



## 2021 CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY WORSHIP SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING & ORDINATION

SUNDAY JUNE 13 2021 | 10:30 AM  
Expo Center Springfield Missouri

**PLEASE SILENCE ALL MOBILE PHONES**

### THE ORDAINED DEACON IN FULL CONNECTION

These persons are called by God to a lifetime ministry of Word, Service, Compassion and Justice. These persons lead the church in relating the life of Christians to their ministries in the world, interrelating worship in the gathered community and service to God.

### THE ORDAINED ELDER IN FULL CONNECTION

These persons are called to a lifetime ministry of Service, Word, Sacrament and Order. Servanthood is expressed by leading worship and prayer, administering sacraments, exercising pastoral supervision and leading the Church in mission to the world.

### PROVISIONAL DEACONS AND ELDERS

The United Methodist Church requires a provisional period of at least two years before ordination. These commissioned persons will serve under appointment by the bishop and learn and grow as residents in ministry in preparation for Ordination.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBER

These persons have served at least four years as a licensed local pastor, have completed course of study or masters of divinity, and are now recognized as associate members to serve as full clergy in the itinerant ministry of the Church under appointment by the bishop.

### BAPTISM

The water basins and pitcher represent baptism where we are born anew by Christ's grace and incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation.

### SYMBOLS

Signs and instruments convey the identity and work of each order.

### DEACONS

The stole is placed over the left shoulder and fastened under the right arm. The instruments are the towel, pitcher and basin.

### ELDERS

The stole is yoked at the back of the neck, hanging straight down from the shoulders. The instruments are the paten and the chalice.

 Please stand in body or in spirit where noted



## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

### GATHERING MUSIC

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Shepherd of our Souls,  
We're gathered today  
To worship your name,  
To discern your voice,  
To answer your call,  
To give you our all:  
Mind, body, and soul  
Wholly yours,  
Fully integrated,  
All in.

#### ENTRANCE OF THE CANDIDATES

##### PROCESSIONAL SONG

##### EPISCOPAL GREETING & PRAYER | Bishop Robert Farr | Missouri Episcopal Area

#### THE BISHOP GREETS THE PEOPLE AND THEY RESPOND

The grace of our Lord 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.

Please be seated.

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 & REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

God reminds us we are God's through the gift of water and Spirit

## THE BISHOP, STANDING NEAR THE BAPTISMAL FONT BEGINS

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:

## THE BISHOP SCOOPS WATER FROM THE FONT AND SAYS

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

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

## PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Conference Lay Leader  
Representative of the Board of Ordained Ministry  
Representative of the Fellowship of Licensed Local Pastors  
Representative of the Order of Deacons  
Representative of the Order of Elders

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

With our prayers and support we present, this person to be received as an associate member:

**Teresa DeWitt**

These persons to be commissioned as provisional deacons:

**Mona Candea | Rhonda Galbraith | Jamil Hendricks**

These persons to be commissioned as provisional elders:

**Paul Klepees | S. Jewell S. McGhee | Danielle Quinn | Keyarae Yi**

This person to be ordained as a deacon:

**Craig Stevenson**

These persons to be ordained elders:

**Britton Lee Fields | R. Scott Griffin | Jess Horsley | Kayla Kelly | Amie Littrell  
Daniel Lybarger | Jose Marino Chacon Mayorga | Rebecca Lynn Mulford  
Christopher Joseph Sams | Nicholas John Van Dam | Jeffrey Robert Williams  
Tracey L Wolff**





## AFTER ALL THE CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN PRESENTED, THE CANDIDATES REMAIN STANDING, AND THE BISHOP SAYS

These persons are by God's grace to be recognized, commissioned, or ordained to 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 the ordination or recognition of these persons.

Do you trust that they are worthy, by God's grace, to be ordained, commissioned, or recognized?

**We do! Thanks be to God!**

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

**With God's help, we will!**

## PROCLAMATION

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

## WORSHIP SONG

### NEW TESTAMENT READING | John 10:1-10 NRSV

The Word of God for the people of God,  
**Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON | Rev. David Gilmore

Heartland District Superintendent | The Missouri Conference



Rev. David  
Gilmore

Rev. David Gilmore serves as the Heartland District Superintendent. Prior to his current appointment, he served as Director of Congregational Development for the New York Conference. While there, Gilmore started or prepared to start eight new churches in several different ministry contexts and recruited experience pastors to serve in Hispanic churches and young pastors from seminaries. His service in the Missouri Conference includes senior pastor at three different historically black churches in Kansas City: Swope Park, St. Andrew and Centennial United Methodist churches. Following high school, Gilmore enlisted in the Navy and served a 20-year career, with duty stations in Florida and Rhode Island.

# RESPONDING IN LOVE

The Holy Spirit moves among us and we respond with generosity



## THE APOSTLES' CREED

Ecumenical Version

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

## OFFERING

Missouri Migrant and Refugee Support

Part of living abundantly means sharing God's gifts with others, including Missouri's migrant and seasonal farmworkers and refugees resettled within our state. Monies given during this offering will be shared among two Methodist-heritage agencies supporting the work of refugee and migrant communities, Della Lamb and LifeWise STL, and with the Migrant Farmworkers Assistance Fund.

## DOXOLOGY

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*UNIVERSAL



## GENERAL EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES

The Spirit acts to maintain the priority of the gospel by setting apart women and men called to apostolic leadership

**ALL ARE SEATED EXCEPT THE CANDIDATES AND THE BISHOP,  
WHO STAND FACING ONE ANOTHER**

### THE BISHOP EXAMINES THE CANDIDATES

Brothers and sisters in Christ, this is a solemn hour in your life and the life of the church. You have shared in the ministry of all the baptized and have witnessed to Christ's call to leadership among the people of God. Serving among us as faithful disciples, you have shown gifts and graces for leading the people of God in living and proclaiming the gospel to all people.

Do you believe that you are called to the work of leadership and service among the people of God?  
**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 give yourself fully to the work of God in the world in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship and service under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day?  
**I will, with the help of God.**

Will you be faithful 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.**



## THE BISHOP ADDRESSES THE CANDIDATES

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.

All audibly affirm the action, saying, **Amen.**

## RECEIVING ASSOCIATE MEMBER

**Committed to serving God without reservation**

Associate members of an annual conference are in the itinerant ministry of the church and are available on a continuing basis for appointment by the bishop. They offer themselves without reserve to be appointed.

I present: **Teresa DeWitt**

## THE BISHOP ADDRESSES THE CANDIDATE

Will you continue to perform your duties as an associate member as faithfully as you are able, the Lord being your helper?

**I will.**

## THE BISHOP FACES THE PEOPLE

Will you the people of God celebrate and affirm this person in her ministry?

**We will.**

**Teresa DeWitt**, after fulfillment of all of the requirements and after due examination of your call and ministry, we now welcome you as an associate member of this annual conference. You have given assurance of your faith and Christian experience. You have committed yourself to uphold faithfully The United Methodist Church and to the work of a pastor under appointment of the bishop. We rejoice that you have been called to serve among us, and pray that God may guide your ministry.

## EXTENDING ARMS OVER CANDIDATES THE BISHOP PRAYS

Almighty God, thank you for your continued presence in her ministries. Strengthen her for the tasks which lie ahead; that in all her works begun, continued, and ended in you, she may glorify your holy name, and advance the coming of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Teresa DeWitt**, in the name of the Missouri Annual Conference we now recognize you as an associate member.



Teresa  
DeWitt



# COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS FOR SERVICE

Guided by the Holy Spirit to lead and serve

## INTRODUCTION

*The chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry introduces the act of commissioning, using these words:*

Throughout Christian history, the church has commissioned people for leadership and service. This commissioning is always a response to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, who calls and sends women and men to share in Christ's ministry. In the early church in Antioch, the Holy Spirit instructed the community to "set apart... Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them" (Acts 13:2).

In the early stages of such ministerial service, ordained leaders walk with commissioned leaders to mentor and form them in Christ's ministry, just as Ananias, the more seasoned leader, guided Paul, the newly called evangelist, toward the fullness of his calling (Acts 9).

We gather here to commission men and women for ministry in the church.

## 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 brothers 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. Today we commission them to service as they continue to prepare for ordained ministry among us.

## PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING

*The Bishop, extending arms over all of the candidates, prays:*

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.





*The Bishop, laying both hands upon each candidate as they kneel, prays:*

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.

All audibly affirm the action, saying, **Amen**.

## PRAYER

After all the candidates have been commissioned, the Bishop says: Let us pray.

**Almighty God, may the grace of ministry rest upon these your servants and may the opportunity to serve lead them into the fullness of your calling. Clothe them with your righteousness, and grant that they may glorify you by giving themselves to others, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**



Mona  
Candea



Rhonda  
Galbraith



Jamil  
Hendricks



Paul  
Klepees



S. Jewell  
S. McGhee



Danielle  
Quinn



Keyarae  
Yi



## A WESLEYAN APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

We trace the link from John Wesley to those ordained today

## ORDINATION OF A DEACON

Called to a lifetime ministry of Word, Service, Compassion and Justice

*Deacon and Bishop stand facing each other*

### THE BISHOP EXAMINES THE DEACON CANDIDATE

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, to lead in worship, to teach and proclaim God's Word, to assist elders and local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, 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. These are the duties 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.**

### PRAYER FOR THE DEACON

#### THE BISHOP FACING THE DEACON CALLS THE PEOPLE TO PRAYER

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 PEOPLE PRAY IN SILENCE

#### THE BISHOP PRAYS

We thank you, Lord 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 discipleship, and always ready for the 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. Amen.

*All in the congregation audibly affirm the action, saying, **Amen.***

## LAYING ON OF HANDS

*Representative witnesses chosen by the ordinand stand behind the ordinand. Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for the ordinand. Those joining online are encouraged to offer a note of thanksgiving in the comments. The bishop lays both hands on the head of the ordinand, praying:*

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

Immediately the candidate places hands on a Bible as the bishop lays hands on the hands of the candidate and says:

[ **Name** ], take authority as a deacon to proclaim the Word of God, and to lead God's people to serve in the world, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*All in the congregation audibly affirm the action, saying, **Amen**.*



Craig  
Stevenson





## ORDINATION OF ELDERS

Called to a lifetime ministry of Service, Word, Sacrament and Order

### A WESLEYAN APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

We trace the link from John Wesley to those ordained today.

### THE CANDIDATES AND THE BISHOP STAND FACING ONE ANOTHER

#### THE BISHOP EXAMINES THE CANDIDATES

An elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole church: to preach and teach the Word of God, and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; 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. These are the duties 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.**

### PRAYER FOR ELDERS

#### THE BISHOP FACING THE ELDERS CALLS THE PEOPLE TO PRAYER

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 PEOPLE PRAY FOR THEM IN SILENCE

#### THE BISHOP PRAYS

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. Amen.

## LAYING ON OF HANDS

*Representatives from the laity, the ecumenical church, 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 stand where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for each ordinand.*

*The bishop lays both hands on the head of each ordinand, praying:*

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

*Immediately the candidate places hands on a Bible as the bishop lays hands on the hands of the candidate and says:*

**[ 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.



Britton Lee  
Fields



R. Scott  
Griffin



Jess  
Horsley



Kayla  
Kelly



Amie  
Littrell



Daniel  
Lybarger



Jose Marino  
Chacon Mayorga



Rebecca Lynn  
Mulford



Christopher  
Joseph Sams



Nicholas John  
Van Dam



Jeffrey Robert  
Williams



Tracey L  
Wolff



## SENDING

### God equips us and sends us in mission to the world

By the mysterious power of the Holy Spirit we are all called and sent. You are invited to a time of discernment and listening for God's renewed call on your life as we worship together.

### THE INVITATION TO DISCERNING PRAYER | Bishop Robert Farr

### CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

*At this time, we invite those who feel that God is calling them into discipleship and vocational discernment to make their way to the front of the stage for a prayer of dedication. If you are participating virtually and you're wondering about an invitation from God toward ministry as a pastor, please speak to your pastor.*

### PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

### BLESSING | THE BISHOP BLESSES THE PEOPLE

May the Good Shepherd continue to call us by name, anoint us for faithful service, restore our mind, body, and soul, and guide us to wholeness, healing, and abundant life. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

### CLOSING SONG

### POSTLUDE



## EQUIPPING FUTURE LEADERS

### Reaching out to those called to lead us forward

Today we celebrate God's call and the faithful responses of these persons who are being set apart for leadership through the sacred act of ordination. They bring new gifts and fresh passion to the ministry of the church. One of the ways you can assure leadership for the future is to see that your church fully supports The Ministerial Education Fund. The MEF supports the 13 United Methodist seminaries and provides scholarship support for students from our conference. Through the MEF, you can make a difference in the lives of ordinands such as these, and you can assist in raising up a new generation of ordained deacons and elders for the church.

For more information on exploring a call to ministry through internships, please visit [moumethodist.org/internships](http://moumethodist.org/internships).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### 2021 Missouri Annual Conference Extended Sessions Team

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Karen Shearer | Head Clergy Teller  
Charlene Dart | Head Clergy Usher  
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## THEMATIC JUSTIFICATION

### 2021 Missouri Annual Conference

The theme for this series is ABUNDANT. John 10:10 says, “I came to give life with joy and abundance.” Through our shared ministry, we seek to encourage wholeness and health of mind, body and spirit. This series helps to support the United Methodist Church’s initiative to improve global health.

The “Trinity Knot” symbol informs our understanding of God as three-in-one, and it also provides us with a template for seeing God as an active participant in every facet of our being.

- The wisdom of God provides us with the MIND to comprehend life beyond our human condition.
- The BODY of Christ has set the example for every disciple to live as the hands and feet of his ministry.
- The Holy SPIRIT has come to walk with us as the continued presence of God, which strengthens our resolve.

Each of the colors in the Trinity Knot are symbolic. Green is the color of growth and represents our ongoing transformation. Purple is the color of penitence and symbolizes John Wesley’s core term “Conviction of Sin,” which is a recognition that we are out of harmony with the will of God. Red is the color of life, symbolizing the Holy Spirit.

Mental, physical and emotional health play an interconnected role in our personal quality of life and in our ability to impact the mission for which we have been called. We must allow God to become a vital and integral part of maintaining every component of our health so that we can truly live life with joy and abundance.