AN ORDER FOR THE RECOGNITION OF A CANDIDATE

*This order may be used within a service of worship by a congregation to recognize a candidate for the ordained ministry after he or she has been certified as a candidate by the district Committee on Ordained Ministry.*

*As a Response to the Word or immediately prior to taking some leadership role in the service, the candidate comes forward.*

*Pastor to congregation:*

Today we are happy to recognize *Name*

and celebrate *his/her* certification

 as a candidate for the ordained ministry

by the Committee on Ordained Ministry of the *Name* District

of The United Methodist Church.

*Pastor to candidate:*

*Name,* we rejoice with you

 that you have heard God's call to the I ordained ministry

 and have said, with Isaiah: Here am I; send me!

The Church has certified you as a candidate for this ministry.

As you prepare for it in the months and years ahead,

 we will stand with you and offer you our fullest support.

*Pastor to congregation:*

I invite you to stand and join with me in prayer for Name

 as he/she prepares for his/her ministry.

*The pastor may pray extemporaneously, or the pastor and congregation may join in the following prayer:*

**Spirit of the living God,**

 **we pray for Name as he/she prepares to answer your call.**

**Guide him/her as he/she faces further decisions**

 **and strengthen him/her when the path is long and hard.**

**Keep us open to your guidance**

 **as we continue to offer our support**

 **and as we listen for your call in our own lives.**

**This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*A hymn may be sung and a blessing given. See hymn suggestions.*

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**Keywords:** Recognizing candidate, ordination, district committee, district