

The Ordination of (a) Deacon(s)

[Full name of Ordinand(s)]



THE DIOCESE OF
CHURCHES
FOR THE SAKE
OF OTHERS

DATE | TIME

Welcome

How Great Thou Art [suggested song]

by Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Presentation

The people sit; the Celebrant, standing before the Bishop, shall present the Ordinand(s), saying

Celebrant: Bishop *[Name]*, on behalf of the clergy and people of the Diocese of Churches for the Sake of Others, we present to you *[Ordinand name(s)]* to be ordained (a) deacon(s) in Christ's holy catholic Church.

Bishop: *[Has he/she; Have they]* been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church? And do you believe *[his/her/their]* manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Celebrant: We certify to you that *[he/she has; they have]* satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we believe *[him/her/them]* qualified for this order.

The Bishop says to the Ordinand(s)

Bishop: Will you be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church has received them? And will you, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey your Bishop and other ministers who may have authority over you and your work?

The Ordinand then declares

Ordinand(s): I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Anglican Church.

The Ordinand(s) then sign(s) the above Declaration in the sight of all present

All stand. The Bishop says to the people

Bishop: Dear friends in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting *[this candidate/these candidates]* for ordination to the sacred order of deacons. Therefore if any of you know any impediment or crime because of which we should not proceed, come forward now and make it known.

If no objection is made, the Bishop continues

Bishop: Is it your will that *[this candidate/these candidates]* be ordained as (a) deacon(s)?

People: It is.

Bishop: Will you uphold *[him/her/them]* in this ministry?

People: We will.

Bishop: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

The Litany for Ordinations

The Bishop is seated, and the congregation is invited to kneel or remain seated

Deacon: God the Father,
People: **Have mercy on us.**

Deacon: God the Son,
People: **Have mercy on us.**

Deacon: God the Holy Spirit,
People: **Have mercy on us.**

Deacon: Holy Trinity, one God,
People: **Have mercy on us.**

Deacon: We pray to you, Lord Christ,
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For the holy church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the Day of your Coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For all members of your Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve you in a true and godly life, we pray to you, O Lord.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For all Bishops, priests, and deacons, that they may be filled with your love, may hunger for truth, and may thirst after righteousness, we pray to you, O Lord.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For *[Ordinand name(s)]*, chosen deacon(s) in your Church, we pray to you, O Lord.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: That *[he/she/they]* may faithfully fulfill the duties of this ministry, build up your Church, and glorify your Name, we pray to you, O Lord.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: That by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit *[he/she/they]* may be sustained and encouraged to persevere to the end, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For *[his/her/their family/ies]* and the community **they** serve, that **they** may be adorned with all Christian virtues, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For those in positions of public trust that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For those who have died in the hope of the resurrection and for the loved ones now experiencing grief and loss, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People: **To you, O Lord our God.**

At the conclusion of the Litany for Ordinations, the Bishop shall stand and say

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Bishop: Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were being cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Jeremiah 1:4-9

The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." "Alas, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am too young." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am too young.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD. Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "I have put my words in your mouth."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19:7-14

Reader: The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul.

People: **The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.**

Reader: The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.

People: **The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.**

Reader: The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.

People: **The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous.**

Reader: They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;

People: **they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.**

Reader: By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

People: **But who can discern their own errors?**

Reader: Forgive my hidden faults.

People: **Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me.**

Reader: Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

People: **May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, oh LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for

Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Cornerstone [suggested song]

by William Batchelder Bradbury, Eric Liljero, Reuben Morgan, Edward Mote,
and Jonas Myrin

John 15:1-9

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love." (NIV)

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Message

The Nicene Creed

People: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Examination

All are seated except the Ordinand(s), who stand(s) before the Bishop

Bishop: My [brother(s)/sister(s)], every Christian is called to follow Jesus Christ, serving God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit. God now calls you to a special ministry of servanthood directly under your Bishop. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely. As a deacon in the Church, you are to study the Holy Scriptures, to seek nourishment from them, and to model your life upon them. You are to make Christ and his redemptive love known, by your word and example, to those among whom you live, and work, and worship. You are to interpret to the Church the

needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. You are to assist the Bishop and priests in public worship and in the ministration of God's Word and Sacraments, and you are to carry out other duties assigned to you from time to time. At all times, your life and teaching are to show Christ's people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself.

Bishop: My *[brother(s)/sister(s)]*, do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to the life and work of a deacon?

Ordinand(s): I believe I am so called.

Bishop: Do you now in the presence of the Church commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

Ordinand(s): I do.

Bishop: Will you be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your Bishop?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you be faithful in prayer, and in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you look for Christ in all others, being ready to help and serve those in need?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you do your best to pattern your life [and that of your family, *or* household, *or* community] in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to all people?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you in all things seek not your glory but the glory of the Lord Christ?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: May the Lord by his grace uphold you in the service he lays upon you.

Ordinand(s): Amen.

The Consecration of the Deacons

All now stand, except the Ordinand(s), who kneel(s) facing the Bishop

Spirit of the Living God [suggested song]

by Daniel Iverson

A period of silent prayer follows, the people still standing. The Bishop then says this Prayer of Consecration

Bishop: O God, most merciful Father, we praise you for sending your Son Jesus Christ, who took on himself the form of a servant, and humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death on the cross. We praise you that you have highly exalted him, and made him Lord of all; and that, through him, we know that whoever would be great must be servant of all. We praise you for the many ministries in your Church, and for calling [*this/these*] your servant(s) to the order of deacons.

Here the Bishop lays hands upon the head(s) of the Ordinand(s) and prays

Bishop: Therefore, Father, through Jesus Christ your Son, give your Holy Spirit to [*Ordinand name(s)*]; fill [*him/her/them*] with grace and power, and make [*him/her/them*] a deacon in your Church.

Make [*him/her/them*], O Lord, modest and humble, strong and constant, to observe the discipline of Christ. Let [*his/her life; their lives*] and teaching(s) so reflect your commandments, that through [*him/her/them*] many may come to know you and love you. As your Son came not to be served but to serve, may [*this deacon/these deacons*] share in Christ's service, and come to the unending glory of him who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

The people in a loud voice respond

People: **Amen.**

The new deacon(s) [is/are] now vested according to the order of deacons

The Bishop gives a Bible to the newly ordained, saying

Bishop: Receive this Bible as the sign of your authority to proclaim God's Word and to assist in the ministration of his holy Sacraments.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Please greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Bishop and the Clergy now greet the newly ordained.

Offertory

The offering will go to the discretionary fund(s) of the newly ordained Deacon(s)

Take My Life, and Let It Be [suggested song]

by Frances Ridley Havergal and Henri Abraham Cesar Malan

Doxology [suggested song]

by Louis Bourgeois, Phil Wickham, and Thomas Ken

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever [*sing/say*] this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Please kneel or be seated

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

Celebrant: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: **Christ has died.**
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

People: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the invitation

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Songs

How Deep the Father's Love for Us [suggested song]

by Stuart Townend

Here I Am To Worship [suggested song]

by Tim Hughes

Post Communion Prayer

People: Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the holy food of the Body and Blood of your Son, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. We pray that *[Ordinand name(s)]* may be to us (an) effective example(s) in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with *[him/her/them]*, may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Be Thou My Vision [suggested song]

by Mary Elizabeth Byrne

Dismissal

The newly ordained Deacon(s) dismiss(es) the people.

Deacon(s): Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.



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