

ORDINATION SERVICES

from the Methodist Worship Book

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Many sources have contributed to the compilation of this book, and not all of them are now traceable. Individual members of the Committee prepared drafts, which were revised more or less drastically by the Committee, often resulting in final versions which looked little like the original drafts. Among the casualties of this sometimes protracted process was the identity of many of the sources; they could not be recalled, nor did there seem to be any way to track them down. The Panel wishes to record at once both its indebtedness to any who may recognise in this book rhythms and patterns, expressions and phrases, ideas and images which are their own, and its regret that it became impossible to ask permission or seek consent for their inclusion...

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The texts of the Nicene Creed, *Sursum Corda*, *Sanctus*, *Benedictus Qui Venit*, *Agnus Dei*, *Gloria Patri*, *Te Deum Laudamus*, *Benedictus* and the left hand column version of the Lord's Prayer are from **Praying Together**, © 1988 by the English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC).

ORDINATION SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

All Christians are called through their Baptism and by the hearing of God's word to ministry and service among the whole people of God and in the life of the world. Some are called and ordained to specific ministries. The Methodist Church has received and transmitted two orders of ministry, the presbyteral and the diaconal.

Presbyters derive their origin from the presbyter/bishops of New Testament times. The development of the form in which the Methodist Church has received this office was influenced by the vocation and work of John and Charles Wesley, who were themselves presbyters in the Church of England. As the work of God progressed among the Methodist people, some of the preachers who were not already presbyters in the Church of England were ordained to celebrate the sacraments, to preach the word and to care for God's people.

More recently, the Methodist Church has recognised that it has received the diaconal order of ministry. Further, the Methodist Diaconal Order has developed from the Wesley Deaconess Order into a religious order for both women and men. Deacons are ordained to a ministry of witness and service and pastoral care and seek to equip God's people for witness and service in the world. In the Methodist Church, diaconal ministry is an office in its own right rather than a step toward the office of presbyter. For both presbyters and deacons, ordination is to a permanent lifelong office of ministry.

At all Methodist ordinations, the President of the Conference or the President's deputy presides. Ordination is by prayer and the laying on of hands and takes place within the context of Holy Communion. The ordination prayer (no. 16 in each service) is in three parts. The first and third parts are said only once, but the

second part, which accompanies the laying on of hands, is repeated for each ordinand, as God is asked to send the Holy Spirit upon the ordinand for the office and work of a presbyter or deacon.

In common with other churches, in the ordination of presbyters and deacons, the Methodist Church intends to ordain, not to a denomination, but to the presbyterate and the diaconate in the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. It looks for the day when, in communion with the whole Church, such ministries are recognized and exercised in common.

THE ORDINATION OF PRESBYTERS

NOTE

When, in accordance with Standing Orders, *a candidate is* to be ordained before being received into Full Connexion, the words spoken at no. 11 are amended appropriately.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

- 1 Silence
- 2 All stand as those who are leading worship enter the church.

The President says:

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
and his mercy endures for ever.

I welcome you all on this joyful occasion and greet you in the name of God.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

- 3 This or some other hymn:

The Saviour, when to heaven he rose

- 4 All sit. The President says:

Let us pray.

Silence

God of all grace,
you call your Church to be a holy people
to the praise of your name.
In the power of your Spirit,
fill our hearts with your love
and our lives with your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

- 5 Old Testament reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

- 6 Epistle: Romans 12:1-18

- 7 This or some other hymn:

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim

- 8 All remain standing.

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

Hear the Gospel of Christ.

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

The Gospel, John 20:19-29, is read.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

- 9 All sit.

Sermon

10 The Nicene Creed

All stand.

Let us profess the faith of the Church.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who 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 ORDINATION

THE PRESENTATION

11 All sit.

The Secretary presents the candidates to the President.

Madam/Mr President, I present to you these persons to be ordained presbyters. The Conference has received them into Full Connexion and resolved that they be ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands.

The Secretary reads the names of those to be ordained. Each candidate rises as her/his name is called, and remains standing.

12 The people stand and the President says:

Sisters and brothers in Christ, these are the persons whom we intend, in God's name, to ordain to the Ministry of Christ's holy Church in the Order of Presbyters.

Their call has been tested in preparation for this ministry and they have been found to be of sound learning and faithful to their vocation.

We ask you to declare your assent to their ordination.

Do you believe and trust that they are, by God's grace, worthy to be ordained?

The people acclaim:

They are worthy.

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

The people answer:

We will uphold them.

THE EXAMINATION

- 13 The people sit. The ordinands remain standing and the President says to them:

Beloved in Christ, the Church is God's holy people, the Body of Christ, the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.

All who are received into the Church by Baptism are called to proclaim the mighty acts of God in Jesus Christ our Saviour, and to serve him in the Church and in the world.

God has called you into the Order of Presbyters among his people.

In his name you are

to preach by word and deed the Gospel of God's grace;
to declare God's forgiveness of sins to all who are penitent;
to baptize, to confirm
and to preside at the celebration of the sacrament of Christ's body and blood;
to lead God's people in worship, prayer and service;
to minister Christ's love and compassion;
to serve others, in whom you serve the Lord himself.

These things are your common duty and delight.

In them you are to watch over one another in love.

In all things, give counsel and encouragement to those whom Christ entrusts to your care.

Pray without ceasing.

Work with joy in the Lord's service.

Let no one suffer hurt through your neglect.

This ministry will make great demands upon you and upon those close to you, yet in all this, the Holy Spirit will sustain you by his grace.

I now ask you to declare your lifelong commitment to this ministry:

Do you believe that God has called you to be a Minister of the Word and Sacraments in the universal Church?

Answer: I do.

Do you accept the Holy Scriptures as revealing all things necessary for salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord?

Answer: I do.

Do you believe the doctrines of the Christian faith as this Church has received them?

Answer: I do.

Will you accept our discipline, and work together with your sisters and brothers in the Church?

Answer: I will.

Will you be faithful in worship, in prayer, in the reading of the Holy Scriptures, and in those studies which will equip you for your ministry?

Answer: I will.

May God who has called you to this ministry give you grace and power to do his will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE LITANY

14 **The ordinands sit.**

Let us pray.

All pray in silence.

On the peoples of the world
and the leaders of the nations, gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

On your holy Church throughout the world,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

On all whom you have called to be ordained,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

On all whom they serve in their ministry,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

On their families and friends
and all who have helped and encouraged them,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

Remember, O Lord, what you have wrought in us,
and not what we deserve;
and as you have called us to your service,
make us worthy of our calling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE ORDINATION

15 Hymn

**Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire;
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart:**

**Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love;
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight:**

**Anoint and cheer our soiled face
With the abundance of thy grace;
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where thou art guide no ill can come.**

**Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, of both, to be but One;
That through the ages all along
This may be our endless song:**

**'Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.'**

16 The people sit. The ordinands kneel and the President, standing, says:

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.
You are the light and life of your people in every age,
calling us to declare your acts of mercy and love.

You sent your Son Jesus Christ
to be our Saviour.
He called the apostles
to witness to his words and deeds,
his life, death and resurrection.
Through him you have made your Church
a royal priesthood for the glory of your name.
In the power of the Holy Spirit
you strengthen and shepherd your people,
by sending apostles and prophets,
pastors, evangelists and teachers,
in a succession of truth and grace.

By the same Spirit
you have called these your servants
to be Ministers in your Church.

Increase in them the gifts of your grace
for their life and ministry.

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The prayer continues as the President lays her/his hands upon the head of each ordinand in turn, other ministers also laying their right hands on the ordinand.

The President says over each one:

Father, send the Holy Spirit upon N for the office and work of a Presbyter in your Church.

Each time the President says these words, all answer:

Amen.

When hands have been laid on all of them, the President continues:

Gracious God,
as you call and ordain these your servants to this ministry,
we ask you to fulfil in them the work you have begun.

Grant them unfailing love for those people among whom
you appoint them as pastors and teachers.

May they boldly proclaim your truth
and faithfully celebrate your sacraments.

Give them wisdom and patience
in their witness and service.
Sustain and strengthen them at all times,
giving faith and perseverance to all who believe in you
through their word.

May they be counted worthy at the last
to enter into the joy of their Lord.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

17 **The Lord's Prayer**

EITHER

We say together the prayer
that Jesus gave us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily
bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who
sin against us.
Save us from the time of
trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory
are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

OR

As our Saviour taught his
disciples, we pray:

**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 GIVING OF THE BIBLE

18 **The newly-ordained Ministers stand.**

The Vice-President presents a Bible to each of them, saying:

**N, receive this Bible
as a sign of the authority committed to you this day
to preach the word of God
and to celebrate the sacraments.**

THE DECLARATION

19 All stand. The President says:

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ I declare that you have been ordained as Presbyters of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church of Christ.

Remember your call.

Declare the Good News.

Celebrate the sacraments.

Serve the needy.

Minister to the sick.

Welcome the stranger.

Seek the lost.

Be shepherds to the flock of Christ.

As you exercise mercy, do not forget justice;

as you minister discipline, do not forget mercy;

that when Christ the Chief Shepherd comes in glory

he may count you among his faithful servants.

To God be the glory for ever. Amen.

20 The people may welcome the newly-ordained Ministers with applause.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

21 The Peace

All stand. The President says:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another in the name of Christ.

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

22 This or some other hymn:

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

23 Bread and wine are brought to the table (or if already on the table are uncovered). The President takes the bread and wine and prepares them for use.

THE THANKSGIVING

24 All stand.

The President leads the great prayer of thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Lord our God, gracious and holy,
your power sustains all creation.

In love you create all things
and in mercy you redeem them.

From age to age you gather a people to serve you,
to proclaim your glory
and to reveal your presence in all the world.

In the fullness of time
you sent your Son, Jesus Christ,
the true Shepherd of your people;
in him we see your face and hear your word.
In compassion he restored us and made us whole,
laying down his life upon the cross
and freely offering himself for all.
You did not leave him in death
but raised him by your mighty power
to make all things new.

Through him you sent the Holy Spirit,
to lead your people into all truth,
calling from among us pastors and preachers
and teachers of your word.
With them and all your people on earth and in heaven
we join the ceaseless song of praise:

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

Father, we give you praise
as we call to mind
how, at supper with his disciples,
your Son Jesus Christ took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying,
'Take this, all of you, and eat it.
This is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup.
He gave you thanks and gave it to them, saying,
'Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant,
shed for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

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

Therefore, recalling Christ's offering of himself
and celebrating this feast of our redemption,
we offer ourselves to you
through Christ our great High Priest.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us the body and blood of Christ.

Remember, Lord, your Church throughout the world.
Send your Spirit upon us;
gather us into unity,
strengthen our faith
and sustain our hope.

Bring us, with all who place their hope in you,
to the promised feast in your kingdom,
where for ever we may offer you our praise,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,

**through whom, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

- 25 The President breaks the bread in the sight of the people in silence, or saying:

Christ is the true bread from heaven.
Christ gives life to the world.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

- 26 All sit. The President, those assisting with the distribution, and the people receive.

The President may say these or other words of invitation:

Christ welcomes you to his table.
Draw near with faith.

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- 27 Words such as the following are said during the distribution.

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

- 28 During the distribution there may be appropriate music.

- 29 The President covers what remains of the elements with a white cloth.

THE FINAL PRAYERS

- 30 Silence

- 31 Let us pray.

**Lord our God,
strengthen the hands
that have received these holy gifts,
that we may faithfully serve you all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

- 32 This or some other hymn:

O thou who camest from above

- 33 All remain standing. The President says:

The almighty God bless *you/us*,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

- 34 The President says:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

1 Silence

2 All stand as those who are leading worship enter the church.

The President says:

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
and his mercy endures for ever.

I welcome you all on this joyful occasion and greet you in
the name of God.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.

3 This or some other hymn:

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim

4 All sit. The President says:

Let us pray.

Silence

God of all grace,
you call your Church to be a holy people
to the praise of your name.
In the power of your Spirit,
fill our hearts with your love
and our lives with your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

5 Old Testament reading: Isaiah 61:1-4

6 Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:27 - 13:13

7 This or some other hymn:

Lord God, your love has called us here

8 All remain standing.

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

Hear the Gospel of Christ.

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

The Gospel, John 13:1-20, is read.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

9 All sit.

Sermon

10 The Nicene Creed

All stand.

Let us profess the faith of the Church.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who 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 ORDINATION

THE PRESENTATION

- 11 All sit. The Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order presents the candidates to the President.

Madam/Mr President, I present to you these persons to be ordained deacons. The Conference has received them into Full Connexion and resolved that they be ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands.

ORDINATION SERVICES

The Warden reads the names of those to be ordained. Each candidate rises as her/his name is called, and remains standing.

12 The people stand and the President says:

Sisters and brothers in Christ, these are the persons whom we intend, in God's name, to ordain to the Ministry of Christ's holy Church in the Order of Deacons.

Their call has been tested in preparation for this ministry and they have been found to be of sound learning and faithful to their vocation.

We ask you to declare your assent to their ordination.

Do you believe and trust that they are, by God's grace, worthy to be ordained?

The people acclaim:

They are worthy.

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

The people answer:

We will uphold them.

THE EXAMINATION

The people sit. The ordinands remain standing and the President says to them:

Beloved in Christ, the Church is God's holy people, the Body of Christ, the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.

All who are received into the Church by Baptism are called to proclaim the mighty acts of God in Jesus Christ our Saviour, and to serve him in the Church and in the world.

God has called you into the Order of Deacons among his people.

In his name you are

to assist God's people in worship and prayer;
to hold before them the needs and concerns of the world;
to minister Christ's love and compassion;
to visit and support the sick and the suffering;
to seek out the lost and the lonely;
and to help those you serve to offer their lives to God.

Fulfil your calling as disciples of Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve.

In all things, give counsel and encouragement to all whom Christ entrusts to your care.

Pray without ceasing.

Work with joy in the Lord's service.

Let no one suffer hurt through your neglect.

This ministry will make great demands upon you and upon those close to you, yet in all this, the Holy Spirit will sustain you by his grace.

I now ask you to declare your lifelong commitment to this ministry:

Do you believe that God has called you to be a Deacon in the universal Church?

Answer: I do.

Do you accept the Holy Scriptures as revealing all things necessary for salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord?

Answer: I do.

Do you believe the doctrines of the Christian faith as this Church has received them?

Answer: I do.

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Will you accept our discipline, and work together with your sisters and brothers in the Church?

Answer: I will.

Will you be faithful in worship, in prayer, in the reading of the Holy Scriptures and in those studies which will equip you for your ministry?

Answer: I will.

May God who has called you to this ministry give you grace and power to do his will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE LITANY

14 **The ordinands sit.**

Let us pray.

All pray in silence.

The Warden of the Order leads the following litany:

On the peoples of the world
and the leaders of the nations,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

On your holy Church throughout the world,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

On all whom you have called to be ordained,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

On all whom they serve in their ministry,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

On their families and friends
and all who have helped and encouraged them,
gracious God,
pour out your Spirit.

Remember, O Lord, what you have wrought in us,
and not what we deserve;
and as you have called us to your service,
make us worthy of our calling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE ORDINATION

15 Hymn

**Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire;
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart:**

**Thy blessèd unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love;
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight:**

**Anoint and cheer our soilèd face
With the abundance of thy grace;
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where thou art guide no ill can come.**

**Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, of both, to be but One;
That through the ages all along
This may be our endless song:**

**'Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.'**

- 16 The people sit. The ordinands kneel and the President, standing, says:

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise;
by your mighty power
you create all things in heaven and on earth for your glory.
In every age you gather your people
to obey your commands
and proclaim the greatness of your name.
You send messengers to recall them to your service,
reminding them of your love and faithfulness.

At the appointed time you sent your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
who lived among us, full of grace and truth.

Revealing your tender mercy
he healed and restored the sick
and comforted the broken and the lost.
In humility he washed the feet of his disciples,
calling us to follow his example as one who serves.

He suffered and died for us upon the cross,
bearing our sorrows and forgiving our sins.
By your mighty power
he broke the bonds of death and lives for ever,
calling us to serve you to the glory of your name.

Through him you sent your Spirit of truth and love
to guide and strengthen us.

By the same Spirit
you have called these your servants
to be Deacons in your Church.

Increase in them the gifts of your grace
for their life and ministry.

The prayer continues as the President lays her/his hands upon the head of each ordinand in turn. A deacon also lays her/his right hand on the ordinand.

The President says over each one:

Father, send the Holy Spirit upon *N* for the office and work of a Deacon in your Church.

Each time the President says these words, all answer:

Amen.

When hands have been laid on all of them, the President continues:

Gracious God,
as you call and ordain these your servants to this ministry,
we ask you to fulfil in them the work you have begun.

Give them wisdom and patience in their witness and service,
and unfailing love for those whom they serve.

May their lives reflect your glory
that they may be faithful examples to your people.

Guide and uphold them at all times
that with those whom they serve
they may rejoice in their ministry.

May they be counted worthy at the last
to enter into the joy of their Lord.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

17 The Lord's Prayer

EITHER

We say together the prayer
that Jesus gave us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily
bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who
sin against us.
Save us from the time of
trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory
are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

OR

As our Saviour taught his
disciples, we pray:

**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 GIVING OF THE BIBLE AND THE BADGE

18 The newly-ordained Deacons stand.

The Vice-President of the Conference presents a Bible to each
of them, saying:

N, receive this Bible
as a sign of the ministry committed to you this day,
and witness to the Gospel by word and deed
in the Church and in the world.

19 *[deleted]*

THE DECLARATION

20 All stand. The President says:

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ I declare that you have been ordained as Deacons of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church of Christ.

You are to share fully in the life of your Order and to keep its discipline.

Remember your call.

Support the weak.

Bind up the broken.

Gather in the outcast.

Welcome the stranger.

Seek the lost.

So minister care that you make glad those whom you help in their need.

Let the concerns and sorrows of others be as your own.

May Christ your Master, when he comes in glory, count you among his faithful servants.

To God be the glory for ever. Amen.

21 The people may welcome the newly-ordained Deacons with applause.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

22 The Peace

All stand. The President says:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another in the name of Christ.

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

23 This or some other hymn:

The Son of God proclaim

24 Bread and wine are brought to the table (or if already on the table are uncovered). The President takes the bread and wine and prepares them for use.

THE THANKSGIVING

25 All stand.

The President leads the great prayer of thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Lord our God,
your love and grace fill everything you have made.
In time and eternity your praise resounds
through earth and heaven.

From age to age you gather a people to serve you,
to proclaim your glory
and to reveal your presence in all the world.

In humility you came among us in Jesus Christ,
who brought the good news of the kingdom,
restoring the sick to health and the dead to life.

Taking the form of a servant,
he suffered and became obedient to death upon the cross.
You raised him from the dead,
breaking the power of death
and exalting him to your right hand on high.
Through him you sent your Spirit of life and power
into the hearts of the faithful,
filling the Church with your presence.

From among us you call those who serve you
with diverse gifts of ministry,
to build up your people in love.

With them and all your servants on earth and in heaven
we join the ceaseless song of praise:

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

Father, we give you praise
as we call to mind
how, at supper with his disciples,
your Son Jesus Christ took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying,
'Take this, all of you, and eat it.
This is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup.
He gave you thanks and gave it to them, saying,
'Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant,
shed for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Therefore,
recalling Christ's offering of himself
and celebrating this feast of our redemption,
we offer ourselves to you
through Christ our great High Priest.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us the body and blood of Christ.

Remember, Lord, your Church throughout the world.
Send your Spirit upon us;
gather us into unity,
strengthen our faith
and sustain our hope.

Bring us, with all who place their hope in you,
to the promised feast in your kingdom,
where for ever we may offer you our praise,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,

**through whom, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

- 26 The President breaks the bread in the sight of the people in silence, or saying:

Christ is the true bread from heaven.

Christ gives life to the world.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

- 27 All sit. The President, those assisting with the distribution, and the people receive.

The President may say these or other words of invitation:

Christ welcomes you to his table.

Draw near with faith.

- 28 Words such as the following are said during the distribution:

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

- 29 During the distribution there may be appropriate music.

- 30 The President covers what remains of the elements with a white cloth.

THE FINAL PRAYERS

- 31 Silence

- 32 Let us pray.

**Lord our God,
strengthen the hands
that have received these holy gifts,
that we may faithfully serve you all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ORDINATION SERVICES

33 This or some other hymn:

O thou who camest from above

34 All remain standing. The President says:

The almighty God bless *you/us*,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

35 The Warden of the Order says:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.