

# The Ordination of (a) Priest(s)

*[Full name of Ordinand(s)]*



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DATE | TIME

# Welcome

## Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

## Procession *[suggested songs]*

*Come, Thou Fount*

by Robert Robinson

*In Christ Alone*

by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

## The Presentation

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

Presenters: *[Name]*, Bishop in the Church of God, we present to you *[Ordinand name(s)]* to be admitted to the Order of Priests.

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?

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

*The Bishop shall then require the Ordinand(s) to take the Oath of Conformity saying*

Bishop: The Canons require that no Deacon may be ordained a Priest in the Church until such person has subscribed without reservation to the Oath of Conformity. It is also required that the Ordinand subscribe without reservation to the Oath of Canonical Obedience. In the presence of this congregation, I now charge you to make your solemn declaration of these oaths.

*The Ordinand then declares*

Ordinand: I, *[Name]*, 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 therefore, I hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.

*The Ordinand then declares the following Oath of Canonical Obedience as well, saying*

Ordinand: And I do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to the Bishop of Churches for the Sake of Others, and his successors: So help me God.

*The Ordinand(s) then sign(s) the Oath of Conformity and the Oath of Canonical Obedience in the sight of all present.*

*All stand. The Bishop says to the people*

Bishop: Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting *[Ordinand name(s)]* for ordination to the sacred Priesthood. 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 *[Ordinand name(s)]* be ordained (a) Priest(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,  
love and a passion for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.  
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For all members of your Church that they may love you,  
Lord, with their whole heart and serve and love others the  
same way.  
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 the leadership of your Church, that they may be filled  
with your Holy Spirit and boldly proclaim your Truth.  
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon: For *[Ordinand name(s)]*, chosen as (a) priest(s) in your  
Church, that *[he/she/they]* may be filled and sustained with  
your Holy Spirit to faithfully fulfill the duties that will be  
entrusted to *[him/her/them]*.

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

Deacon: For *[his/her/their family(ies)]* we pray for protection, blessing, and provision.

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

Deacon: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness to Jesus it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

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

Deacon: Lord, have mercy.

**People:** Christ, have mercy.

Deacon: Lord, have mercy.

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

Bishop: Almighty God, giver of all good things, by your Holy Spirit you have appointed diverse Orders of Ministers in your Church; mercifully behold your servant(s) now called to the Office of Priesthood; and so fill *[him/her/them]* with the truth of your Doctrine and adorn *[him/her/them]* with holiness of life, that, both by word and good example, *[he/she/they]* may faithfully serve you in this Office, to the glory of your Name and the edification of your Church; through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. **Amen.**

## Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty." Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he

touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 119:33-40

Reader: Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,

People: **and I shall keep it to the end.**

Reader: Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law;

People: **I shall keep it with all my heart.**

Reader: Make me go in the path of your commandments,

People: **for that is my desire.**

Reader: Incline my heart to your decrees

People: **and not to unjust gain.**

Reader: Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless;

People: **give me life in your ways.**

Reader: Fulfill your promise to your servant,

People: **which you make to those who fear you.**

Reader: Turn away the reproach which I dread,

People: **because your judgments are good.**

Reader: Behold, I long for your commandments;

People: **in your righteousness preserve my life.**

Reader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

People: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Gospel Song *[suggested song]*

*Only a Holy God*

by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Dustin Smith, and Michael Farren

## John 10:11-18

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

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

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Message

## The Bishop's Charge

## 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 for Ordination

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

Bishop: My *[brother(s)/sister(s)]*, the Church is the family of God, the body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit. All baptized people are called to make Christ known as Savior and Lord, and to share in the renewing of his world. Now you are called to work as a pastor, priest and teacher, together with your bishop and fellow presbyters, and to take your share in the councils of the Church.

As a priest, it will be your task to proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. You are to preach, to declare God's forgiveness to penitent sinners, to pronounce God's blessing, to share in the administration of Holy Baptism and in the celebration of the mysteries of Christ's Body and Blood, and to perform the other ministrations entrusted to you.

In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ's people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.



Bishop: My [*brother(s)/sister(s)*], do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to this priesthood?

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 respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your bishop?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make you a stronger and more able minister of Christ?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you endeavor so to minister the Word of God and the sacraments of the New Covenant, that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom you are called to serve, laboring together with them and with your fellow ministers to build up the family of God?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to your people?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: Will you persevere in prayer, both in public and in private, asking God's grace, both for yourself and for others, offering all your labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ, and in the sanctification of the Holy Spirit?

Ordinand(s): I will.

Bishop: May the Lord who has given you the will to do these things give you the grace and power to perform them.

Ordinand(s): Amen.

# The Consecration

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

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

by Frances Ridley Havergal and Henri Abraham Cesar Malan

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

Bishop: God and Father of all, we praise you for your infinite love in calling us to be a holy people in the kingdom of your Son Jesus our Lord, who is the image of your eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn among many brethren, and the head of the Church. We thank you that by his death he has overcome death, and, having ascended into heaven, has poured his gifts abundantly upon your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry and the building up of his body.

*Here the Bishop lays hands upon the head(s) of the Ordinand(s), the Priests who are present also laying on their hands*

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 priest in your Church.

May [he/she/they] exalt you, O Lord, in the midst of your people; offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; boldly proclaim the gospel of salvation; and rightly administer the sacraments of the New Covenant. Make [him/her/them] a faithful pastor, a patient teacher, and a wise counselor. Grant that in all things [he/she/they] may serve without reproach, so that your people may be strengthened and your Name glorified in all the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The new Priest(s) [is/are] vested according to the order of priests. The Bishop then gives a Bible to the newly ordained, saying*

Bishop: Receive this Bible as a sign of the authority given you to preach the Word of God and to administer his holy Sacraments. Do not forget the trust committed to you as a priest of the Church of God.

*The Bishop greets the newly ordained*

## The Peace

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

**People: And also with you.**

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

## Offertory *[suggested songs]*

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

### *Build My Life*

by Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kable, Matt Redman, and Pat Barrett

### *Doxology*

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 sit)*

**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 *[suggested songs]*

### *There is a Fountain*

by William Cowper and Lowell Mason

### *O Praise the Name*

by Benjamin Hastings, Dean Ussher, and Marty Sampson

## Post Communion Prayer

People: Almighty and Ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## Blessing by the New Priest

Priest(s): Go before me, O Lord, in all my doings, with your most gracious favor, and further me with your continual help, that in all my works begun, continued, and ended in you, I may glorify your holy Name, and finally by your mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The newly-ordained Priest(s) shall bless the people saying*

Priest(s): The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Sending Song *[suggested song]*

### *Abide With Me*

by Henry Francis Lyte and William Henry Monk

## Dismissal

Deacon: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the glory of the resurrection.

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



THE DIOCESE OF  
CHURCHES  
FOR THE SAKE  
OF OTHERS