



Ordination (with Installation at Ordination)

Approved for use by Church Council after June 1, 2009

Because all of its baptized members share in Christ's ministry of love and service, the church equips and supports them for their ministries in the world. Within this context of ministry, the church calls some of its baptized members for specific ministries.

Within the people of God and for the sake of the gospel ministry entrusted to all believers, God has instituted the office of ministry of word and sacrament. In the service of Ordination, the church entrusts this office to those who have accepted the church's call and sends them into this ministry.

Ordination is properly set within the service of Holy Communion, following the sermon and the hymn of the day. If used, the Nicene Creed or the Apostles' Creed may precede the ordination rite.

The bishop of the synod in which candidate/s have accepted calls normally presides at the ordination of the candidate/s.

Presentation

The assembly stands. Candidate/s for ordination (ordinands) gather with presenters and participating ministers before the assembly.

Each ordinand is presented to the presiding minister and to the assembly.

I present for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament full name, who has been prepared, examined, and approved for this ministry and who has been called by the church to this ministry through name of calling body.

Thanks be to God.

The presenter/s move aside, and the assembly is seated.

Address and Questions

The presiding minister addresses the ordinand/s.

All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation. According to apostolic usage you are now to be entrusted with the office of word and sacrament in the one holy catholic church by the laying on of hands and by prayer.

A reading from John: Jesus said to his disciples, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:21-23)

A reading from Matthew: Jesus said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

A reading from First Corinthians: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

The presiding minister questions the ordinand/s.

Before almighty God, to whom you must give account,
and in the presence of this assembly, I ask:
Will you assume this office,
believing that the church's call is God's call
to the ministry of word and sacrament?

Each ordinand responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The church in which you are to be ordained
confesses that the Holy Scriptures are the word of God and are the norm of its faith and life.
We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds.
We also acknowledge the Lutheran Confessions
as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the Holy Scriptures.
Will you therefore preach and teach in accordance with the Holy Scriptures
and these creeds and confessions?

Each ordinand responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures
and faithful in your use of the means of grace?
Will you pray for God's people,
nourish them with the word and sacraments,
and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

Each ordinand responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world,
that God's love may be known in all that you do?

Each ordinand responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things,
graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

The assembly responds: Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The assembly stands for the prayers of intercession.

The prayers are prepared locally for the occasion. The following prayers may serve as a model.

An assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer with these or similar words.

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

For the holy catholic church,
that, filled with your love,
it may hunger for truth and thirst after righteousness:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

For all members of the church,
that they may serve you in true and godly lives:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

For *name/s*, called to be a *pastor* in the church,
that, sustained by your Holy Spirit,
she/he/they may carry out this ministry with joy and a spirit of bold trust,
serve your people, build up your church, and glorify your name:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

For all pastors;
for all deaconesses, diaconal ministers, and associates in ministry;
for *name/s*, our *bishop/s*;
that, together with all those responsible for the care and nurture of your people,
they may support one another in serving Christ:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the peace of the church,
that our divisions may be overcome,
so that, united in Christ, we may serve the world
and bear witness to the good news:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations of the world and their leaders,
that they may work for justice
and promote the dignity and freedom of every person:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the whole creation,
that everything you have made may fulfill your purpose
and that we may exercise care for your diverse gifts:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, the lonely, the forgotten, and all who suffer;
for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger;
that they may be relieved and protected:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Other intercessions may be included.

For the glorious company of all the saints,
those who have died in faith and those who live in certain hope,
we praise you.
That their witness may give us courage until the day of Jesus Christ:
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these or similar words.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Hymn of Invocation

The ordinand/s may kneel. "Creator Spirit, heavenly dove," hymn 577 or 578, is sung.

Thanksgiving

The presiding minister leads the assembly in giving thanks.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
we bless you for your infinite love in Christ our Lord,
in whom we have redemption and forgiveness of sins
according to the riches of his grace.
We thank you that by his death your Son overcame death,
and that, raised by your mighty power, he gives us new life.
We praise you that, having ascended into heaven,
Christ pours out his gifts abundantly on the church,
making some apostles, some prophets, some pastors and teachers,
to equip your people for their work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.

The presiding minister lays both hands on the head of each ordinand. Other ordained pastors who are participating in the laying on of hands place one hand on the ordinand.

Following a time of silent prayer, the presiding minister continues, praying for each ordinand in turn.

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ,
pour out your Holy Spirit upon name
and fill *her/him* with the gifts of grace for the ministry of word and sacrament.
Bless *her/his* proclamation of your word and administration of your sacraments,
so that your church may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service.
Make *her/him* a faithful pastor, patient teacher, and wise counselor.
Grant that in all things *she/he* may serve without reproach,
that your people may be renewed and your name be glorified in the church;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Giving of a Stole

The ordinand/s may remain kneeling. A stole is placed over each ordinand's shoulders as the presiding minister says:

Receive this stole as a sign of your work,
and live in obedience to the Lord Jesus,
serving his people and remembering his promise:

"Come to me, all who you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

Charge

The ordinand/s stand. The following scripture passages are addressed to the ordinand/s. Additional appropriate scripture passages may be used.

Hear the words of the apostles: Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called. (1 Timothy 6:11-12)

And again: Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. (Acts 20:28)

And again: Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not under compulsion but willingly, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (1 Peter 5:2-4)

And again: Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. (1 Cor. 4:1-2)

The presiding minister continues.

Name/s, care for God's people, bear their burdens,
and do not betray their confidence.

So discipline *yourselves* in life and teaching that you preserve the truth,
giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope.

Witness faithfully in word and deed to all people.

Give and receive comfort as you serve within the church.

And be of good courage, for God has called you,
and your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Blessing

The presiding minister continues.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will,
working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight;
through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

The assembly stands.

Acclamation by the Assembly

The ministers and the ordinand/s face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Will you, assembled as the people of God and speaking for the whole church,

receive name/s as a messenger of Jesus Christ,

sent by God to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation?

Will you regard *her/him/them* as a servant of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for *her/him/them*,

help and honor *her/him/them* for *her/his/their* work's sake,

and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

The presiding minister presents each of the newly ordained to the assembly.

Let it be acclaimed that name is a called and ordained minister in the church of Christ.

She/he has Christ's authority to preach the word of God and administer the sacraments,

serving God's people as together we bear God's creative and redeeming love to all the world.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

After all the newly ordained have been presented, the assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

All return to their places. The assembly is seated.

The service continues with the offering.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

When scheduling an ordination service, the rhythms and emphases of the church year should be taken into account. For example, because of their solemn character, the days from the Sunday of the Passion through Easter Day are best avoided as days for such a service.

The bishop of the synod in which candidate/s have accepted calls normally presides at the ordination of the candidate/s. If unable to be present, the bishop authorizes another bishop of this church to preside at the ordination.

The bishop normally presides during the entire service. When the service takes place in a congregation, circumstances may suggest that the congregation's pastor preside at the meal of holy communion; the bishop may preside again at the sending.

Ordination is a service of the whole church, not merely of the local congregation or of the assembly that gathers. Through a note in the worship aid or by another appropriate means, the assembly may be advised that they are speaking on behalf of the whole church when receiving candidates into the ministry of word and sacrament.

The complete name of the ordinand/s is used at the presentation and again at the acclamation. At other places in the service, the first or given name/s (without surname/s) is appropriate.

Preparation

The ordinand/s is appropriately vested in an alb, a symbol of being clothed with Christ in baptism. Until presented, the ordinand/s may be seated with the congregation.

During the service, the ordinand/s may kneel during the thanksgiving. Appropriate accommodations may be provided. When there is more than one ordinand, it may be preferable to provide one centrally located place for kneeling. After each ordinand receives the laying on of hands, she/he moves aside and the next ordinand kneels at the same place.

Presentation

At the close of the hymn of the day, the ordinand/s and presenter/s come to a place in front of the presiding minister.

Each ordinand may be presented by a different presenter, or all ordinands may be presented by one presenter. Examples of those who may serve as presenters include a sponsoring pastor; an officer of the congregation in which the ordination takes place; a representative of the synod; a representative of the calling congregation. At a synod assembly, the secretary of the synod may present all ordinands.

Address and Questions

After the presiding minister begins the address, other ministers may address the ordinand/s with the scripture passages, or the presiding minister may say the entire address.

When more than one candidate is ordained, the presiding minister addresses the questions to all the ordinands, and each ordinand answers in turn.

Prayers of Intercession

Within the petition that provides for including the names of bishops, it is appropriate to use the first or given name (without surname) of the presiding bishop and of the bishop of the synod.

Intercessions may be included for the spouse/family of the ordinand/s and for any special concerns related to the day.

Thanksgiving

The assembly may be seated if there are many ordinands or if the circumstances otherwise suggest.

The presiding minister lays both hands on the ordinand's head. To make this possible, an assisting minister holds printed service materials for the presiding minister. Other ordained pastors may participate in the laying on of hands by placing one hand on the ordinand. If the number of participating ministers is large, a reasonable number may function on behalf of all.

The laying on of hands is accompanied first by silent prayer. Then the thanksgiving is prayed, and the laying on of hands continues throughout the prayer. It is appropriate to use the first or given name (without surname) of the ordinand.

Giving of a Stole

When several persons are ordained, the respective sponsors or presenters may be holding the stoles and may place the stoles over the ordinands' shoulders during the presiding minister's address. Alternatively, the presiding minister or another minister may place the stoles.

Where local custom indicates that another symbol of ministry be given (such as a Bible or a chasuble), the presenter or the assisting minister may hand the item to the newly ordained as the following is said:

Receive this _____ as a sign of your calling to the ministry of word and sacrament.

Charge

The presiding minister and other ministers may address the ordinand/s with the scripture passages, or the presiding minister may say them all.

Acclamation

After the assembly acclaims the ordinand/s by responding to the two questions, the declaration beginning "Let it be acclaimed that *name* is a called and ordained minister . . ." is repeated for each ordinand. After all the newly ordained have been presented, the assembly may conclude the acclamation with applause.

Peace

The presiding minister begins the greeting of peace. As the service continues, one who is newly ordained does not normally assume the role of presiding minister but may serve as a communion minister.

PROPER S

When ordination is set within the primary service of the congregation on a Sunday or festival, the propers for that Sunday or festival are normally used. The prayer of the day for ordination may be said following the prayer of the day appointed for the Sunday or festival.

When ordination is scheduled as a part of a special service, apart from the primary service of the congregation, propers may be selected from those listed below.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and merciful God, you built your church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, and you instituted the office of the ministry of word and sacrament so that the apostolic and prophetic work might continue throughout the ages. Grant that *name/s*, now to be ordained, may carry out this ministry faithfully in the power of your Spirit; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Readings and Psalms

Exodus 3:1-12
Numbers 6:22-27
Numbers 11:16-17
Isaiah 6:1-8
Isaiah 40:1-11

Isaiah 42:5-9
Isaiah 52:7-10
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Jeremiah 23:23-29
Ezekiel 2:8—3:4

Psalm 15
Psalm 16
Psalm 84
Psalm 91
Psalm 95
Psalm 96
Psalm 99
Psalm 103
Psalm 113
Psalm 121
Psalm 122
Psalm 133
Acts 20:28-35
Romans 10:13-17
Romans 12:4-8
1 Corinthians 1:[18-24] 25—2:5
1 Corinthians 4:1-5
1 Corinthians 11:17-26
2 Corinthians 4:1-7 [8-12]
2 Corinthians 5:11-21
Ephesians 4:4-16
1 Timothy 3:1-7
1 Timothy 4:14-16
1 Timothy 6:11-16
2 Timothy 4:1-5
1 Peter 5:1-4

Matthew 9:1-8
Matthew 9:35-38
Matthew 16:13-23 [24-28]
Matthew 28:16-20
Mark 1:14-20
Mark 4:1-9
Mark 6:30-44
Mark 9:33-41
Mark 10:35-45
Luke 10:1-12, 16-20
Luke 24:44-50
John 10:7-18
John 13:[3-11] 12-17, 20
John 17:6-19
John 20:19-23
John 21:15-17

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, *
who brings good news, who announces salvation. *Alleluia.* (Isa. 52:7)

Or, during Lent:

May I never boast of anything *
except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Gal. 6:14)

Other gospel acclamation texts that may be used:

John, Apostle and Evangelist; Conversion of Paul; Holy Cross Day; Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist;
Reformation Day; Lent 3, year B; Lent 5, year C.

Hymn of the Day

395	Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord
401	Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading
579	Lord, You Give the Great Commission
743	Now to the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray
878	Soli Deo Gloria

Preface: Apostles

Prayer after Communion

We thank you, almighty and gracious God, that you have fed us with heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son, uniting us through him in the communion of the Holy Spirit. As you have again raised up among us a faithful servant/s for the ministry of word and sacrament, grant that we, with name/s, may joyfully serve you all our days and finally rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Color: Red

INSTALLATION AT ORDINATION

In circumstances where the bishop ordains and installs a candidate at the same service, the following is inserted in the order for Ordination prior to the greeting of peace. See the notes on the service for the Installation of a Pastor for additional helps with this section.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Having been authorized by the church to install full name,
our co-worker in the gospel, as position,
I now ask for certification of this call.

A representative of the calling body addresses the presiding minister.

After prayerful deliberation,
we, of name of calling/employing body,
have called full name as position.
I present her/him and this letter certifying the call.

The presenter gives the presiding minister the letter certifying that the call has been received and accepted.

The presiding minister questions the pastor being installed.

Pastor name, in the presence of this assembly
will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out your duties in harmony with the constitutions
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in *America*?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The presiding minister addresses the pastor being installed.

The office of position is now committed to you
in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The following procession to the places of the word and sacraments may be used.

The presiding minister escorts the pastor to the place of baptism. A representative of the congregation says:

You have been called to be among us to baptize, to teach, and to forgive sins.

They proceed to the place of the word. A representative of the congregation says:

You have been called to be among us to proclaim the good news.

They proceed to the place of the meal. A representative of the congregation says:

You have been called to be among us to preside at the Lord's supper.

The service continues with the greeting of peace.