 into which you are ordained, commissioned, received or recognized?
891 Will you give yourself to God through the order [or fellowship]
892 in order to sustain and build each other up
893 in prayer, study, worship and service

894 under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day?

895

896 **I will, with the help of God.**

897

898 May God,

899 who has given you the will to do these things,

900 give you grace to perform them,

901 that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection.

902

903 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

904

905 *All may be seated.*

906

907

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

908

909 THE FIRST READING (Selection from OT or Epistle readings, page 68)

910

911 *The gospel may be read by an ordained deacon while all stand.*

912

913 THE GOSPEL *

914 *Before the reading:*

915 Deacon: The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to _____.

916

917 *After the reading:*

918 Deacon: The gospel of our Lord!

919 **People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

920

921 SERMON

922

923 APOSTLES CREED* (said or sung)

924

925 Do you believe in God?

926 **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**

927 **Maker of heaven and earth.**

928

929 Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

930 **I believe in Jesus Christ,**

931 **God's only Son, our Lord,**

932 **Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

933 **born of the Virgin Mary,**

934 **suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

935 **was crucified, died and buried.**

936 **He descended to the dead.**

937 **On the third day he rose again;**

938 **he ascended into heaven,**

939 **is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

940 **and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

941

942 Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

943

944 **I believe in the Holy Spirit,**
945 **the holy catholic church,**
946 **the communion of saints,**
947 **the forgiveness of sins,**
948 **the resurrection of the body,**
949 **and the life everlasting.**

950

951 *The congregation may be seated. An anthem, song, or instrumental work may be*
952 *performed, or the service may continue.*

953

954

955 **COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS**

956

957 *Candidates for commissioning may rise and face the congregation. The bishop*
958 *addresses the congregation.*

959

960 By affirming the covenant of baptism,
961 all members of Christ's holy church pledge
962 to serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

963

964 Christ gave all of us this command:

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

966 We have asked, and the Lord has answered.

967 These sisters and brothers know our Savior's concern for God's people,

968 see the plentiful harvest,

969 and are ready to respond generously to the Lord

970 in the words of the prophet: "Here I am; send me."

971

972 Urged on by the love of Christ and strengthened by the Holy Spirit,

973 they now come to declare in public

974 their desire to live out the covenant made at their baptism

975 by binding themselves to the service of God

976 under the supervision of the bishop

977 and the guidance of colleagues in full connection

978 and by being appointed to share as servant leaders

979 in the body of Christ.

980

981 Today we commission them to service

982 as they continue to prepare for ordained ministry among us.

983

984 **PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING AND LAYING ON OF HANDS**

985

986 *The candidates kneel, facing the congregation.*

987

988 *The bishop, facing the congregation and extending arms over all of the*
989 *candidates, prays:*

990

991 God of the apostles and prophets, of the martyrs and teachers,

992 you raise up men and women to be apostolic leaders in your church.

993 By your Holy Spirit

994 help these, your servants,
995 to understand and live the mystery of your love with boldness and joy.
996 Deepen their sense of purpose
997 as they exercise commissioned ministry.
998 Empower them, and those who will walk with them to guide their ministry,
999 together with all of your people,
1000 to heal the sick,
1001 love the outcast,
1002 resist evil,
1003 preach the Word,
1004 and give themselves freely for your name's sake.

1005
1006 *The bishop, standing behind and laying both hands upon the shoulders of each*
1007 *candidate, prays:*

1008
1009 Pour out your Holy Spirit upon *Full Name*.
1010 Send *him/her* now to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ,
1011 to announce the reign of God,
1012 and to equip the church for ministry,
1013 in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

1014
1015 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

1016
1017 *No stole or other instruments of office are given to commissioned ministers. A*
1018 *pendant cross or Book of Worship may be presented as each returns to be seated.*
1019 *The certificate of provisional membership and the appropriate license for ministry*
1020 *may also be presented to each at this time.*

1021
1022 **EXAMINATION OF DEACONS**

1023
1024 *The deacon candidates stand and move toward the bishop as directed. The bishop*
1025 *examines the deacon candidates:*

1026
1027 A deacon
1028 is called to share in Christ's ministry of servanthood,
1029 to relate the life of the community to its service in the world,
1030 to lead others into Christian discipleship,
1031 to nurture disciples for witness and service,

1032
1033 *Here a large Bible may be lifted by an assistant.*

1034
1035 to lead in worship,
1036 to teach and proclaim God's Word,
1037 to assist elders and appointed local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy
1038 Communion,

1039
1040 *Here a towel and basin with pitcher may be lifted by an assistant.*

1041
1042 to interpret to the church the world's hurts and hopes,
1043 to serve all people, particularly the poor, the sick, and the oppressed,

1044 and to lead Christ's people in ministries of compassion and justice,
1045 liberation and reconciliation,
1046 especially in the face of hardship and personal sacrifice.

1047

1048 This is the rule of life and work of a deacon.

1049

1050 Do you believe that God has called you
1051 to the life and work of a deacon?

1052

1053 **I do so believe.**

1054

1055

1056 **LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR DEACONS**

1057

1058 *The bishop calls the people to prayer using these or similar words:*

1059

1060 As these persons are recognized or ordained by God and the church
1061 for the ministry of deacons
1062 to which we believe they have been called by the Holy Spirit,
1063 let us pray for them.

1064

1065 *If the setting allows, the candidates may kneel.*

1066

1067 *The people pray for them in silence.*

1068

1069 *The hymn "O Holy Spirit" (UMBOW 223) or "Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls
1070 Inspire" (UMH 651) may be sung.*

1071

1072 *The bishop, with hands extended over those being ordained, prays:*

1073

1074 We thank you, Living God,
1075 that in your great love
1076 you sent Jesus Christ
1077 to take the form of a servant,
1078 becoming obedient even to death on the cross,
1079 and now resurrected and exalted in the heavens.
1080 You have taught us, by his word and example,
1081 that whoever would be great among us must be servant of all.

1082

1083 Give these servants grace to be faithful to their promises,
1084 constant in their discipleship,
1085 and always ready for works of loving service.

1086 Make them modest and humble, gentle and strong,
1087 rooted and grounded in love.

1088 Give them a share in the ministry of Jesus Christ,
1089 who came not to be served but to serve.

1090

1091 *Candidates for ordination as deacon may be invited to kneel before the bishop
1092 one at a time as directed. Those whose orders are to be recognized may remain
1093 standing where they are during the ordinations.*

1094
1095 *Representatives from the laity, the ecumenical church, and the order of deacons*
1096 *who are to join in the laying on of hands stand with the bishop. When the bishop*
1097 *lays hands on the head of the candidate, others may lay hands on the candidate's*
1098 *back or shoulders.*

1099
1100 *Family members and friends may be invited to stand where they are for silent*
1101 *prayer during the laying on of hands for each ordinand.*

1102
1103 *The bishop lays both hands on the head of each ordinand, praying:*

1104
1105 Father Almighty (Almighty God), pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit
1106 for the office and work of a deacon in Christ's holy church.

1107
1108 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

1109
1110 *Immediately the candidate places hands on a Bible as the bishop lays hands on*
1111 *the hands of the candidate and says:*

1112
1113 *Full Name*, take authority as a deacon
1114 to proclaim the Word of God
1115 and to lead God's people
1116 in ministries of compassion and justice;
1117 in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

1118
1119 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

1120
1121 *Each deacon is immediately clothed with the shoulder stole. As instruments of*
1122 *office they may receive a Bible, a Book of Worship, and bowl and pitcher and a*
1123 *plumb line. Certificates of ordination as deacon and provisional membership (if*
1124 *not previously commissioned) may be presented at this time.*

1125
1126 *Those who have been received into provisional membership may return to their*
1127 *places. Those whose orders will be recognized will stand.*

1128
1129 **RECOGNITION OF ORDERS**

1130 *The bishop addresses those whose orders as deacons are to be recognized:*

1131
1132 After due examination
1133 of your call and ministry in another part of Christ's holy church,
1134 we now welcome you to this communion.

1135
1136 You have given assurance of your faith and Christian experience.

1137
1138 You have renewed the vows of your ordination
1139 and embraced our own,
1140 committing *yourself/ves* to accept and uphold faithfully
1141 the doctrine, liturgy and discipline of The United Methodist Church.

1142
1143 We rejoice that you have been called to serve among us,

1144 and pray that God may guide your ministry.

1145

1146 *As each candidate comes forward, the bishop greets each one:*

1147

1148 *Full Name*, we now recognize you as a deacon

1149 in The United Methodist Church.

1150

1151 *As each one is named and received, each is given a certificate of recognition as*

1152 *deacon, a certificate of full membership, and a Book of Worship.*

1153

1154 *The congregation may sing a hymn (pages 68 ff.), or an anthem or other music*

1155 *may be offered. Or the service may continue.*

1156

1157 EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

1158

1159 *Candidates for ordination as elders rise and face the bishop.*

1160 *The bishop examines the candidates for ordination or recognition as elder:*

1161

1162 An elder

1163 is called to share in the ministry of Christ

1164 and of the whole church:

1165 to preach and teach the Word of God

1166

1167 *Here a large Bible may be lifted by an assistant.*

1168

1169 and faithfully administer

1170 the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion;

1171

1172 *Here a paten and chalice may be lifted.*

1173

1174 to lead the people of God in worship and prayer;

1175 to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ;

1176 to exercise pastoral supervision,

1177 to order the life of the congregation and the connection,

1178 to counsel the troubled,

1179 and declare the forgiveness of sin;

1180 to lead the people of God

1181 in obedience to Christ's mission in the world;

1182 to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people;

1183 and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church

1184 and in service in and to the community.

1185

1186 This is the rule of life and work of an elder.

1187

1188 Do you believe that God has called you

1189 to the life and work of an elder?

1190

1191 **I do so believe.**

1192

1193

1194
1195
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1243

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR ELDERS

The bishop, facing the ordinands, calls the people to prayer, using these or similar words:

As these persons are ordained or recognized 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.

If the setting allows, the candidates kneel.

The people pray for them in silence.

If the hymn "O Holy Spirit" (UMBOW 223) or "Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire" (UMH 651) was not sung earlier, it may be sung here.

The bishop, with hands extended over those being ordained, prays:

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.

Candidates for ordination as elder are invited to kneel before the bishop one at a time as directed. Those whose orders are to be recognized may remain standing where they are during the ordinations.

1244 *Representatives from the laity, the ecumenical church, and the order of elders*
1245 *who are to join in the laying on of hands stand with the bishop. When the bishop*
1246 *lays hands on the head of the candidate, others may lay hands on the candidate's*
1247 *back or shoulders.*

1248
1249 *Family members and friends may be invited to stand where they are for silent*
1250 *prayer during the laying on of hands for each ordinand.*

1251
1252 *The bishop lays both hands on the head of each ordinand, praying:*

1253
1254 Father Almighty (Almighty God), pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit,
1255 for the office and work of an elder in Christ's holy church.

1256
1257 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

1258
1259 *Immediately the candidate places hands on a Bible as the bishop lays hands on*
1260 *the hands of the ordinand and says:*

1261
1262 *Full Name*, take authority as an elder
1263 to preach the Word of God,
1264 to administer the Holy Sacraments
1265 and to order the life of the Church;
1266 in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

1267
1268 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

1269
1270 *Each newly ordained elder is immediately clothed with the yoke stole. As*
1271 *instruments of office they may receive a Bible, a chalice and paten, a Book of*
1272 *Worship, and a Book of Discipline. A certificate of ordination as elder and a*
1273 *certificate of provisional membership (if not previously commissioned) may be*
1274 *presented at this time.*

1275
1276 *Those who have been received into provisional membership may return to their*
1277 *places. Those whose orders are to be recognized may stand.*

1278
1279 *The congregation may sing a hymn, or an anthem or other music may be offered.*
1280 *Or the service may continue.*

1281

1282

1283 **RECOGNITION OF ORDERS**

1284

1285 *The bishop addresses those whose orders as elders are to be recognized.*

1286

1287 After due examination
1288 of your call and ministry in another part of Christ's holy church,
1289 we now welcome you to this communion.

1290

1291 You have given assurance of your faith and Christian experience.

1292

1293 You have renewed the vows of your ordination
1294 and embraced our own,
1295 committing *yourself/ves* to accept and uphold faithfully
1296 the doctrine, liturgy, and discipline of The United Methodist Church.
1297

1298 We rejoice that you have been called to serve among us,
1299 and pray that God may guide your ministry.

1300

1301 *As each candidate comes forward, the bishop greets each one:*

1302

1303 *Full Name*, we now recognize you as an elder in full connection
1304 in The United Methodist Church.

1305

1306 *As each one is named and received, each is given a certificate of recognition as*
1307 *elder, a certificate of full membership, a Book of Worship, and a Book of*
1308 *Discipline.*

1309

1310 *Reception of newly ordained deacons and elders into full connection may take*
1311 *place at this time. See Appendix C, p. 75.*

1312

1313

1314 **RECOGNITION OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

1315

1316 *Persons to be recognized as associate members may now stand and present*
1317 *themselves before the bishop and the congregation.*

1318

1319 *The bishop addresses them:*

1320

1321 You have served among us faithfully as (a) local pastor(s),
1322 demonstrating your commitment to accept and uphold
1323 the doctrine, liturgy and discipline of The United Methodist Church,
1324 under the appointment of the bishop.

1325

1326 You have now fulfilled the requirements
1327 and been elected by the clergy session of this annual conference
1328 as associate members.

1329

1330 We rejoice that you have been called to serve among us,
1331 and pray that God may guide your ministry.

1332

1333 *As each candidate comes forward, the bishop greets each one:*

1334 *Full Name*, we now recognize you as an associate member
1335 in the name of the annual conference.

1336

1337 *No instruments or stoles are given to associate members. The newly recognized*
1338 *associate members are given a certificate of associate membership and return to*
1339 *their seats.*

1340

1341

1342 HYMN or ANTHEM*

1343 *During the hymn or anthem, an offering may be received and the Communion*
1344 *elements brought to the table or uncovered if already in place. Newly ordained*
1345 *deacons, with other ordained deacons if needed, prepare the table for the Lord's*
1346 *Supper. Newly ordained elders, associate members, those received as elders or*
1347 *deacons and laity, with other elders, if needed, take their places to assist in*
1348 *servicing. See UMBOW 26.*

1349
1350 *Hymns are listed beginning on page 70.*

1351

1352

1353 **THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**

1354

1355 INVITATION TO THE TABLE AND PEACE

1356

1357 Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
1358 who earnestly repent of their sin,
1359 and seek to be at peace with God and one another.
1360 Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

1361 CONFESSIO AND PARDON.

1362 **Merciful God,**
1363 **we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**
1364 **We have failed to be an obedient church.**
1365 **We have not done your will,**
1366 **we have broken your law,**
1367 **we have rebelled against your love,**
1368 **we have not loved our neighbors,**
1369 **and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**
1370 **Forgive us, we pray.**
1371 **Free us for joyful obedience,**
1372 **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

1373 *All pray in silence.*

1374 *Leader to people:*

1375 Hear the good news:
1376 Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
1377 that proves God's love toward us.
1378 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

1379 *People to leader:*

1380 **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

1381 *Leader and people:*

1382 **Glory to God. Amen.**

1383 THE PEACE
1384
1385 The peace of the Lord be always with you!
1386 **And also with you!**
1387
1388 *Signs of reconciliation and love may be exchanged.*
1389
1390 TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP
1391
1392 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *
1393
1394 *This text is used by the bishop, while the congregation uses “A Service of Word
1395 and Table III” (UMH 15–16) or one of the musical settings UMH 17–25. For a
1396 fuller text of the Great Thanksgiving for ordination, see the Great Thanksgiving
1397 beginning on page 58 of UMBOW.*
1398
1399 *The bishop stands behind the Lord’s Table and, facing the people from this time
1400 through the Breaking the Bread, begins the prayer:*
1401
1402 The Lord be with you.
1403
1404 **And also with you.**
1405
1406 Lift up your hearts.
1407
1408 *The bishop may lift and extend hands and keep them raised.*
1409
1410 **We lift them up to the Lord.**
1411
1412 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
1413
1414 **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
1415
1416 It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
1417 always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
1418 almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.
1419
1420 You built your church
1421 on the foundation of the prophets and apostles,
1422 and instituted a holy ministry
1423 so that your prophetic and apostolic Word
1424 might be heard until the end of time.
1425
1426 And so,
1427 with your people on earth
1428 and all the company of heaven
1429 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
1430 *The bishop may lower and join hands.*
1431
1432

1433 **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**
 1434 **heaven and earth are full of your glory.**
 1435 **Hosanna in the highest.**
 1436 **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**
 1437 **Hosanna in the highest.**
 1438
 1439 *The bishop may raise and extend hands.*
 1440
 1441 Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
 1442 He called disciples and empowered them for ministry.
 1443 By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
 1444 you gave birth to your church
 1445 and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
 1446
 1447 *The bishop touches or lifts the bread and prays:*
 1448
 1449 On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us,
 1450 he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
 1451 gave it to his disciples, and said:
 1452 “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
 1453 Do this in remembrance of me.”
 1454
 1455 *The bishop touches or lifts the cup and says:*
 1456
 1457 When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup,
 1458 gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
 1459 “Drink from this, all of you;
 1460 this is my blood of the new covenant,
 1461 poured out for you and for many
 1462 for the forgiveness of sins.
 1463 Do this, as often as you drink it,
 1464 in remembrance of me.”
 1465
 1466 *The bishop may raise and extend hands.*
 1467
 1468 When Jesus, the great Shepherd of your flock, ascended,
 1469 he sent forth the apostles
 1470 to preach the gospel and make disciples of all nations.
 1471 He promised to be with them always
 1472 and sent the Holy Spirit to lead them.
 1473
 1474 And so,
 1475 in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
 1476 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
 1477 as a holy and living sacrifice,
 1478 in union with Christ’s offering for us,
 1479 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
 1480
 1481 **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**
 1482

1483 *The bishop may hold hands over the bread and cup.*

1484

1485 Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,

1486 and on these gifts of bread and wine.

1487 Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,

1488 that we may be for the world the body of Christ,

1489 redeemed by his blood.

1490

1491 *The bishop may raise and extend hands.*

1492

1493 By your Spirit make us one with Christ,

1494 one with one another,

1495 and one in ministry to all the world,

1496 until Christ comes in final victory

1497 and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

1498

1499 Through your Son Jesus Christ,

1500 with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,

1501 all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,

1502 now and for ever. **Amen.**

1503

1504 THE LORD'S PRAYER *

1505

1506 *See UMH 270–271, 894–896.*

1507

1508 BREAKING THE BREAD

1509

1510 *The bishop, still standing behind the Lord's Table facing the people, breaks the*

1511 *bread in silence or while saying these or similar words:*

1512

1513 Because there is one loaf,

1514 we, who are many, are one body,

1515 because we all partake of the one loaf.

1516 The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

1517

1518 *The bishop lifts the cup in silence or while saying these or similar words:*

1519

1520 The cup over which we give thanks

1521 is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

1522

1523 GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

1524

1525 *The bread and cup are given to the people by new elders and new deacons, and*

1526 *other laity and clergy assisting as needed, with these or similar words:*

1527

1528 The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

1529

1530 The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

1531

1532 *The congregation sings hymns while the bread and cup are given.*

1533
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1582

When all have received, the deacons put the Lord's Table in order.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

The bishop says:

Let us pray.

All pray together:

**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

*Here the bishop may make an invitation to those present to respond to God's call
to ordained ministry in Christ's church. Appropriate direction for how they are to
respond should be given.*

[PRAYER

If the Lord's Supper was not celebrated, the bishop says:

Let us pray.

**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.]**

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING *

The bishop blesses the people:

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

HYMN *

*If the closing hymn is a processional, it should follow the bishop's blessing and
precede the deacon's dismissal. Otherwise, it should precede the bishop's*

1583 *blessing and the deacon's dismissal should follow immediately upon the bishop's*
1584 *blessing. Closing hymns are listed on pages 71-72.*
1585
1586 *A newly ordained deacon dismisses the people, using these or similar words:*
1587
1588 Go in peace
1589 to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do.
1590
1591 **We are sent in Christ's name.**
1592 **Thanks be to God!**
1593
1594 GOING FORTH *
1595
1596 *A worship leader may announce where the newly commissioned, received,*
1597 *recognized or ordained may be greeted following the service.*

1598
1599

1600 **An Alternative Service of Word and Table for**
1601 **the Ordination of Elders, Deacons and Local Pastors,**
1602 **the Commissioning of Provisional Members,**
1603 **Recognition of Orders,**
1604
1605 **and Recognition of Associate Members**
1606

1607 *This order of service provides an alternative ritual for ordaining elders and*
1608 *deacons, commissioning persons in the provisional relationship, receiving elders*
1609 *and deacons into full membership, recognizing the orders of persons ordained in*
1610 *other communions, and recognizing those who have qualified as associate*
1611 *members of the annual conference.*

1612
1613 *Holy Communion should be celebrated as the culmination of this service. An*
1614 *optional ending is provided for those cases where it is not.*

1615
1616 *Bishops may authorize the omission of elements not needed for a particular*
1617 *service of ordination and commissioning. For example, if there are no elders*
1618 *being ordained or associate members being recognized in a given year, the*
1619 *elements of this service relating to the ordination of elders or the recognition of*
1620 *associate members may be omitted.*

1621
1622 *Bishops may also substitute elements of this service for the equivalent elements of*
1623 *the traditional service, or vice versa, at their discretion.*

1624
1625 *If there are persons who are being received as full members or persons whose*
1626 *ordination from another Christian denomination is to be recognized, they should*
1627 *be vested in an alb, cincture and the stole appropriate to their order from the*
1628 *beginning of the service.*

1629
1630
1631 **ENTRANCE**

1632
1633 **GATHERING**

1634
1635 *Festive music may be offered while the people gather. The service may then*
1636 *continue with a procession including the worship leaders, other participants in*
1637 *worship, candidates, and bishop(s).*

1638
1639 *If space allows, this service may be most effective if it is celebrated in the round,*
1640 *with the Lord's table, the font, and a stand for preachers or readers near the*
1641 *center of the space. This kind of arrangement best exemplifies the understanding*
1642 *that ordination occurs in the midst of the whole people of God and is centered in*
1643 *our common birth in baptism, our common attention to the Word of God, and our*

1644 *common nourishment in the Supper of the Lord.*

1645

1646 *If a procession is desired, when candidates for commissioning, recognition of*
1647 *associate membership or ordination arrive, they may assemble in a circle around*
1648 *the central signs, facing center, with those who assist them standing behind them.*

1649

1650 PROCESSIONAL HYMN *

1651

1652 *Processional hymns are listed beginning on page 70.*

1653

1654 GREETING AND PRAYER *

1655

1656 *The bishop greets the people and they respond:*

1657

1658 The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

1659

1660 **And also with you.**

1661

1662 The Holy Spirit is among us.

1663

1664 **Move us, Holy Spirit!**

1665

1666 Let us pray.

1667

1668 **Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit**

1669 **you gave to your apostles and all your church**

1670 **many excellent gifts.**

1671 **Come upon us gathered here to set apart those who will lead among us**

1672 **by calling and equipping us to fulfill your desire**

1673 **that we do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you.**

1674 **We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

1675

1676 **RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY**

1677 **AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

1678

1679 *The bishop, standing near a baptismal font, shell, or vessel of water, begins:*

1680 Sisters and brothers in Christ,

1681 we are all made one with the death of Jesus Christ

1682 and raised with him to walk in newness of life

1683 in the gift of baptism by water and the Spirit.

1684

1685 The same Spirit who enlivens us

1686 empowers us with many and diverse gifts

1687 to serve as new creatures,

1688 renouncing evil,

1689 embracing and submitting to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior,

1690 and joining together as his body

1691 to serve as his representatives in the world.

1692

1693 We all start here.
1694
1695 The Spirit leads us all.
1696
1697 *The bishop may scoop and pour water from the font, shell, or vessel and say to*
1698 *all:*
1699
1700 Remember you are baptized and be thankful.
1701
1702 **We reaffirm our baptism**
1703 **and our common call to ministry.**
1704
1705
1706 **PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE COMMISSIONED, ORDAINED,**
1707 **OR RECOGNIZED**
1708
1709 *All but the bishop, candidates and their assistants may be seated.*
1710 *The bishop remains near the center, by the font.*
1711
1712 Bishop:
1713
1714 Who presents these candidates to be ordained, commissioned, or recognized?
1715
1716 *All Laity:*
1717
1718 **We have recommended them in our local congregations.**
1719 **We present them with our prayers and support.**
1720
1721 *Assistants clothe candidates with the alb. Persons who orders are being*
1722 *recognized or who have been previously ordained are already fully vested.*
1723
1724 *Members of the Board of Ordained Ministry:*
1725
1726 We have examined these candidates according to the standards of our Discipline
1727 and this annual conference of The United Methodist Church.
1728 We present them with our prayers and support.
1729
1730 *All Elders:*
1731
1732 We present (*Full Names*) for ordination as elder.
1733 We present them with our prayers and support.
1734 *Assistants to elder candidates tie the cincture. Those previously ordained as elder*
1735 *are already fully vested.*
1736
1737 *All Deacons:*
1738
1739 We present (*Full Names*) for ordination as deacon.
1740 We present them with our prayers and support.
1741 *Assistants to deacon candidates tie the cincture. Those previously ordained as*
1742 *deacon are already fully vested.*

1743
 1744
 1745 *Board of Ordained Ministry:*
 1746 We present (*Full Names*) for commissioning as provisional members.
 1747 We present them with our prayers and support.
 1748 *Assistants to provisional member candidates tie the cincture.*
 1749
 1750 We also present (*Names*) for Recognition of Orders in The United Methodist
 1751 Church,
 1752 and (*Names*) for Recognition as Associate Members.
 1753 We present them with our prayers and support.
 1754 *Assistants to Associate Member candidates tie the cincture. Persons whose orders*
 1755 *are to be recognized are already vested.*
 1756
 1757 Bishop:
 1758 We rejoice in the Spirit's work in the our lives
 1759 and the lives of these who come to serve and lead among us.
 1760
 1761 **All:**
 1762 **We will uphold them with our prayers and support.**
 1763 **Thanks be to God.**
 1764
 1765 *All but the bishop and candidates may be seated.*
 1766
 1767
 1768 **THE GENERAL EXAMINATION**
 1769
 1770 *The bishop and candidates stand facing one another. The bishop examines the*
 1771 *candidates for commissioning, ordination, and recognition:*
 1772
 1773 My sisters and brothers in Christ,
 1774
 1775 As commissioned or ordained ministers and associate members,
 1776 you are to be coworkers with bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors,
 1777 provisional members, diaconal ministers,
 1778 deaconesses, home missionaries, supply pastors, and all the people of God.
 1779
 1780 You are called
 1781 to serve rather than to be served,
 1782 to proclaim the faith of the church and no other,
 1783 to look after the concerns of God's kingdom above all.
 1784
 1785 So we may know that you believe yourselves
 1786 to be called by God
 1787 and that you profess the Christian faith,
 1788 we ask you:
 1789
 1790 Do you believe that God has called you
 1791 to the life and work of set apart ministry?
 1792

1793 **I do so believe.**

1794

1795 Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
1796 and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

1797

1798 **I do so believe and confess.**

1799

1800 Are you persuaded
1801 that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments
1802 contain all things necessary for salvation
1803 through faith in Jesus Christ
1804 and are the unique and authoritative standard
1805 for the church's faith and life?

1806

1807 **I am so persuaded, by God's grace.**

1808

1809 Will you be faithful in prayer,
1810 in the study of the Holy Scriptures,
1811 and with the help of the Holy Spirit
1812 continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you?

1813

1814 **I will, with the help of God.**

1815

1816 Will you do your best to pattern your life
1817 in accordance with the teachings of Christ?

1818

1819 **I will, with the help of God.**

1820

1821 Will you, in the exercise of your ministry,
1822 lead the people of God to faith in Jesus Christ,
1823 participate in the life and work of the community, and
1824 seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people?

1825

1826 **I will, with the help of God.**

1827

1828 Will you be faithful to The United Methodist Church,
1829 accepting and upholding its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline,
1830 defending them against all doctrines contrary to God's Holy Word,
1831 and committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you,
1832 and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?

1833

1834 **I will, with the help of God.**

1835

1836 Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission,
1837 covenant to participate in the life of the order, [fellowship or membership]
1838 into which you are ordained, commissioned, received or recognized?

1839 Will you give yourself to God through the order or fellowship,

1840 in order to sustain and build each other up

1841 in prayer, study, worship and service

1842 under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day?

1843
1844 **I will, with the help of God.**
1845
1846 May God,
1847 who has given you the will to do these things,
1848 give you grace to perform them,
1849 that the work begun in you by the Holy Spirit
1850 may be brought to perfection.

1851
1852 **All: Amen.**

1853
1854 *All may be seated.*

1855
1856 **PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

1857
1858 THE FIRST READING (Selection from OT or Epistle readings, pages 68-69)

1859
1860 *The gospel may be read by an ordained deacon while all stand.*

1861
1862 THE GOSPEL *
1863 *Before the reading:*
1864 Deacon: The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to _____.

1865
1866 *After the reading:*
1867 Deacon: The gospel of our Lord!
1868 **People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

1869
1870 SERMON

1871
1872 APOSTLES CREED* (said or sung)

1873
1874 Do you believe in God?
1875 **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**
1876 **Maker of heaven and earth.**
1877
1878 Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
1879 **I believe in Jesus Christ,**
1880 **God's only Son, our Lord,**
1881 **Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**
1882 **born of the Virgin Mary,**
1883 **suffered under Pontius Pilate,**
1884 **was crucified, died and buried.**
1885 **He descended to the dead.**
1886 **On the third day he rose again;**
1887 **he ascended into heaven,**
1888 **is seated at the right hand of the Father,**
1889 **and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

1890
1891 Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
1892 **I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

1893 **the holy catholic church,**
1894 **the communion of saints,**
1895 **the forgiveness of sins,**
1896 **the resurrection of the body,**
1897 **and the life everlasting.**

1898

1899

1900 *After the lesson or homily, all candidates may stand where they are (in the circle)*
1901 *as their orders are called.*

1902

1903

EXAMINATION OF ELDER CANDIDATES

1904

1905 *Candidates for ordination or recognition as elders rise.*

1906 *The bishop examines the candidates for ordination or recognition as elder:*

1907

1908 An elder

1909 is called to share in the ministry of Christ

1910 and of the whole church:

1911 to preach and teach the Word of God

1912

1913 *Here a large Bible may be lifted by an assistant.*

1914

1915 and faithfully administer

1916 the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion;

1917

1918 *Here a paten and chalice may be lifted.*

1919

1920 to lead the people of God in worship and prayer;

1921 to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ;

1922 to exercise pastoral supervision,

1923 to order the life of the congregation and connection,

1924 to counsel the troubled,

1925 and declare the forgiveness of sin;

1926 to lead the people of God

1927 in obedience to Christ's mission in the world;

1928 to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people;

1929 and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church

1930 and in service in and to the community.

1931

1932 These this is the rule of life and work of an elder.

1933

1934 Do you believe that God has called you

1935 to the life and work of an elder?

1936

1937 **I do so believe.**

1938

1939 *Candidates for ordination or recognition as deacon rise.*

1940

1941

1942

EXAMINATION OF DEACON CANDIDATES

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1992

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,

Here a large Bible may be lifted by an assistant.

to lead in worship,
to teach and proclaim God's Word,
to assist elders and appointed local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy
Communion,

Here a towel and basin with pitcher may be lifted by an assistant.

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?

Deacon Candidates:

I do so believe.

EXAMINATION FOR CANDIDATES FOR COMMISSIONING

Candidates for commissioning may rise.

A provisional member
is bound to the service of God
appointed and supervised by the bishop,
and guided by of ordained and lay colleagues
in the Board of Ordained Ministry,
as they continue to grow in grace
and to practice and perfect their skills in the ministries
to which they may later be ordained
as deacon or elder.

This is the way of life and work of a provisional member.

1993 Do you believe that God has called you
1994 to continue your preparation toward ordained ministry in this way?

1995

1996 **I do so believe.**

1997

1998 **EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP**
1999 **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, AND PERSONS WHOSE ORDERS ARE**
2000 **RECOGNIZED**

2001

2002 A full member, associate member,
2003 or one whose orders from another fellowship in the Body of Christ we recognize
2004 has made a full commitment of life and service
2005 to the itinerant ministry of The United Methodist Church
2006 as demonstrated through service during provisional membership
2007 and ongoing examination, formation, supervision, and reflection
2008 on the practice of ministry.

2009

2010 You now pledge to go wherever you are sent,
2011 to serve however you are called,
2012 to exercise your ministry within and on behalf of the whole Church,
2013 to love all among whom you are placed,
2014 and to love God above all.

2015

2016 This is the way of life of a clergy member in associate connection.

2017

2018 Do you believe God has called you to
2019 to this way of life?

2020

2021 **I do so believe.**

2022

2023 **EXAMINATION OF PROFESSING MEMBERS**

2024

2025 A professing member of The United Methodist Church
2026 has affirmed willingness to live out the baptismal covenant,
2027 professed the faith of the Church in the Triune God,
2028 pledged loyalty to Jesus Christ through The United Methodist Church,
2029 and promised to support the congregations and ministries of this Church
2030 through their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

2031

2032 Do you reaffirm these commitments,
2033 and promise to support
2034 these set apart ministers in their life and vocation among you?

2035

2036 **I do, with God's help.**

2037

2038 *If the hymn "O Holy Spirit" (UMBOW 223) or "Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls*
2039 *Inspire" (UMH 651) was not sung earlier, it may be sung here. Or another hymn,*
2040 *anthem, or musical work calling upon the presence and work of the Holy Spirit*
2041 *may be offered.*

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THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Bishop: Holy Spirit, move among us! Come, Holy Spirit!

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

Elder candidates may kneel or lower their heads. The bishop approaches them, with hands uplifted.

Bishop: Come upon these, your servants.

People: Come upon these, your servants.

The bishop lays hands on the head of each of the candidates for ordination as elder. Others may place hands on the candidate's back or shoulder. The bishop says:

Bishop: Come upon *Full Name*...

The bishop proceeds to each candidate in order.

After the bishop has named and placed hands on all, the bishop continues:

Bishop: Come upon them each and all, Holy Spirit.

People: Come upon them each and all, Holy Spirit.

Bishop: Fill them with every good and perfect gift for the office and work of an elder.

People: Fill them Holy Spirit!

Bishop: In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

People: All glory and praise are yours, now and forever!

The newly ordained stand upright, extending their hands, palms up, toward the bishop.

Bishop: As you have placed yourselves into the hands of God

People: And as we have prayed for the Holy Spirit to empower you for your ministry among us,

Bishop: Take now authority as elders in Christ's holy Church to proclaim the word of God, administer the sacraments, and order the life of the church.

People: Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The bishop then grasps the extended hands of each elder, saying to each, in turn:

Bishop: *Full Name*, be an elder among us.

After each is named, the people respond:

2092 **People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

2093

2094

2095 *Each elder is immediately clothed with the yoke stole. As instruments of office*
2096 *they may receive a Bible, a chalice and paten, a Book of Worship, and a Book of*
2097 *Discipline. Certificates of ordination as elder and provisional membership, if not*
2098 *previously commissioned, may be presented at this time.*

2099

2100 *After all elders have received the sign and instruments of office, the bishop*
2101 *proceeds to the deacon candidates.*

2102

2103 *Deacon candidates may kneel or lower their heads. The bishop approaches them,*
2104 *with hands uplifted.*

2105

2106 Bishop: Come, Holy Spirit.

2107 **People: Come, Holy Spirit.**

2108

2109 Bishop: Come upon these, your servants.

2110 **People: Come upon these, your servants.**

2111

2112 *The bishop lays hands on the head of each of the candidates for ordination as*
2113 *deacon. Others may place hands on the candidate's back or shoulders. The*
2114 *bishop says:*

2115

2116 Come upon *Full Name*...

2117

2118 *The bishop proceeds to each candidate in order.*

2119 *After the bishop has named and placed hands on all, the bishop continues:*

2120

2121 Bishop: Come upon them each and all, Holy Spirit.

2122 **People: Come upon them each and all, Holy Spirit.**

2123 Bishop: Fill them with every good and perfect gift for the office and work of a
2124 deacon.

2125 **People: Fill them, Holy Spirit!**

2126 Bishop: In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

2127 **People: All glory and praise are yours, now and forever!**

2128

2129 *The newly ordained deacons stand upright, extending their hands, palms up,*
2130 *toward the bishop.*

2131

2132 Bishop: As you have placed yourselves into the hands of God

2133 **People: And as we have prayed for the Holy Spirit to empower you for your**
2134 **ministry among us,**

2135 Bishop: Take now authority as deacons in Christ's holy Church to proclaim the
2136 word of God, and lead us in ministries of compassion and justice.

2137 **People: Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of**
2138 **the world.**

2139

2140 *The bishop then grasps the extended hands of each deacon, saying to each, in*
2141 *turn:*

2142
2143 Bishop: *Full Name*, be a deacon among us.
2144
2145 *After each is named, the people respond:*
2146
2147 **People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**
2148
2149 *Each deacon is immediately clothed with the shoulder stole, and may receive a*
2150 *Bible and a Book of Worship, a pitcher and basin and/or a plumb line as seems*
2151 *appropriate to the nature of their appointed ministry. Certificates of ordination as*
2152 *deacon and provisional membership, if not previously commissioned, may be*
2153 *presented at this time.*
2154
2155 *After all deacons have received the sign and instruments of office, the bishop*
2156 *proceeds to the local pastor candidates.*
2157
2158 *Provisional member candidates may stand. The bishop approaches them, with*
2159 *hands uplifted.*
2160
2161 Bishop: Come, Holy Spirit.
2162 **People: Come, Holy Spirit.**
2163 Bishop: Come upon these, your servants.
2164 **People: Come upon these, your servants.**
2165
2166 *The bishop lays hands on the shoulders of each of the provisional member*
2167 *candidates for commissioning. Others may place hands on the candidate's back*
2168 *or shoulder. The bishop then says:*
2169
2170 Bishop: Come upon *Full Name*...
2171
2172 *The bishop proceeds to each candidate in order.*
2173 *After the bishop has named and placed hands on all, the bishop continues:*
2174
2175 Bishop: Come upon them each and all, Holy Spirit.
2176 **People: Come upon them each and all, Holy Spirit.**
2177 Bishop: Send them among us to serve and continue to learn the way of life of the
2178 order into which they may be ordained.
2179 **People: Send them, Holy Spirit!**
2180 Bishop: In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
2181 **People: All glory and praise are yours, now and forever!**
2182
2183 *The newly commissioned provisional members extend their hands, palms up,*
2184 *toward the bishop.*
2185
2186 Bishop: As you have placed yourselves into the hands of God
2187 **People: And as we have prayed for the Holy Spirit to empower you for your**
2188 **continuing growth in ministry among us,**
2189 Bishop: We now send you forth to announce the good news of God's kingdom,
2190 and equip disciples of Jesus for ministry.

2191 **People: Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of**
2192 **the world.**
2193
2194 *The bishop then grasps the hands of each commissioned provisional member,*
2195 *saying to each, in turn:*
2196
2197 Bishop: *Full Name*, serve and continue to learn among us.
2198
2199 *After each is named, the people respond:*
2200
2201 **People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**
2202
2203 *Each commissioned provisional member may receive a pectoral cross and a Bible*
2204 *as instruments of office. Certificates of provisional membership may be presented*
2205 *at this time.*
2206
2207 *Persons whose are received as full members, those whose orders are to be*
2208 *recognized and newly elected associate members, if any, now assemble near the*
2209 *bishop.*
2210
2211 Bishop: The Holy Spirit stirs among us!
2212 **People: And we are glad indeed.**
2213
2214 *Reception of clergy in full connection may take place at this time. See Appendix*
2215 *C, p. 75.*
2216
2217 *The bishop turns to address those whose orders are to be recognized.*
2218
2219 You first received your call and ministry
2220 in another fellowship of Christ's holy church.
2221
2222 You have affirmed the vows of your ordination
2223 and embraced our own,
2224 committing *yourself/ves* to accept and uphold
2225 the doctrine, liturgy and discipline of The United Methodist Church.
2226
2227 *The bishop shakes the hand of each candidate, with these words:*
2228
2229 *Full Name*, we recognize and welcome you to serve among us
2230 as an *elder/deacon* in full connection in The United Methodist Church.
2231
2232 *As each one is named and received, a certificate of recognition of orders and a*
2233 *certificate of full membership are given, along with a Book of Worship and, for*
2234 *those recognized as elders, a Book of Discipline to signify their reception of our*
2235 *ritual and church order.*
2236
2237 *When all have been recognized, the bishop says:*
2238
2239 Bishop: We receive you with joy, each and all.
2240 **People: We receive you with joy, each and all! Thanks be to God!**

2241

2242 *The bishop then addresses the associate member candidates:*

2243

2244 You have served among us faithfully as (a) local pastor(s),
2245 demonstrating your commitment to accept and uphold
2246 the doctrine, liturgy and discipline of The United Methodist Church,
2247 under the appointment of the bishop.

2248

2249 You have now fulfilled the requirements
2250 and been elected by the clergy session of this annual conference
2251 as associate members.

2252

2253 *The bishop shakes the hand of each associate member, with these words:*

2254

2255 *Full Name*, we recognize you
2256 as an associate member in the *Name* conference
2257 of The United Methodist Church.

2258

2259 *As each one is named and received, a certificate of associate membership is*
2260 *given. Associate members are not ordained, and therefore do not receive signs or*
2261 *instruments of office.*

2262

2263 *When all have been recognized, the bishop says:*

2264

2265 Bishop: We recognize you with joy, each and all.

2266 **People: We recognize you with joy, each and all! Thanks be to God!**

2267

2268

2269 **THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**

2270

2271 INVITATION TO THE TABLE AND PEACE

2272

2273 Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
2274 who earnestly repent of their sin,
2275 and who seek to be at peace with God and one another.
2276 Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

2277

2278 CONFESSIO AND PARDON

2279

2280 **Merciful God,**
2281 **we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

2282

2283 **We have failed to be an obedient church.**

2284

2285 **We have not done your will,**
2286 **we have broken your law,**

2287

2288 **we have rebelled against your love,**
2289 **we have not loved our neighbors,**

2290

2291 **and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**
2292 **Forgive us, we pray.**

2288 **Free us for joyful obedience,**
2289 **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

2290 *All pray in silence.*

2291 *Leader to people:*

2292 Hear the good news:
2293 Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
2294 that proves God's love toward us.
2295 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

2296 *People to leader:*

2297 **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

2298 *Leader and people:*

2299 **Glory to God. Amen.**

2300

2301 THE PEACE

2302 The peace of the Lord be always with you!
2303 **And also with you!**

2304

2305 *Signs of reconciliation and love may be exchanged.*

2306

2307 TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

2308

2309 *A hymn, song, or anthem may offered at this time while the peace is exchanged*
2310 *and the table and stations are prepared for the celebration of Holy Communion.*

2311

2312

2313 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *

2314

2315 *All stand. The bishop lifts hands.*

2316 Christ is with us.

2317 **Yes, he is! Hallelujah!**

2318 The Holy Spirit is in this place!

2319 **Ignite our hearts!**

2320 Raise your hands! Lift your voices!

2321 **Father, we are yours!**

2322 We are yours, all yours, blessed Triune God,
2323 all our lives, all our thanks, all our praise,

2324 all our hesitations, all our grumbling, all our fears,
2325 we give it all to you, with all our bodies, and minds, and voices.

2326 **Yours, all yours!**

2327 Yours the blessing, yours the praise,
2328 from the unimaginable silence before creation,
2329 beyond the farthest reaches of time and space our instruments may ever find,
2330 from infinity to infinity, everlasting to everlasting,
2331 you are God, boundless in love and power.

2332 **We stand in awe, trembling in the light of your glory!**

2333 What are we that you should notice us?
2334 What are we that you should love us?
2335 What are we what you should call us into covenant with you,
2336 a covenant we continually broke,
2337 and you continuously sustained.

2338 **Mercy! How full of mercy!**

2339 How can we but praise you,
2340 joining our voices with the song of angels and saints,
2341 with seraphim and martyrs,
2342 with the living creatures in heaven
2343 and all creatures of the earth,
2344 on land or in rivers, oceans, streams, and skies,
2345 with strangers and family in every generation, singing:

2346
2347 *(Sing refrain of "God of Wonders," Worship & Song 3034, measures 9-19,*
2348 *followed by these words to the same refrain)*

2349 **Jesus Christ who comes in our God's name, you are worthy, worthy!**
2350 **Lamb of God for all creation slain, you are worthy, worthy!**
2351 **Hosannas now we sing! Hosannas now we sing!**

2352 You are holy, O God!
2353 **Holy!**

2354 You are worthy, O Christ!
2355 **Worthy!**

2356 Worthy in your birth! Worthy in your living!
2357 **Worthy in your loving! Worthy in your serving!**

2358 Worthy when you preached good news
2359 that God's kingdom has drawn near
2360 and gathered disciples, then and now,
2361 equipping and sending us, one and all,

2362 to learn and show the world
2363 what life in God's reign means:
2364 healing for the sick.
2365 new life for the dead,
2366 cleansing for the lepers,
2367 freedom for the possessed,
2368 justice for the oppressed,
2369 beauty for the lilies,
2370 care for the sparrows,
2371 new birth, new life, new creation breaking in for all.
2372
2373 **Worthy! Worthy! Worthy above all!**

2374 *The bishop may lift the bread, or extend hands toward the bread.*

2375 Worthy too, the night we betrayed you,
2376 when you took the bread, blessed it and broke it,
2377 and gave it to your disciples.
2378 Worthy when you told them,
2379 "This is my body broken for you. Remember me."

2380 **We remember.**

2381 *The bishop may lift the cup or extend hands toward the cup.*

2382
2383 Worthy when you took the cup,
2384 praised God and shared it,
2385 and worthy when you said,
2386 "This is my blood of the new covenant for you.
2387 Remember me."

2388 **We remember.**

2389

2390 *The bishop lifts hands.*

2391 We remember, and we praise you with our lives
2392 and these gifts of bread and wine,
2393 proclaiming with one voice the mystery of faith:

2394 **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

2395 Come upon us, Holy Spirit.
2396 **Come upon us, Holy Spirit.**

2397 Come upon these gifts.
2398 **Come upon these gifts.**

2399 Make them be for us Christ's body, Christ's blood.
2400 **Make us one body in Christ enlivened by his blood.**

2401 One in heart, one in mind, one in you, Holy Spirit,
2402 as you move us to pray for the church and the world:
2403
2404 *Newly ordained deacons may lead these intercessions:*
2405
2406 That we may proclaim the gospel boldly: **Hear us, Lord.**
2407 That we may offer your healing for all who are sick, and people who are torn and
2408 weary: **Hear us, Lord.**
2409 That we may be channels of your mercy over all your works, in earth, and sky and
2410 sea: **Hear us, Lord.**
2411 That all who this hour have been set apart for specialized ministries may lead,
2412 learn, and teach among us with wisdom and compassion: **Hear us, Lord.**
2413 That many dead and left for dead may be raised, and death itself vanquished:
2414 **Hear us, Lord.**
2415 That all who are unclean may receive your cleansing grace: **Hear us, Lord.**
2416 That all who are possessed, oppressed, distressed, depressed, and downcast may
2417 be set free at last. **Hear us, Lord.**

2418 *The bishop resumes leading the prayer:*

2419 Even so, come and fill this feast, Holy Spirit,
2420 this day, and every day until that day
2421 when we eat it new at the marriage supper of the Lamb!

2422 **All blessing and glory,**
2423 **thanksgiving and power,**
2424 **wisdom and honor and might,**
2425 **be yours, Holy Triune God,**
2426 **now and forever.**
2427 **Amen!**

2428 *The Lord's Prayer may be said or sung.*
2429
2430 *The presider breaks the bread and lifts the cup. The bishop serves the deacons*
2431 *first, who then serve the bishop and the other servers.*
2432
2433 *Hymns or anthems may be sung during the distribution.*

2434 *When all have received, the deacons put the Lord's Table in order.*
2435
2436 **Thanksgiving after Communion:**
2437
2438 *The bishop or a newly ordained deacon leads the people to pray:*
2439
2440 **Thank you, God, for uniting us with Jesus in this holy mystery.**
2441 **We are no longer our own, but yours.**
2442 **So send us all, and put us**
2443 **to leading and serving in your mission**
2444 **wherever we go. Amen.**
2445

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SENDING FORTH

Here the bishop may make an invitation to those present to respond to God's call to ordained ministry in Christ's church. Appropriate direction for how they are to respond should be given.

[PRAYER

If the Lord's Supper was not celebrated, the bishop says:

Let us pray.

**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.]**

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING *

The bishop blesses the people:

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

HYMN *

If the closing hymn is a processional, it should follow the bishop's blessing and precede the deacon's dismissal. Otherwise it should precede the bishop's blessing and the deacon's dismissal should follow immediately upon the bishop's blessing. Closing hymns are listed on pages 71-72.

A newly ordained deacon dismisses the people, using these or similar words:

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

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

GOING FORTH *

*A postlude may be offered.
A worship leader may announce where the newly commissioned, recognized,
received or ordained may be greeted following the service.*

2495

2496

Introduction to the Consecration of Bishops

2497

The task of superintending in The United Methodist Church resides in the office of bishop . . . From apostolic times, certain ordained persons have been entrusted with the particular tasks of superintending. . . .

2498

2499

2500

Those who superintend carry primary responsibility for ordering the life of the Church. It is their task to enable the gathered Church to worship and to evangelize faithfully.

2501

2502

2503

It is also their task to facilitate the initiation of structures and strategies for the equipping of Christian people for service in the Church and in the world in the name of Jesus Christ and to help extend the service in mission.

2504

2505

2506

2507

Book of Discipline—2012, ¶ 401

2508

The office . . . of bishop . . . exist[s] in The United Methodist Church as a particular ministry . . . Bishops are elected from the group of elders who are ordained to be ministers of Service, Word, Sacrament, and Order and thereby participate in the ministry of Christ, in sharing a royal priesthood that has apostolic roots (1 Peter 2:9; John 21:15-17; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2-3; 1 Timothy 3:1-7).

2509

2510

2511

2512

2513

2514

Book of Discipline—2012, ¶ 402

2515

Consecration of bishops may take place at the session of the conference at which election occurs or at a place and time designated by the conference. The consecration service may include bishops from other jurisdictional and central conferences. It is strongly urged that the consecration service also include representatives from other Christian communions (see ¶¶ 125, 422.2, 433-434, 442).

2516

2517

2518

2519

2520

2521

Book of Discipline—2012, ¶ 405.2.c

2522

The laying on of hands by other bishops originated in the practice of the early church as a sign of episcopal unity and collegiality. The imposition of the hands of all the bishops present and prayer at the consecration of a new bishop signify the bishop-elect's empowerment by the Holy Spirit and commitment to the way of life and work of episcopal ministry by those who share the same responsibility. The laying on of hands also signifies the bishop-elect's reception into the episcopal college. Only bishops or persons of similar authority from other Christian denominations participate in the laying on of hands at the consecration of other bishops.

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2532

The senior bishop should be responsible for the service of consecration and should plan it in consultation with the jurisdictional or central conference Episcopal Committee.

2533

2534

2535

2536

A bishop presides at the consecration service. Other bishops, laypeople, and clergy may also assist or lead specified elements of the service. The historic and ecumenical practice of consecration or ordination of bishops involves at least three bishops in the laying on of hands.

2537

2538

2539

2540

2541 Spouses and other family members of candidates for consecration should not
2542 participate in the laying on of hands.
2543
2544 Because consecrations are acts of the whole church, the text and rubrics of The
2545 Order for the Consecration of Bishops shall be used in the form approved by the
2546 General Conference (§ 415.6)
2547

2548 **The Order for the Consecration of Bishops**

2550 **ENTRANCE**

2552 **GATHERING**

2553 *Festive music may be offered while the people gather. The service may then*
2554 *continue with a procession including the worship leaders, bishop(s)-elect, and*
2555 *bishop(s).*

2558 **PROCESSIONAL HYMN ***

2559 *Processional hymns are listed beginning on page 70.*

2562 **GREETING AND PRAYER ***

2563 *The presiding bishop greets, and the people respond:*

2564
2565 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
2566 **And also with you.**

2567 Our help is in the name of the Lord,
2568 **Creator of heaven and earth.**

2569 Let us pray.

2570 **Almighty God, by your Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit**
2571 **you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts.**
2572 **Give your grace to all servants of your church,**
2573 **that we may with diligence and faithfulness**
2574 **fulfill our various ministries.**
2575 **Grant that we your people may follow where you lead**
2576 **and live in joyful obedience to your will;**
2577 **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

2578 *All people are seated.*

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PRESENTATION

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2638

One layperson and one ordained elder or deacon in full connection, chosen by the presiding bishop, shall present each bishop-elect to the presiding bishop, who stands before the Lord's Table, facing the people. The presenters say:

Bishop *Name*,
we present to you *full name of bishop-elect*,
an elder in full connection in the church,
to be consecrated a bishop in the church of Jesus Christ.

Each candidate stands when his or her name is read.

After each bishop-elect has been presented, the bishops-elect remain standing. The presiding bishop addresses the congregation:

People of God,
full names of bishop(s)-elect is/are,
by God's grace,
to be consecrated bishops in the church.
They have (*She/He has*) been duly elected to this ministry.
We ask you to declare your assent.

Do you trust *they are (she/he is) worthy*, by God's grace,
to be consecrated bishops?

We do. Thanks be to God!

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

With will, with God's help.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER

The presiding bishop then says:

The Scriptures tell us
that our Savior Jesus Christ spent the whole night in prayer
before he chose and sent forth the twelve apostles.
The apostles also prayed before they appointed Matthias
to be one of their number.
Let us offer our prayers to almighty God
before *Name of each bishop-elect*
is/are consecrated for the work
to which the Holy Spirit has called *them/him/her*.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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2685
2686
2687
2688

Let us pray.

All pray in silence for the candidates.

The presiding bishop prays:

Almighty God, giver of all good things,
by your Holy Spirit you have appointed
a diversity of ministries in your church.
Look in mercy upon these your servants,
now to be set apart for the ministry of a bishop.
So replenish them with holiness of life,
and fill them with the power of your Holy Spirit,
that both by word and by deed,
they may serve you faithfully and joyously,
to the glory of your name and the building up of your church;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.

The bishop and bishops-elect are seated.

PROCLAMATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON(S)

Suggested Scripture lessons are listed beginning on page 68.

Hymns of response to the Scripture are listed beginning on page 70.

SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED *

See UMH 881, 882.

HYMN *

Hymns are listed beginning on page 70.

During the hymn, the bishop(s)-elect come(s) forward.

EXAMINATION

The people are seated. The bishops-elect stand facing the presiding bishop. The bishop examines the bishops-elect:

2689 *My brothers and sisters,*
 2690 you are to be consecrated bishops in the church of God.
 2691 All baptized Christians are called
 2692 to share this ministry of service in the world,
 2693 to the glory of God
 2694 and for the redemption of the human family.
 2695 From among the baptized
 2696 some have been called by God and set apart by the church
 2697 to serve God's people
 2698 as bishops, elders, deacons, provisional members, diaconal
 2699 ministers, deaconesses and home missionaries.
 2700
 2701 You have been ordained to the ministry of Service, Word, Sacrament and Order;
 2702 you are now called, as bishops in the church,
 2703 to reaffirm the vows made at your ordination as elders,
 2704 and to exercise Christ's servanthood
 2705 in a particular ministry of oversight.
 2706
 2707 You are called to guard the faith, to seek the unity,
 2708 and to exercise the discipline of the whole church;
 2709 and to supervise and support the church's life, work,
 2710 and mission throughout the world.
 2711
 2712 As servants of the whole church,
 2713 you are called to preach and teach
 2714 the truth of the gospel to all God's people;
 2715 to lead the people in worship,
 2716 in the celebration of the Sacraments,
 2717 and in their mission of witness and service in the world,
 2718 and so participate in the commission of our Lord
 2719 to make disciples of all nations.
 2720
 2721 As bishops and pastors,
 2722 you are to lead and guide
 2723 all persons entrusted to your oversight;
 2724 to join in the consecration of bishops,
 2725 to ordain elder and deacons,
 2726 to commission, license, and recognize other ministers
 2727 for service to the church and to the world;
 2728 and to provide for the ministry of Word and Sacrament
 2729 in the congregations and other ministries committed to your care.
 2730
 2731 Your joy will be to follow Jesus Christ
 2732 who came not to be served but to serve.
 2733
 2734 Will you accept the call to this ministry as bishop
 2735 and fulfill this trust in obedience to Christ?
 2736
 2737 **I will, by the grace of God.**
 2738

2739 Will you guard the faith, order, liturgy, doctrine,
2740 and discipline of the Church
2741 against all that is contrary to God's Word?

2742

2743 **I will, for the love of God.**

2744

2745 As bishops and pastors, will you,
2746 in cooperation with diaconal ministers, commissioned ministers,
2747 deaconesses, home missionaries, elders, deacons, local pastors
2748 and licensed preachers,
2749 encourage and support all baptized people
2750 in their gifts and ministries,
2751 pray for them without ceasing,
2752 proclaim and interpret to them the gospel of Christ,
2753 and celebrate with them the Sacraments of our redemption?

2754

2755 **I will, in the name of Christ,**
2756 **the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.**

2757

2758 Will you share with other bishops
2759 in the supervision of the whole church;
2760 support the elders and take counsel with them;
2761 guide and strengthen the commissioned ministers,
2762 diaconal ministers, deacons, deaconesses, home missionaries,
2763 local pastors, and all others who minister in the church;
2764 and ordain, consecrate, commission, license, and send others to minister
2765 in Christ's name?

2766

2767 **All this I will do, by the grace given me.**

2768

2769 May the God
2770 who has given you the will to do these things
2771 give you grace to perform them,
2772 that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection.

2773

2774 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

2775

2776

2777 **PRAYER WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS**

2778

2779 *The presiding bishop calls the people to prayer:*

2780

2781 *As Name of each bishop-elect*
2782 *is/are consecrated bishop(s) in the church,*
2783 *let us invoke the Holy Spirit on their behalf*
2784 *and pray for them*
2785 *in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

2786

2787 *The bishops-elect kneel.*

2788

2789 *The people pray for them in silence.*

2790

2791 *The ancient ordination hymn “O Holy Spirit” (UMBOW 223) or “Come, Holy*
2792 *Ghost, Our Souls Inspire” (UMH 651) may be sung.*

2793

2794 *The other bishops participating join the presiding bishop. The presiding bishop*
2795 *now extends hands over the kneeling bishops-elect and begins the prayer of*
2796 *consecration:*

2797

2798 God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
2799 giver of mercies and source of all comfort,
2800 dwelling on high but having regard for the lowly,
2801 knowing all things before they come to pass:
2802 we give you thanks that from the beginning
2803 you have gathered and prepared a people
2804 to be heirs of the covenant of Abraham and Sarah,
2805 and have raised up prophets, rulers, and priests,
2806 never leaving your temple without a ministry.
2807 We praise you also that from the creation
2808 you have graciously accepted the service
2809 of those whom you have chosen.

2810

2811 *Bishops and persons with similar authority from other communions may be*
2812 *invited to join the presiding bishop in the laying on hands. The historic and*
2813 *ecumenical pattern is for at least three bishops to participate in laying hands on*
2814 *the head of the candidate.*

2815

2816 *Family members and friends may be invited to stand where they are for silent*
2817 *prayer during the laying on of hands for each bishop-elect.*

2818

2819 *The presiding bishop, with other bishops as invited, now lays both hands on the*
2820 *head of each bishop-elect. The presiding bishop alone says over each bishop-*
2821 *elect:*

2822

2823 Father Almighty (Almighty God),
2824 pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit,
2825 for the ministry of a bishop in Christ’s holy church.

2826

2827 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

2828

2829 *When hands have been laid upon all bishops-elect, the presiding bishop, with both*
2830 *hands extended over them, continues to pray:*

2831

2832 Almighty God,
2833 fill the hearts of these your servants whom you have chosen to be bishops
2834 with such love of you and of all the people
2835 that they may feed and tend the flock of Christ,
2836 serve in the ministry of reconciliation,
2837 and supervise and support the life and work of the church.
2838 In all things may they present before you

2839 the acceptable offering of a pure, gentle, and holy life;
2840 through Jesus Christ your servant,
2841 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
2842 be honor and power and glory,
2843 now and for ever.

2844
2845 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

2846
2847 *Immediately each new bishop places hands on a Bible as the presiding bishop*
2848 *places both hands on the hands of each new bishop and says:*

2849
2850 *Name*, receive the Holy Scriptures.
2851 Feed the flock of Christ,
2852 defend them in Christ's truth,
2853 and be a faithful steward of Christ's Word and Sacraments.

2854
2855 *After all being consecrated as bishop receive a Bible, the presiding bishop says to*
2856 *them/her/him:*

2857
2858 Reflect upon the contents of this Book.
2859 Give attention to reading, exhortation, and teaching.
2860 Be to the people of God
2861 a prophetic voice and a courageous leader.
2862 Be to the flock of Christ a shepherd;
2863 support the weak, heal the sick,
2864 bind up the broken, restore the outcast,
2865 seek the lost, relieve the oppressed.
2866 Faithfully administer discipline,
2867 but do not forget mercy,
2868 that when the Chief Shepherd shall appear
2869 you may receive the never-fading crown of glory.

2870
2871 *All audibly affirm the action, saying, Amen.*

2872
2873 [OFFERING]

2874
2875 *An offering for the work of God may be received, and the financial gifts are*
2876 *brought forward with the gifts of bread and cup.*

2877
2878 *A hymn or anthem may be sung during the offering. Hymns are listed beginning*
2879 *on page 70.*

2880
2881 *When Holy Communion is celebrated, the new bishops remain to assist, especially*
2882 *in serving the people.*

2883
2884
2885
2886
2887
2888

2889 **THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**

2890

2891 INVITATION TO THE TABLE

2892

2893 Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
2894 who earnestly repent of their sin
2895 and seek to be at peace with God and with one another.

2896 Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

2897

2898 CONFESSION AND PARDON.

2899 **Merciful God,**
2900 **we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**
2901 **We have failed to be an obedient church.**
2902 **We have not done your will,**
2903 **we have broken your law,**
2904 **we have rebelled against your love,**
2905 **we have not loved our neighbors,**
2906 **and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**
2907 **Forgive us, we pray.**
2908 **Free us for joyful obedience,**
2909 **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

2910 *All pray in silence.*

2911 *Leader to people:*

2912 Hear the good news:
2913 Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
2914 that proves God's love toward us.
2915 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

2916 *People to leader:*

2917 **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

2918 *Leader and people:*

2919 **Glory to God. Amen.**

2920

2921 THE PEACE

2922 The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be always with you!

2923 **And also with you!**

2924

2925 *Signs of reconciliation and love may be exchanged.*

2926

2927 TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

2928
 2929 *The bread and wine are brought by representatives of the people to the Lord's*
 2930 *Table or uncovered if already in place. Deacons prepare the table for the Lord's*
 2931 *Supper.*
 2932
 2933 *A hymn, doxology, or other response may be sung as the gifts are presented.*
 2934
 2935 **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ***
 2936 *The presiding bishop standing behind the Lord's table facing the people from this*
 2937 *time through Breaking the Bread, begins the prayer:*
 2938
 2939 The Lord be with you.
 2940 **And also with you.**
 2941
 2942 Lift up your hearts.
 2943
 2944 *The bishop may lift hands and keep them raised.*
 2945 **We lift them up to the Lord.**
 2946
 2947 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 2948 **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
 2949
 2950 It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
 2951 always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
 2952 Father Almighty (Almighty God), Creator of heaven and earth.
 2953
 2954 You built your church
 2955 on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
 2956 and instituted a holy ministry
 2957 so that your prophetic and apostolic Word
 2958 might be heard in the church and in the world until the end of time.
 2959
 2960 And so,
 2961 with your people on earth
 2962 and all the company of heaven
 2963 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
 2964
 2965 *The bishop may lower hands.*
 2966 *The following may be said or sung by all, or a choral arrangement of the Sanctus*
 2967 *and Benedictus may be offered.*
 2968
 2969 **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**
 2970 **heaven and earth are full of your glory.**
 2971 **Hosanna in the highest.**
 2972 **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**
 2973 **Hosanna in the highest.**
 2974
 2975 *The bishop may raise hands.*
 2976
 2977 Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

2978 Your Spirit anointed him
 2979 to preach good news to the poor,
 2980 to proclaim release to the captives
 2981 and recovering of sight to the blind,
 2982 to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
 2983 and to announce that the time had come
 2984 when you would save your people.
 2985 He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.
 2986 By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
 2987 you gave birth to your church,
 2988 delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
 2989 and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
 2990 When the Lord Jesus,
 2991 the great Shepherd of your flock, ascended,
 2992 he sent forth the apostles
 2993 to preach the gospel and make disciples of all nations.
 2994 He promised to be with them always,
 2995 and sent the Holy Spirit to lead them.
 2996
 2997 *The bishop may hold hands, palms down, over the bread, or touch the bread, or*
 2998 *lift the bread.*
 2999
 3000 On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
 3001 he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
 3002 gave it to his disciples, and said:
 3003 “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
 3004 Do this in remembrance of me.”
 3005
 3006 *The bishop may hold hands, palms down, over the cup, or touch the cup, or lift the*
 3007 *cup.*
 3008
 3009 When the supper was over, he took the cup,
 3010 gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
 3011 “Drink from this, all of you;
 3012 this is my blood of the new covenant,
 3013 poured out for you and for many
 3014 for the forgiveness of sins.
 3015 Do this, as often as you drink it,
 3016 in remembrance of me.”
 3017
 3018 *The bishop may raise hands.*
 3019
 3020 And so,
 3021 in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
 3022 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
 3023 as a holy and living sacrifice,
 3024 in union with Christ’s offering for us,
 3025 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
 3026
 3027 **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

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3077

The bishop may hold hands, palms down, over the bread and cup.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

The bishop may raise hands.

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 Father (God),
now and for ever.

All audibly affirm the action, saying or singing, Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *

BREAKING THE BREAD

*The bishop, still standing behind the Lord's table, facing the people, assisted by
the new and participating bishops and elders as necessary, while deacons prepare
the cups, breaks the bread in silence, or while saying:*

Because there is one loaf,
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The bishop lifts the cup in silence, or while saying:

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

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

*The bread and wine are given to the people by the bishops, elders, deacons, local
pastors, diaconal ministers, and laity, with these or similar words:*

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

3078 *The congregation sings hymns while the bread and cup are given. It is*
3079 *particularly effective if the people can sing from memory during communion.*

3080

3081 *When all have received, the Lord's Table is put in order by the deacons.*

3082

3083 PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

3084

3085 *A bishop says:*

3086

3087 Let us pray.

3088

3089 We thank you, gracious Lord, for giving yourself to us,
3090 and for uniting us in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit.

3091 We bless you for raising up among us

3092 your faithful servant(s) *First name(s) of new bishop(s)*

3093 for the ministry of a bishop in your church.

3094 Clothe *him (her, them)* and us with your righteousness

3095 and grant that we, with *him (her, them)*,

3096 may glorify you by giving ourselves to others;

3097 through Jesus Christ our Lord,

3098 who lives and reigns with you,

3099 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

3100 one God, now and forever.

3101

3102 *All audibly affirm the prayer, saying, Amen.*

3103

3104

3105 **SENDING FORTH**

3106

3107 [PRAYER

3108

3109 *If the Lord's Supper was not celebrated, the presiding bishop says:*

3110

3111 Let us pray.

3112

3113 We thank you, gracious Lord,

3114 for raising up among us

3115 your faithful servants *Names of new bishops,*

3116 for the ministry of a bishop.

3117 We pray that they may be examples

3118 of the new life in Christ

3119 in words and action, in love and patience,

3120 and in holiness of life.

3121 Grant that we, with them, may glorify you

3122 by giving ourselves to others;

3123 through Jesus Christ our Lord,

3124 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

3125 one God, now and forever. **Amen.]**

3126

3127 DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING *

3128 *A new bishop blesses the people:*

3129

3130 The grace of Jesus Christ,

3131 and the love of God,

3132 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all always.

3133

3134 HYMN *

3135

3136 *If the closing hymn is a processional, it should follow the bishop's Blessing and*

3137 *precede the deacon's Dismissal. Otherwise it should precede the bishop's*

3138 *Blessing and the deacon's Dismissal should follow immediately upon the bishop's*

3139 *Blessing. Closing hymns are listed on pages 71-72.*

3140

3141 *A deacon dismisses the people, using these or similar words:*

3142

3143 Go in peace

3144 to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do.

3145

3146 **We are sent in Christ's name.**

3147 **Thanks be to God!**

3148

3149 *A worship leader may announce where the new bishops may be greeted following*

3150 *the service.*

3151

3152

APPENDIX A

3153

Suggested Scripture Lessons and Hymns

3154 OLD TESTAMENT

3155

3156 Genesis 18:1-14a

Abraham and Sarah called

3157 Exodus 3:1-18

The call of Moses

3158 Exodus 15:20-21

Song of Miriam

3159 Exodus 33:12-17

My presence will go with you

3160 Numbers 11:16-17, 24-25a

Moses and the seventy elders

3161 Judges 4:1-7

Narrative of Deborah

3162 1 Kings 17:8-24

Widow of Zarephath ministers

3163 Esther 4:10-17

Esther's plea for justice

3164 Psalm 23 (*UMH* 137,

The Lord is my shepherd

3165 754, 873)

3166 Psalm 40:1-11 (*UMH* 774)

I delight to do your will, O my God

3167 Psalm 43 (*UMH* 778)

I will go to your altar

3168 Psalm 84 (*UMH* 804)

How lovely is your dwelling place

3169 Psalm 96 (*UMH* 815)

Worship the Lord in holy splendor

3170 Psalm 99 (*UMH* 819)

God is the supreme ruler

3171 Psalm 100 (*UMH* 821)

We are the people of God

3172 Psalm 119:33-40 (*UMH* 842)

Prayer for understanding

3173 Psalm 122 (*UMH* 845)

I was glad when they said to me

3174 Psalm 132 (*UMH* 849)

In praise of the temple

3175 Isaiah 6:1-8

Here am I! Send me!

3176 Isaiah 42:1-9

A servant song

3177 Isaiah 43:8-13

You are my witnesses

3178 Isaiah 52:7-10

Your God reigns

3179 Isaiah 55:6-11

My word shall not return to me empty

3180 Isaiah 61:1-6a

The Spirit of the Lord

3181 Jeremiah 1:4-10

Before you were born I consecrated you

3182 Jeremiah 31:31-34

A new covenant

3183 Ezekiel 33:1-9

The watcher's duty

3184 Ezekiel 34:11-16

God, the Good Shepherd

3185

3186 NEW TESTAMENT

3187

3188 Matthew 9:35-38

The Lord of the harvest

3189 Matthew 10:1-7

The call of the Twelve

3190 Matthew 10:24-33

Everyone who acknowledges me

3191 Matthew 18:15-20

Where two or three are gathered in my name

3192 Matthew 20:25-28

Not to be served but to serve

3193 Matthew 28:16-20

Make disciples of all nations

3194 Mark 10:35-45

Whoever would be great among you

3195 Luke 1:46-55

Song of Mary

3196 Luke 2:36-38

Anna praises God

3197 Luke 8:1-3

Women who followed Jesus

3198 Luke 10:1-12

The Lord of the harvest

3199 Luke 10:38-42

Ministry of Mary and Martha

3200	Luke 12:32-40	Vigilant servants
3201	Luke 22:14-30	One who serves
3202	Luke 24:44-49	Witnesses with a message and a promise
3203	John 4:7-42	Woman of Samaria carries a message
3204	John 6:35-40	I am the bread of life
3205	John 10:1-18	The Good Shepherd
3206	John 12:20-26	Sir, we wish to see Jesus
3207	John 13:1-18	Jesus washes the disciples' feet
3208	John 14:25-31	The Holy Spirit will teach you all things
3209	John 15:9-17	I have called you friends.
3210	John 17:1-9	Jesus prays for his disciples
3211	John 20:1-18	Witnesses to the living Christ
3212	John 20:19-23	Receive the Holy Spirit
3213	John 21:15-19	Feed my sheep
3214	Acts 6:2-7	Choosing deacons
3215	Acts 9:36-42	Paul and Dorcas
3216	Acts 13:1-5	Barnabas and Saul Commissioned
3217	Acts 20:17-35	Paul's farewell to the elders
3218	Romans 10:9-17	Those who preach good news
3219	Romans 12:1-18	The consecrated life
3220	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	We preach Christ crucified
3221	1 Corinthians 3:10-17	No other foundation but Christ
3222	1 Corinthians 4:1-5	Servants and leaders
3223	1 Corinthians 12:4-13	Varieties of gifts
3224	2 Corinthians 3:4-9	Ministers of a new covenant
3225	2 Corinthians 4:1-11	Not ourselves but Christ
3226	2 Corinthians 5:14-20	Ambassadors for Christ
3227	Ephesians 3:14-21	Strengthened with power
3228	Ephesians 4:1-16	Lead a worthy life
3229	Ephesians 5:15-21	Be filled with the Spirit
3230	Ephesians 6:10-18	Take the whole armor of God
3231	Philippians 4:4-9	Rejoice in the Lord always
3232	1 Timothy 3:1-13	Qualifications of leaders
3233	1 Timothy 4:12-16	Do not neglect your gift
3234	2 Timothy 1:6-14	Rekindle the gift God gave you
3235	2 Timothy 3:1-7	In season and out of season
3236	Hebrews 5:1-10	Appointed for obedient service
3237	Hebrews 12:1-6, 12-14	Jesus, the perfecter of our faith
3238	1 Peter 4:7-11	Good stewards of God's grace
3239	1 Peter 5:1-11	An elder's qualities
3240		
3241		
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3243		
3244		
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3246		
3247		
3248		
3249		

3250 *The hymn listings that follow are suggestions. These or other hymns of praise and*
3251 *celebration of the power of the Spirit, the call of Christ upon our life, and being*
3252 *sent out to serve may be appropriate. Planners should consider other possibilities*
3253 *appropriate to the context of the annual conference and its experience and needs.*

3254

3255 PROCESSIONAL HYMNS

3256

3257

3258	UMH 554	All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord
3259	UMH 417	By Gracious Powers
3260	UMH 164	Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
3261	UMH 555	Forward Through the Ages
3262	UMH 552	Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather
3263	UMH 89	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
3264	UMH 159	Lift High the Cross
3265	UMH 547	O Church of God, United
3266	UMH 66	Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
3267	UMH 139	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
3268	UMH 545–546	The Church’s One Foundation

3269

3270	TFWS 2236	Gather Us In
3271	TFWS 2238	In the Midst of New Dimensions
3272	TFWS 2221	In Unity We Lift Our Song
3273	TFWS 2130	The Summons
3274	TFWS 2172	We Are Called

3275

3276	W&S 3147	Built on a Rock
3277	W&S 3150	Father, We Have Heard Your Calling

3278

3279 HYMNS DURING THE SERVICE

3280

3281 *Hymns may be used as responses to the Scripture lessons or as acts of worship*
3282 *throughout the service.*

3283

3284	UMH 650	Give Me the Faith Which Can Remove
3285	UMH 578	God of Love and God of Power
3286	UMH 648	God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian
3287	UMH 593	Here I Am, Lord
3288	UMH 649	How Shall They Hear the Word of God
3289	UMH 651	Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire
3290	UMH 432	Jesu, Jesu
3291		(especially for diaconal consecration services)
3292	UMH 398	Jesus Calls Us
3293	UMH 580	Lead On, O King Eternal
3294	UMH 584	Lord, You Give the Great Commission
3295	UMH 396	O Jesus, I Have Promised
3296	UMH 430	O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee
3297	UMH 501	O Thou Who Camest from Above
3298	UMH 583	Sois la Semilla (You Are the Seed)
3299	UMH 408	The Gift of Love

3300	UMH 436	The Voice of God Is Calling
3301	UMH 344	Tú Has Venido a la Orilla (Lord, You Have
3302		Come to the Lakeshore)
3303		(especially for diaconal consecration services)
3304		
3305	CLUW 360	Bless Thou the Gifts
3306	CLUW 254	Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love
3307	CLUW 267	Christ for the Whole Wide World!
3308	CLUW 319	Call'd of God, We Honor the Call
3309	CLUW 265	Here Am I, Send Me
3310	CLUW 263	Here I Am, Lord
3311		
3312	MVPC 184	Abre mia ojos a la luz
3313	MVPC 164	Alzad la cruz
3314	MVPC 213	Haz lo que quieras
3315	MVPC 289	Heme aquí
3316	MVPC 195	Tú has venido a la orilla
3317	MVPC 194	Puedo oír to voz llamando
3318	MVPC 331	Señor, tú me llamas
3319	MVPC 183	Ven, Espíritu, cual viento
3320		
3321	TFWS 2166	Christ Beside Me
3322	TFWS 2133	Give Me a Clean Heart
3323	TFWS 2222	The Servant Song
3324	TFWS 2245	Within the Day-to-Day (A Hymn for Deacons)
3325	TFWS 2137	Would I Have Answered When You Called
3326		
3327		
3328	W&S 3109	Living Spirit, Holy Fire
3329	W&S 3156	One Is the Body
3330	W&S 3119	Take, O Take Me As I Am
3331	W&S 3118	Take this Moment, Sign, and Space
3332	W&S 3155	The Lord of Life, a Vine Is He
3333		
3334		
3335	CLOSING HYMNS	
3336		
3337	<i>If the closing hymn is a recessional, it should follow the Dismissal with Blessing;</i>	
3338	<i>otherwise it should precede the Dismissal with Blessing.</i>	
3339		
3340	UMH 413	A Charge to Keep I Have
3341	UMH 566	Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love
3342	UMH 438	Forth in Thy Name, O Lord
3343	UMH 571	Go, Make of All Disciples
3344	UMH 578	God of Love and God of Power
3345	UMH 593	Here I Am, Lord
3346	UMH 580	Lead On, O King Eternal
3347	UMH 586	Let My People Seek Their Freedom
3348	UMH 584	Lord, You Give the Great Commission
3349	UMH 583	Sois la Semilla (You Are the Seed)

3350	UMH 399	Take My Life, and Let It Be
3351	UMH 582	Whom Shall I Send?
3352	UMH 585	This Little Light of Mine
3353	UMH 606	Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine
3354		
3355	CLUW 261	Go, Make of All Disciples
3356	CLUW 266	Heralds of Light, Speed Away
3357		
3358	MVPC 307	Eviado soy de Dios
3359		
3360	TFWS 2165	Cry of My Heart
3361	TFWS 2129	I Have Decided to Follow Jesus
3362	TFWS 2153	I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
3363	TFWS 2221	In Unity We Lift Our Song
3364	TFWS 2234	Lead On, O Cloud of Presence
3365	TFWS 2149	Living for Jesus
3366	TFWS 2032	My Life Is in You, Lord
3367	TFWS 2076	O Blessed Spring
3368	TFWS 2139	Oh, I Know the Lord's Laid His Hands on Me
3369	TFWS 2004	Praise the Source of Faith and Learning
3370	TFWS 2241	The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve
3371	TFWS 2130	The Summons
3372	TFWS 2242	Walk with Me
3373	TFWS 2235	We Are Marching in the Light of God
3374		(Siyahamba)
3375		
3376	W&S 3158	Go to the World
3377	W&S 3161	Gracious Creator of Sea and of Land
3378	W&S 3163	Walking in the Light of God
3379	W&S 3160	We Will Follow (Somlandela)
3380		

3381

3382

3383

3384

3385

3386

APPENDIX B

3387

Reaffirmation of Commitment

3388

at the Recognition of a Deacon in Full Connection

3389 *This rite is for use when a person formerly ordained a deacon in the probationary*
 3390 *relationship under the provisions of the 1992 (or prior) Book of Discipline and,*

3391 *subsequently, an elder in full connection, becomes a deacon in full connection. It*
3392 *recognizes the prior ordination as a deacon and invites the deacon to reaffirm his*
3393 *or her ordination in the context of the new order of deacons without “re-*
3394 *ordination.”*

3395
3396 *It may be used immediately prior to the “Recognition of Orders” on pages 25, 28,*
3397 *and 49.*

3398
3399 *The bishop addresses the deacon with these or similar words:*

3400

3401 *Name*, as a minister in Christ’s holy church, do you now renew the vow that you
3402 made at your ordination to proclaim the Word of God; to be the servant of all
3403 those in need, and to lead God’s people to serve Christ in the world by both your
3404 teaching and example?

3405

3406 **I do, with God’s help.**

3407

3408 Will you, for the sake of Jesus Christ and the mission of the church, covenant to
3409 faithfully participate in the Order of Deacons? Will you regularly join with your
3410 brothers and sisters in the Order of Deacons for the purpose of spiritual
3411 encouragement, prayer, study, worship, and service?

3412

3413 **I will, with God’s help.**

3414

3415 *An appropriate certificate is given as the deacon returns to his or her place.*

3416

3417 *The service continues with the Recognition of Orders or with Holy Communion or*
3418 *with the Sending Forth.*

3419

3420 **APPENDIX C:**
3421 **RECEPTION OF CLERGY MEMBERS**
3422 **IN FULL CONNECTION**

3423
3424 *The Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry addresses elders and deacons who*
3425 *have been elected to full membership.*

3426
3427 After careful examination of your ministry among us
3428 during the time of your provisional membership,
3429 your colleagues in the order of elders and deacons,
3430 and those who have supervised your formation and ministry in the conference
3431 and in your places of appointment
3432 are convinced you are called, gifted, and prepared
3433 for a lifetime of service among us as an elder or deacon.

3434
3435 *The bishop continues.*

3436
3437 You have faithfully accepted and upheld the duties of the ministries
3438 to which you were commissioned,
3439 and you have demonstrated your commitment
3440 to your sisters and brothers in the Order of Elders or Order of Deacons,
3441 to the people of our congregations and ministries,
3442 and to the doctrine, liturgy, and discipline of The United Methodist Church.

3443
3444 May God continue to guide your ministry among us
3445 as *elders or deacons* in full connection.

3446
3447 *As each candidate comes forward, the bishop clasps the hands of each one,*
3448 *saying:*

3449
3450 *Full Name*, we receive you as into full connection
3451 in The United Methodist Church.
3452 Serve in Christ's name and the Spirit's power
3453 throughout our worldwide Church.

3454
3455 *As each one is named and received, the certificate of full membership is given.*
3456