

Service of Worship – Ordination and Installation of Deacons & Elders
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

PRELUDE & CHIMES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let us worship God.

As many of you were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to be the one hope of our calling.

As I say your name, will those who are being ordained and/or installed as deacons and elders today, please stand?

In baptism Cindy Freeman, Janet Marventano, Ann Reed, Janice Stever and Mark Sundman were clothed with Christ, and are now called by God through the voice of the church to enter into ministries of service and governance, announcing in word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ.

We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrate God’s particular call to our brothers and sisters.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;

Let us exalt the name of the Lord together.

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

Let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

***HYMN #22** “Let All Things Now Living” one stanza

**LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING A SONG OF THANKSGIVING
TO GOD THE CREATOR TRIUMPHANTLY RAISE,
WHO FASHIONED AND MADE US, PROTECTED AND STAYED US,
WHO GUIDES US AND LEADS TO THE END OF OUR DAYS.**

**HIS BANNER IS O’ER US, HIS LIGHT GOES BEFORE US,
A PILLAR OF FIRE SHINING FORTH IN THE NIGHT,**

**TILL SHADOWS HAVE VANISHED AND DARKNESS IS BANISHED,
AS FORWARD WE TRAVEL FROM LIGHT INTO LIGHT.**

***REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

Ordination calls the whole church to renewed commitment and reminds us all to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of baptism. Let us, therefore, reaffirm our baptismal vows, renouncing all that opposes God and God’s rule and affirming the faith of the holy catholic church.

***RENUNCIATIONS**

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I DO.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

I DO.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I WILL, WITH GOD'S HELP.

***PROFESSION**

With the whole church let us confess our faith with the Apostles' Creed of the early church that dates back to no later than the 4th century.

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Eternal and gracious God, we give you thanks. In countless ways you have revealed yourself in ages past and have blessed us with signs of your grace.

We praise you that through the waters of the sea you led your people Israel out of bondage, into freedom in the land of your promise.

We praise you for sending Jesus your Son, who for us was baptized in the waters of the Jordan and was anointed as the Christ by your Holy Spirit. Through the baptism of his death and resurrection you set us free from the bondage of sin and death and give us cleansing and rebirth.

We praise you that in baptism you give us your Holy Spirit, who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with a variety of gifts, that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations to serve you as a royal priesthood.

We rejoice that you claimed us in our baptism, and that by your grace we are born anew. By your Holy Spirit renew us, that we may be empowered to do your will and continue forever in the risen life of Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever. Amen.

The minister may place his or her hand into the water of the font or pool, lift up some water, let it fall back into the font or pool, and then make the sign of the cross over the people while saying:

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***RESPONSE OF THANKS #359** "Give Thanks" one stanza

**GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART, GIVE THANKS TO THE HOLY ONE,
GIVE THANKS BECAUSE HE'S GIVEN JESUS CHRIST, HIS SON.**

(repeat)

**AND NOW LET THE WEAK SAY "I AM STRONG"
LET THE POOR SAY "I AM RICH"
BECAUSE OF WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE FOR US**

(repeat)

GIVE THANKS!

***THE PEACE**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SCRIPTURE / MESSAGE I Corinthians 12:1-11 *The Message – a paraphrase by Eugene Peterson*

What I want to talk about now is the various ways God's Spirit gets worked into our lives. This is complex and often misunderstood, but I want you to be informed and knowledgeable.

Remember how you were when you didn't know God, led from one phony god to another, never knowing what you were doing, just doing it because everybody else did it?

It's different in this life. God wants us to use our intelligence, to seek to understand as well as we can.

For instance, by using your heads, you know perfectly well that the Spirit of God would never prompt anyone to say "Jesus be damned!" Nor would anyone be inclined to say "Jesus is Master!" without the insight of the Holy Spirit.

⁴⁻¹¹ God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit.

God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit.

God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God himself is behind it all.

Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people! The variety is wonderful:

All these gifts have a common origin, but are handed out one by one by the one Spirit of God. He decides who gets what, and when.

**THOUGH I MAY SPEAK WITH BRAVEST FIRE,
AND HAVE THE GIFT TO ALL INSPIRE,
AND HAVE NOT LOVE, MY WORDS ARE VAIN,
AS SOUNDING BRASS, AND HOPELESS GAIN.**

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as deacons, as elders, and as ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Ordination is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us, providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the governance of the church, and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, the session of John Calvin Presbyterian Church now ordains Janice Stever and Mark Sundman to the office of deacon, and Cindy Freeman to the office of elder, and installs them to active service on their respective boards.

The session also installs to active service those who have been previously ordained: deacon Ann Reed, and elder Janet Marventano.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

(Addressed to those who are to be ordained and/or installed.)

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

I do.

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

I do.

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

I do and I will.

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

I will.

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

I will.

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

I will.

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

I do.

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

I will.

TO DEACONS

Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I will.

TO ELDERS

Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I will.

TO MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church, accept CINDY FREEMAN, JANET MARVENTANO, ANN REED, JANICE STEVER AND MARK SUNDMAN as deacons and elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

Will those who have been previously ordained and installed as deacons and elders please stand to participate in the laying on of hands during the Prayer of Ordination.

PRAYER OF ORDINATION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for your steadfast faithfulness to us. In every age you have called forth leaders to serve you and equipped them with your gifts. Among your people Israel, you anointed prophets, priests and rulers. You called pastors and teachers, bishops, elders, and deacons to build up your church.

With Moses, the seventy elders bore the burdens of your people, ministering in the power of your Spirit

Alongside the apostles, deacons cared for all in need and guarded the community's peace.

In the church, deacons, elders, and pastors serve together, so that your whole people might be equipped for ministry and built up into the full unity of Christ.

For your servants in every age, O God, and for the church of Jesus Christ, we give you thanks and praise.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your servants whom you called through baptism as your own and marked as your own. Grant them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. Give them a spirit of truthfulness that they may show the compassion of Christ in the actions of daily living and rightly govern your people.

Give them the gifts of your Holy Spirit to build up the church, to strengthen the common life of your people, and to lead with compassion and vision. In the walk of faith and for the work of ministry, give to your servants gladness and strength, discipline and hope, humility, humor, and courage, and an abiding sense of your presence.

The laying on of hands is concluded.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit of power and truth upon the whole church that we may be for you a holy people, baptized to serve you in the world. Sustain this congregation in ministry. Ground us in the gospel, secure our hope in Christ, strengthen our service to the outcast, and increase our love for one another. Show us the transforming power of your grace in our life together, that we may be servants of the gospel, offering a compelling witness in the world to the good news of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For Sarah – Janice Stevers’ daughter who continues to have digestive issues and has lost a lot of weight.

For Linda Cummings’ husband who may be facing surgery for mesh that is protruding.

For Dirk, a dear friend of Linda Cummings’ daughter who is in Las Vegas and has a blood clot in his leg and a brain bleed.

For Cindy Freeman’s mother who has been moved to a special memory care facility.

For Rev. Marie’s sister Debra who will have surgery to remove her thyroid on December 4.

For Barb Young who is awaiting surgery to have a cancerous polyp removed from her colon.

For Jennifer Wilson as she journeys through the grief of her mother Carolyn’s death and life transitions of seeking a new apartment and a new job.

JOYS

For Joshua, a friend of Mark Sundman’s son, who has finally been able to purchase a house after many years of trying to do so.

For Rev. Marie’s seminary friend, Brian, who was in ICU with Covid. He has now been moved to a rehab facility and may be able to go home next week.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY, I HAVE HEARD MY PEOPLE CRY.
ALL WHO DWELL IN DARK AND SIN MY HAND WILL SAVE.

I WHO MADE THE STARS OF NIGHT, I WILL MAKE THEIR DARKNESS BRIGHT.
WHO WILL BEAR MY LIGHT TO THEM? WHOM SHALL I SEND?

HERE I AM LORD. IS IT I, LORD?
I HAVE HEARD YOU CALLING IN THE NIGHT.

I WILL GO LORD, IF YOU LEAD ME.
I WILL HOLD YOUR PEOPLE IN MY HEART.

CHARGE

Go out into the world in peace.

Have courage!

Hold fast to what is good. Return no one evil for evil.

Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering.

Honor all people.

Love and serve the Lord your God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

BENEDICTION

The GRACE of the Lord Jesus Christ,

The LOVE of God

And the FELLOWSHIP of the Holy Spirit be with you now
and abide with you always. Amen.

***CHIMES AND POSTLUDE**

MORNING PRAYER

I give thanks for the gift of life this day and for the privilege of loving you by serving others. Give me an opportunity to grow in right relationship with you by promoting justice in the world today through my life, my choices, and my witness. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

It is evening, and it is time to sleep. Throughout this day I have endeavored to serve you by making a difference in the world. Thank you for all caregivers and workers who devote themselves tonight to the well-being of so many. Help me to rest in peace this night and rise tomorrow ready to serve your justice. Amen.