

THE SERVICE OF ORDINATION

with Recognition of Membership and Commissioning



The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved. (Acts 2:47)

WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

2017 Annual Conference Session

June 11, 2017
West Virginia Wesleyan College
Sandra Steiner Ball, Residing Bishop

THE SERVICE OF ORDINATION

with Recognition of Membership and Commissioning

Sunday, June 11, 2017 ❖ 9:30 am



† signifies that all are invited to stand as are able

BELLS CALLING US TO WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

Appalachian Brass Quintet

INTROIT

“Come Thou, Lord, Creator Spirit”

Jeff Rickard

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

EIN’ FESTE BURG
Words and Music Martin Luther

**A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.**

**That Word above all earthly powers
no thanks to them abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever!**

GREETING AND PRAYER

(responsive)

The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

We come together to praise God, to hear the Holy Word, and to seek for ourselves and others the power, presence, and direction of the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray:

Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts. Give your grace to all servants of your Church, that we may, with diligence and faithfulness, fulfill our various ministries. Grant that we your people may follow where you lead, perfect our ministries, and live in joyful obedience to your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY AND HOLY BAPTISM

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

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

We all share in Christ's ministry of love and service
for the redemption of the human family and the whole of creation.

Therefore, in celebration of our common ministry,
I call upon all God's people gathered here:

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

**We remember our baptism
and affirm our common ministry.**

(All people are seated.)

I present these children for baptism.

Ella Rose Caltrider
Jayden Joseph Moon

Since the earliest times, the vows of Christian baptism have consisted first of the renunciation of all that is evil and then the profession of faith and loyalty to Christ. Parents and sponsors reaffirm these vows for themselves while taking the responsibilities of sponsorship.

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:
Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,
reject the evil powers of this world,
and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you
to resist evil, injustice, and oppression
in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,
put your whole trust in his grace,
and promise to serve him as your Lord,
in union with the Church which Christ has opened
to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

Will you nurture these children
in Christ's holy Church,
that by your teaching and example they may be guided
to accept God's grace for themselves,
to profess their faith openly,
and to lead a Christian life?

I will.

The bishop addresses the congregation, and the congregation responds:

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church,
reaffirm both your rejection of sin
and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life
and include these persons now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news
and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround these children
with a community of love and forgiveness,
that they may grow in their trust of God,
and be found faithful in their service to others.**

**We will pray for them,
that they may be true disciples
who walk in the way that leads to life.**

The Apostles' Creed in threefold question-and-answer form appeared at least as early as the third century as a statement of faith used in baptisms and has been widely used in baptisms ever since. The candidates, sponsors, and local congregation join with the universal Church across the ages in this historic affirmation of the Christian faith. A deacon or bishop addresses all, and the congregation joins the candidates and their parents and sponsors in responding:

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

**universal*

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

A deacon or lay leader may pour water for baptism and reaffirmation into the font at this time in such a way that the congregation can see and hear the water. This prayer is led by the bishop and joined by the people. It recalls scriptural images and meanings of Holy Baptism and is comparable to the Great Thanksgiving at Holy Communion.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal Father;

When nothing existed but chaos,
you swept across the dark waters
and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah
you saved those on the ark through water.
After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.
When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,
you led them to freedom through the sea.
Their children you brought through the Jordan
to the land which you promised.

**Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,
nurtured in the water of a womb.
He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.
He called his disciples
to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection
and to make disciples of all nations.

**Declare Christ's works to the nations,
his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,
to wash away their sin
and clothe them in righteousness
throughout their lives,
that, dying and being raised with Christ,
they may share in his final victory.

**All praise to you, Eternal Father,
through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

In all services of the baptismal covenant, water should be used generously as a living sign of the abundance of God's grace, cleansing, and life-giving power.

Name, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being
born through water and the Spirit,
you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The bishop invites the congregation to welcome them:

Now it is our joy to welcome
our new brother and sister in Christ.

**Through baptism
you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit
into God's new creation
and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood.
We are all one in Christ Jesus.
With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you
as members of the family of Christ.**

BAPTISM ANTHEM

“The Spirit of the Lord”

Zebulon Highben

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

A layperson:

On behalf of the laity of local congregations who have examined and approved these candidates,

A member of the Board of Ordained Ministry:

and on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry of this Annual Conference, which has recommended these persons, and this Annual Conference, which has approved them,

Together the layperson, a deacon, and an elder from the Board of Ordained Ministry:

We present...

this person to be commissioned for the work of a deacon:

Heather Renee Moore

these persons to be commissioned for the work of an elder:

Jenna Wright Moon
Paula Lea Napier
Michael Anthony Potesta

this person to be ordained deacon:

Adam Douglas Ployd

these persons to be ordained elders:

Jarrod Lee Caltrider
Corbet Neilson May
Jonathan Charles Moon
Christopher Charles Scott

and this person whose orders will be recognized as elder in full connection:

Paul G. Rebelo

(after all the candidates have been presented, they remain standing.)

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

We ask you, people of God, to declare your assent to these servants. Do you trust that they are worthy, by God's grace, to be recognized, commissioned and ordained?

We do! Thanks be to God!

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

With God's help, we will!

GENERAL EXAMINATION

(candidates responding)

(candidates remain standing)

Servant leadership and ordination are gifts from God to the Church and are exercised in covenant with the whole Church and within the covenants of the Order of Deacons, the Order of Elders.

My sisters and brothers in Christ, you have been called to an ordained or commissioned status in set apart ministry. The Church now confirms your calling. As commissioned or ordained ministers, you are to be coworkers with all the people of God: With the laity, bishops, elders, deacons, provisional members, associate members, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missionaries, and local pastors.

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

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

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

I do so believe.

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

I do so believe and confess.

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

I am so persuaded, by God's grace.

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

I will, with the help of God.

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

I will, with the help of God.

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

I will, with the help of God.

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

I will, with the help of God.

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

Amen.

(Candidates are seated.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1:26-31
Acts 2:42-47

SERMON

“Original Blessing: The Beginning of Hope” Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

arr. Bob Chilcott

†DOXOLOGY

HYFRYDOL

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**Praise we bring to God the Father, Praise we bring to God the Son,
Praise to God the Holy Spirit, praise to you the Three in One.
Trinity of love inspire us, may we always strive to be
One in love and one in worship – children of eternity.**

PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

(the candidates for commissioning and their sponsors come forward)

(The bishop says to the congregation.)

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

Christ gave all of us this command: "Ask the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest."

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

Urged on by the love of Christ and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, they now come to declare in public their desire to live out the covenant made at their baptism by binding themselves to the service of God under the supervision of the bishop and the guidance of ordained colleagues and by being appointed to share as servant leaders in the body of Christ.

(the candidates kneel)

(Family members and friends are invited to rise in body, and mind or spirit where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for each one commissioned.)

God of the apostles and prophets, of the martyrs and teachers, you raise up men and women to be apostolic leaders in your Church. By your Holy Spirit, help these, your servants, to understand and live the mystery of your love with boldness and joy. Deepen their sense of purpose as they exercise commissioned ministry. Empower them and those who will walk with them to guide their ministry together with all of your people, to heal the sick, love the outcast, resist evil, preach the Word, and give themselves freely for your name's sake.

Jenna Wright Moon
Sponsor: Joseph Wright

Heather Renee Moore
Sponsor: Eugenia W. Moore

Paula Lea Napier
Sponsor: Greg Napier

Michael Anthony Potesta
Sponsor: Ben Roberts

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon *Name*.

Send *him/her* now to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, to announce the reign of God, and to equip the Church for ministry, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

(The newly commissioned ministers stand to be greeted and then return to their seats.)

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

EXAMINATION OF DEACONS

(the deacon candidate now comes forward)

(candidate responding)

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 Bible is lifted.)*

to lead in worship, to teach and proclaim God's Word, to assist elders at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, *(Here a towel and basin with pitcher is lifted.)*

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, even 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?

I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the Church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the order of deacons? Will you give yourself to God through the order of deacons in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service?

I will, with the help of God, and with the help of my sisters and brothers in the order of deacons.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR DEACONS

As this person is ordained by God and the Church for the ministry of a deacon to which we believe he has been called by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for him.

(the candidate kneels)

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

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

Amen.

(representatives from the laity and the order of deacons who are to join in the laying on of hands stand with the bishop)

(Family members and friends are invited to rise in body, mind or spirit where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for the ordinand.)

Adam Douglas Ployd
Sponsors: *Diane Kenaston and Joseph Kenaston*

Almighty God, pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a deacon in Christ's holy Church.

Amen.

Name, take authority as a deacon to proclaim the Word of God and to lead God's people in ministries of compassion and justice; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

(the newly ordained deacon stands to be greeted and then returns to his seat)

†HYMN

"Sanctuary"

SANCTUARY

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

(candidates responding)

(the elder candidates now come forward)

An elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole Church: to preach and teach the Word of God, *(Here a Bible is lifted.)*

And faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; *(Here a paten and chalice are lifted.)*

To lead the people of God in worship and prayer; to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ; to exercise pastoral supervision, order the life of the congregation, counsel the troubled, and declare the forgiveness of sin; to lead the people of God in obedience to Christ's mission in the world; to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people; and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church and in service in and to the community.

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

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

I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the Church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the order of elders?
Will you give yourself to God through the order of elders in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service?

I will, with the help of God, and the help of my sisters and brothers in the order of elders.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR ELDERS

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

(the candidates kneel)

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.

(representatives from the laity and the order of elders who are to join in the laying on of hands stand with the bishop)

(Family members and friends are invited to rise in body, mind or spirit where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for each ordinand.)

Jarrold Lee Caltrider

Sponsors: Claudia A. Krebs Fizer and Angela Gay Kinkead

Corbet Neilson May

Sponsors: Ritchie McNeil, Bob and Carrie Talbott

Jonathan Charles Moon

Sponsors: Claudia A. Krebs Fizer and Doug Liston

Christopher Charles Scott

Sponsors: Harold Elmore and Mark Flynn

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

Amen.

Name, take authority as an elder to preach the Word of God, to administer the Holy Sacraments and to order the life of the church, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

(the newly ordained elders stand to be greeted and then return to their seats)

RECOGNITION OF ORDERS

(the bishop addresses the candidate whose orders as elder are to be recognized)

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

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

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

(the candidate comes forward and is greeted by the bishop)

Paul G. Rebelo, we now recognize you as an elder in full connection in The United Methodist Church.

The candidate is given a certificate of recognition as elder and a certificate of full membership.

THOSE TRANSFERRING IN FROM OTHER CONFERENCES

We welcome those who have transferred their conference membership from other conferences and are now members of the West Virginia Conference.

Kerry William Bart
Larry A. Hakes
David Lee Johnston

†HYMN

"Are Ye Able"

BEACON HILL

Words Earl Marlatt and Music Harry S. Mason

**"Are ye able," said the Master,
"To be crucified with me?"
"Yea," the sturdy dreamers answered,
"To the death we follow thee."**

**Lord, we are able, Our spirits are thine.
Remold them, make us, Like thee, divine.
Thy guiding radiance Above us shall be
A beacon to God, To love and loyalty.**

**"Are ye able" to remember,
When a thief lifts up his eyes,
That his pardoned soul is worthy
Of a place in paradise?**

**Lord, we are able, Our spirits are thine.
Remold them, make us, Like thee, divine.
Thy guiding radiance Above us shall be
A beacon to God, To love and loyalty.**

**"Are ye able" when the shadows
Close around you with the sod,
To believe that spirit triumphs,
To commend your soul to God?**

**Lord, we are able, Our spirits are thine.
Remold them, make us, Like thee, divine.
Thy guiding radiance Above us shall be
A beacon to God, To love and loyalty.**

**"Are ye able?" Still the Master
Whispers down eternity,
And heroic spirits answer
Now, as then, in Galilee.**

**Lord, we are able, Our spirits are thine.
Remold them, make us, Like thee, divine.
Thy guiding radiance Above us shall be
A beacon to God, To love and loyalty.**

REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO FAITHFUL WITNESS AND THE FIXING OF THE APPOINTMENTS

Brothers and sisters in Christ, fellow members of the congregations of the West Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church, during this Annual Conference Session we have done the work of the gathered church. We have sought God's presence through the means of grace: in the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion; in prayer and anointing; in worship and in holy learning and conversation before God. We have licensed, commissioned and ordained servants for service in ministry and have offered prayer that each of our gifts be well used for Christ's service.

Now we are to do the work of the scattered church. We must go forth from this place as the people of God, strengthened with renewed hope and purpose. We are sent to the far reaches of the West Virginia Conference, to people and communities who need to know the love of Christ and may only be convinced by how we live.

Some of us will return to familiar settings as laity and clergy. Some will accept new appointments, and some of us are family members of those who are appointed. All of us are called to a common ministry as the people of God. Are you ready to reaffirm your commitment to offer yourself freely to the ministries of Christ through your congregation and district of the West Virginia Conference?

(congregation responds)

We are.

Will you support and uphold each other as faithful members of the Body of Christ, welcoming newly appointed leaders with loving hospitality, doing all in your power to equip the work of ministry?

(congregation responds)

We will.

Will all clergy please stand. Do you now accept the place of service in the Church of our Lord to which you are now appointed?

(clergy respond)

In commitment and renewal to my covenant as a clergyperson in The United Methodist Church, I now reverently accept my appointment with a heart open to the leading and fresh wind of the Spirit and pray that I shall be worthy of my call to the ministry and the place of mission to which I have been appointed.

Will all of the laity please stand. We rejoice and give thanks for you who represent all the members of the churches of The West Virginia Conference. We are grateful for your presence here and your dedicated leadership in our local churches. Will you faithfully support those appointed and assigned to your congregations with your prayer, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

(laity respond)

Recognizing our need for guidance in the care of those who are called of God and prepared to preach the Gospel, to administer the sacraments, to give administrative leadership in our churches, and to equip us for our ministry in the world, we gladly pledge our cooperation, love and support, as together we strive to fulfill the mission God has given to the Church.

In recognition of the renewal of our ministry covenant in this new appointment year let us pray together, clergy and laity, Wesley's Covenant Prayer:

(all respond)

**I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
Exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
To thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And may the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

With these covenant words, I now fix the clergy appointments and lay assignments, recognizing that it takes our clergy and laity working together to fulfill God's will and live as the body of Christ.

(all respond)

Eternal and amazing God, you have entrusted us with tremendous opportunities for ministry. Open our ears, eyes and hands, so that we can be your loving people, unbound by anything that holds us back. Through these appointments, God—pastor and congregation, serving together—may we be for every community your living Body of Christ. Amen.

INVITATION

(Bishop invites those present to respond to God's call to ordained ministry in Christ's Church.)

†INVITATION HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

AMAZING GRACE
Words John Newton

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.**

**Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.**

INVITATION PRAYER

(unison)

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

(responsive)

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

(A newly ordained deacon dismisses the people.)

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

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

**Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol,
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.**

**God ruleth on high, almighty to save,
and still he is nigh, his presence we have;
the great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.**

**"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son;
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.**

**Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and power, all wisdom and might;
all honor and blessing with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing and infinite love.**

POSTLUDE

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Michael Lawrence

(Please be seated and continue in a spirit of worship while music is playing.)

Liturgists:

Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball, Resident Bishop for the West Virginia Area
Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, Resident Bishop of the South Carolina Annual Conference
Rev. Richard DeQuasie, District Superintendent
Rev. Claudia Fizer, Chair, Order of Deacons
Rev. Sharletta Green, Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry
Rev. Julie Halstead, Chair, Order of Elders
Rev Greg Hayes, District Superintendent
Judith Kenaston, Conference Secretary
Rev. JF Lalaria, Assistant to the Bishop
Rev. Sara Facemyer Lamb, Secretary, Board of Ordained Ministry
Rev. Bonnie Glass MacDonald, Director of Leadership Formation and Ministry Support
Rev. Adam Douglas Ployd, Newly Ordained Deacon
Rich Shaffer, Conference Lay Leader
Rev. Gwen Wolford, Chair, Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors

Musicians:

Rev. David Donathan
Craig Hinchman

Appalachian Brass Quintet

Dave Dayton
Brian Plitnik
David Porter
John Schooley
Andrew Scott