

AN ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF AN APPOINTMENT



Dear friends, today we welcome Rev. Sallyanne McVay, who has been appointed to serve as our pastor.

We believe that she is well qualified and has been prayerfully appointed by our bishop, Paul Leeland.

Sallyanne, you have been sent to live among us as a bearer of the Word of God; a minister of the Sacraments; and a sustainer of the love, order, service and discipleship of the people of God.

Pastor: Today I reaffirm this commitment in the presence of this congregation.

Leader to congregation: Brothers and sisters in Christ, as a people committed to participate in the ministries of the Church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service, will you who celebrate this new beginning support and uphold Sallyanne in these ministries?

Congregation: **We reaffirm our commitment to support you with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.**

Leader: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger

Congregation: **who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation.**

Let us pray. Eternal God, strengthen and sustain us in our ministries together, with Sallyanne as our pastor. Give her and us patience, courage, and wisdom so to care for one another and challenge one another that together we may follow Jesus Christ, living together in love, and offering our gifts and talents in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, you still call us to go into your service and spread the message of the salvation of your Son. Bless richly, we pray, your servant Sallyanne and her entrance into our fellowship. Fill her with the power of your Holy Spirit and let her find with us an open door for the Word.

We also pray for your church on earth. Equip us all with a spirit of willingness, that we with courage can witness about you by the profession of our mouths and through our way of living. Grant us all to partake in your strength and joy, so that we can enter into the anxiety and suffering of the world, to be radiating and make alive that hope which Christ gives.

All this we dare to pray of you; for you are to us the Father of mercy and the God of all grace; you are the Son, the Savior and the Redeemer; you are the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Helper and the Giver of life. Blessed be you. Amen.

Presentation of symbols of ministry and leadership are presented by the congregation to the new pastor.

Accept this **Bible**, and be among us as one who proclaims the Word. Amen.

Take this **water**, and baptize new Christians in this place. Amen.

Take this **bread and cup**, and keep us in communion with Christ and his Church. Amen.

Take this **towel and basin**, and lead us to be servants of all. Amen.

Take this **plumbline**, and faithfully call us toward ministries of compassion and justice.

Use this **Hymnal** and **Book of Worship** to guide us in our prayer and praise. Amen.

Receive this **Book of Discipline**, and help us keep the covenant that strengthens our connections as United Methodists. Amen.

Receive this **map of the world**, and lead us in our mission to this community and all the world. Amen.

Receive this **stole**, signifying your ordination, and shepherd us as our pastor. Amen.

Then the pastor may take from the Lord's table the stole left by the previous pastor or deacon, put it on, and say:

This yoke has been laid upon me, and I willingly take it upon myself.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Congregation: **Lord God, bless the ministries of your Church. We thank you for the variety of gifts you have bestowed upon us. Draw us together in one Spirit, that each of us may use our differing gifts as members of one body.**

May your Word be proclaimed with faithfulness, and may we be doers of your Word and not hearers only.

As we who have died and risen with Christ in baptism gather at his table and then scatter into the world, may we be one in service to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The pastor may kneel, and the leader and others may lay hands on her head. The congregation may raise their hands and unite in this blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you;

the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

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

Congregation: **And also with you.**



AN ORDER OF FAREWELL TO A PASTOR

I thank you, the members and friends of Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church, for the love and support you have shown me while I have ministered among you.

I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to minister elsewhere.

We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes.

Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave with your departure.

I accept your gratitude and forgiveness, and I forgive you, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

I release you from turning to me and depending on me. I encourage your continuing ministry here and will pray for you and for your new pastor.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting, we give you thanks for cherished memories and commend one another into your care as we move in new directions. Keep us one in your love forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: *Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love.* Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

1. Blest be the dear uniting love that will not let us part; our bodies may far off remove, we still are one in heart.
2. Joined in one spirit to our Head, where he appoints we go, and still in Jesus' footsteps tread, and do his work below.
3. O may we ever walk in him, and nothing know beside, nothing desire, nothing esteem, but Jesus crucified!
4. We all are one who him receive, and each with each agree, in him the One, the Truth, we live; blest point of unity!
5. Partakers of the Savior's grace, the same in mind and heart, nor joy, nor grief, nor time, nor place, nor life, nor death can part.