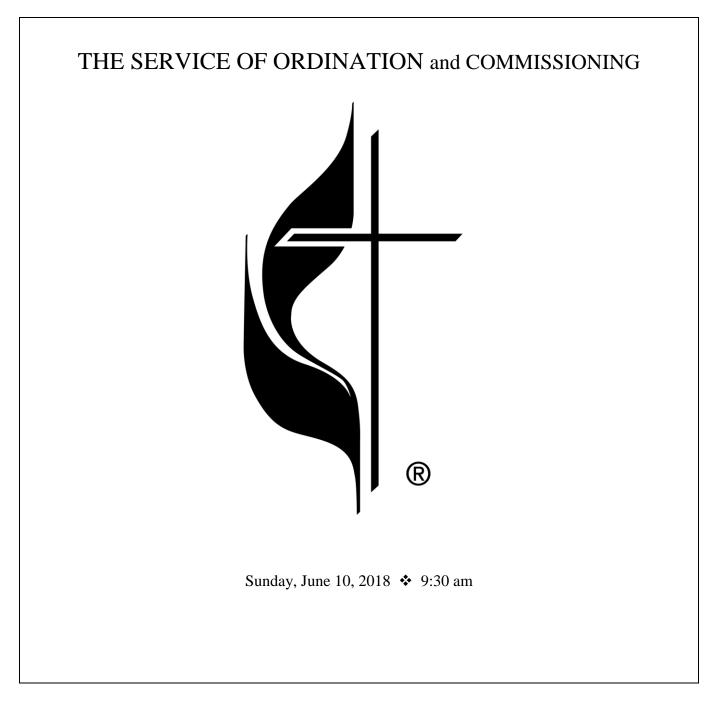


Annual Conference 2018

In the last days, God says, I will pour out my spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. (Acts 2:17)

SERVICE OF ORDINATION and COMMISSIONING

June 10, 2018 West Virginia Wesleyan College Sandra Steiner Ball, Resident Bishop



† signifies that all are invited to rise in body, mind, or spirit

GATHERING MUSIC

Conference Brass Quintet

INTROIT

Celebrate the Day

Pepper Choplin

Words: Fred Pratt Green; Music: Cyril V. Taylor 8 1. God here! As is of we your peo-ple meet to fer life - long 2. Here are sym-bols of to re - mind us our chil-dren 3. Here our find wel-come the Shep - herd's a in 4. Lord of all, of church and king-dom, in an of age 8 and find in praise prayer, may we full mea-sure er need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul-pit; flock and fold; here as bread and wine tak-en, are change and doubt keep us faith - ful to the gos-pel; what it in Christ we share. Here, as is in the world a here the cross has cen-tral place. Here in hon - es of ty Christ sus - tains us, as of old. Here the ser-vants of the help us work your pur-pose out. Here, in this day's ded i d P round us, all our var - ied skills and arts wait the preach-ing, here in si - lence, in speech, here, in as Ser-vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore what it ca-tion, all have we to give, re - ceive; we, who com-ing of the Spir-it in – to o - pen minds and hearts. new-ness and re - new-al, God the Spir-it comes to each. means in dai – ly liv - ing be - lieve and to to a - dore. can-not live with - out you, a - dore you! We be - lieve! we

† GREETING AND PRAYER (responsive)The grace of 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.

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.

The congregation may be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY AND HOLY BAPTISM

The bishop, standing near a baptismal font, shell, or vessel of water, 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 may scoop and pour water from the font, shell, or vessel and say:

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

We remember our baptism and affirm our common ministry.

I present these children for baptism.

Esther Lillian Tennant Augustine Thomas Biondi

Since the earliest times, the vows of Christian baptism have consisted first of the renunciation of all that is evil and then the profession of faith and loyalty to Christ. Parents or other sponsors reaffirm these vows for themselves while taking the responsibilities of sponsorship.

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin? I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? I do.

Will you nurture these children in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life? **I will.**

The bishop addresses the congregation, and the congregation responds:

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these children with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

The Apostles' Creed in threefold question-and-answer form appeared at least as early as the third century as a statement of faith used in baptisms and has been widely used in baptisms ever since. The candidates, sponsors, and local congregation join with the universal Church across the ages in this historic affirmation of the Christian faith. A deacon or bishop addresses all, and the congregation joins the candidates and their parents and sponsors in responding:

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? 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.

* universal

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray. Eternal Father; When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day. In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare Christ's works to the nations, his glory among all the people.

The bishop may place hands in or over the water, stir the water, or lift the water.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and those who receive it, to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives, that, dying and being raised with Christ, they may share in his final victory.

All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

In all services of the baptismal covenant, water should be used generously as a living sign of the abundance of God's grace, cleansing, and life-giving power.

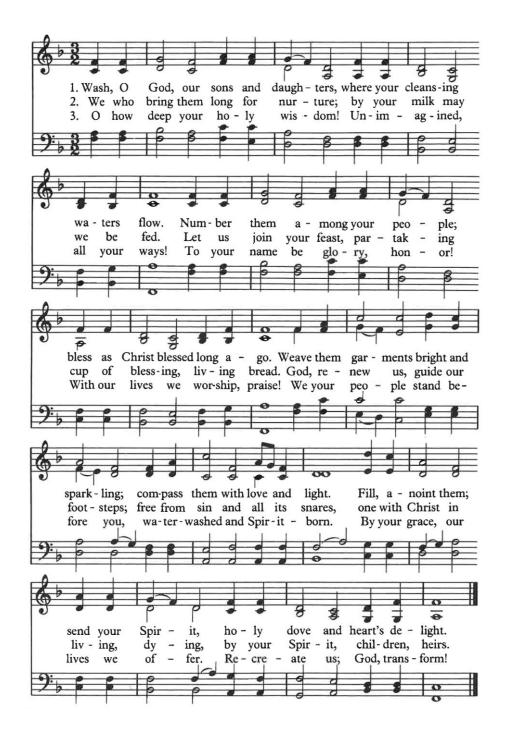
Name, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The bishop invites the congregation to welcome each child:

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sister and brother in Christ.

Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.



PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

A layperson:

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

A member of the Board of Ordained Ministry:

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,

We present...

these persons to be commissioned for the work of an elder:

Sharmune C. Burgess Matthew Aaron Paugh Donald C. Stilgenbauer

these persons to be ordained elders:

Christopher William Bennett Jonathan Andrew Dierdorff Charles Walter May Raymond Delmer Stonestreet Karen Kay Tate

(After all the candidates have been presented, they remain standing.)

These persons are by God's grace to be ordained and commissioned for set apart 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 these servants. Do you trust that they are worthy, by God's grace, to be commissioned and ordained? We do! Thanks be to God!

Will you uphold them in their ministry? With God's help, we will!

GENERAL EXAMINATION (candidates responding)

(Candidates remain standing)

Servant leadership and ordination are gifts from God to the Church and are exercised in covenant with the whole Church and within the covenant of the Order of Elders.

My sisters and brothers in Christ, you have been called to an ordained or commissioned status in set apart ministry. The Church now confirms your calling. As commissioned or ordained ministers, you are to be coworkers with all the people of God: With the laity, bishops, elders, deacons, provisional members, associate members, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missioners, and local pastors.

Remember that you are called to serve rather than to be served, to proclaim the faith of the Church and no other, to look after the concerns of God above all.

So that we may know that you believe yourselves to be called by God and that you profess the Christian faith, we ask you:

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of pastoral ministry? **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 be loyal 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.

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. **Amen.**

(Candidates are seated.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Deuteronomy 6: 1-12 (NIV)

These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you. Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses

and on your gates. When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

SERMON

Something Known and Something New

Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

God, the Spirit, Lives Within Us

Lloyd Larson

† OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Finish, Then, Thy New Creation UMH 384, verse 4 Words: Charles Wesley; Music: John Zundel



PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

(The candidates for commissioning and their sponsors come forward.)

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. This sister and these 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.

(The candidates kneel.)

(Family members and friends are invited to rise in body, mind or spirit where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for each one commissioned.)

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.

> Sharmune C. Burgess Sponsor: Blanche Jackson

Matthew Aaron Paugh Sponsor: Melissa Paugh

Donald C. Stilgenbauer Sponsor: Lisa Stilgenbauer

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. **Amen.**

(The newly commissioned ministers stand to be greeted and then return to their seats.)

† HYMN

Spirit of the Living God

UMH 393 Words and Music: Daniel Iverson



EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

(The elder candidates now come forward.)

(candidates responding)

An elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole Church: to preach and teach the Word of God, (*Here a Bible is lifted.*)

And faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; (*Here a paten and chalice are lifted.*)

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.

This is the rule of life and work 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.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR ELDERS

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 candidates kneel.)

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.

(Representatives from the laity 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 rise in body, mind or spirit where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for each ordinand.)

Christopher William Bennett Sponsors: Scott Ferguson and Steve Meadows

Jonathan Andrew Dierdorff Sponsors: Amy Shanholtzer and Dan Hogan

Charles Walter May Sponsors: Gary E. Helms and Paul Rebelo

Raymond Delmer Stonestreet Sponsors: Greg Godwin and Claudia Fizer

Karen Kay Tate Sponsors: Krysta Rexrode Wolfe and Jennifer Williams Almighty God, pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit, for the office and work of an elder in Christ's holy Church. **Amen.**

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.**

(The newly ordained elders stand to be greeted and then return to their seats.)



REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO FAITHFUL WITNESS AND THE FIXING OF THE APPOINTMENTS

Brothers and sisters in Christ, fellow members of the congregations of the West Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church, during this Annual Conference we have done the work of the gathered church. We have sought God's presence through the means of grace: in the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion; in prayer and anointing; in worship and in holy learning and conversation before God. We have licensed, commissioned and ordained servants for service in ministry and have offered prayer that each of our gifts be well used for Christ's service.

Now we are to do the work of the scattered church. We must go forth from this place as the people of God, strengthened with renewed hope and purpose. We are sent to the far reaches of the West Virginia Conference, to people and communities who need to know the love of Christ and may only be convinced by how we live.

Some of us will return to familiar settings as laity and clergy. Some will accept new appointments, and some of us are family members of those who are appointed. All of us are called to a common ministry as the people of God. Are you ready to reaffirm your commitment to offer yourself freely to the ministries of Christ through your congregation and district of the West Virginia Conference?

(congregation responds) **We are.**

Will you support and uphold each other as faithful members of the Body of Christ, welcoming newly appointed leaders with loving hospitality, doing all in your power to equip the work of ministry?

(congregation responds) **We will.**

Will all clergy please stand. Do you now accept the place of service in the Church of our Lord to which you are now appointed?

(clergy respond)

In commitment and renewal to my covenant as a clergyperson in The United Methodist Church, I now reverently accept my appointment with a heart open to the leading and fresh wind of the Spirit and pray that I shall be worthy of my call to the ministry and the place of mission to which I have been appointed.

Will all of the laity please stand. We rejoice and give thanks for you who represent all the members of the churches of The West Virginia Conference. We are grateful for your presence here and your dedicated leadership in our local churches. Will you faithfully support those appointed and assigned to your congregations with your prayer, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

(laity respond)

Recognizing our need for guidance in the care of those who are called of God and prepared to preach the Gospel, to administer the sacraments, to give administrative leadership in our churches, and to equip us for our ministry in the world, we gladly pledge our cooperation, love and support, as together we strive to fulfill the mission God has given to the Church.

In recognition of the renewal of our ministry covenant in this new appointment year let us pray together, clergy and laity, Wesley's Covenant Prayer:

(all respond)

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, Exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things To thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And may the covenant which I have made on earth, Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

With these covenant words, I now fix the clergy appointments and lay assignments, recognizing that it takes our clergy and laity working together to fulfill God's will and live as the body of Christ.

(all respond)

Eternal and amazing God, you have entrusted us with tremendous opportunities for ministry. Open our ears, eyes and hands, so that we can be your loving people, unbound by anything that holds us back. Through these appointments, God—pastor and congregation, serving together may we be for every community your living Body of Christ. Amen.

INVITATION

(Bishop invites those present to respond to God's call to ordained ministry in Christ's Church.)

INVITATION ANTHEM

How Clear is our Vocation, Lord

Fred Pratt Green and Kevin Hildebrand

INVITATION PRAYER

(unison)

We thank you, gracious God, for raising up among us faithful servants. Clothe them with your righteousness, and grant that we, with them, may glorify you by giving ourselves to others. Amen.

† DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

(responsive)

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

(The Chair of the Order of Deacons dismisses the people.) Go in peace to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do. We are sent in Christ's name. Thanks be to God!

† RECESSIONAL HYMN

Go to the World W&S 3158 Words: John Middleton; Music: English Folk Melody



SENDING MUSIC

Grand Choeur

arr. Brockman

(Please be seated and continue in a spirit of worship while music is playing.)

NOTES:

Liturgists:

Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball, Resident Bishop for the West Virginia Area Bishop Peter Weaver, Bishop-in-Residence at Drew University Theological School Mike Estep, District Superintendent Judith Kenaston, Conference Secretary Ken Krimmel, Assistant to the Bishop & Director of Connectional Ministries Rick Sale, District Superintendent Rich Shaffer, Conference Lay Leader Sharletta Green, Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry Claudia A. Krebs Fizer, Chair, Order of Deacons Sara Facemyer Lamb, Secretary, Board of Ordained Ministry Bonnie Glass MacDonald, Director of Leadership Formation and Ministry Support Jay Parkins, Vice-Chair Board of Ordained Ministry Gwen Wolford, Chair, Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors

Music Directors:

Craig Hinchman Julie Janisch

Musicians:

Conference Choir Conference Brass Quintet Daniel Adamczyk, trumpet Bobby Jenks, trombone Logan Neccuzi, tuba Dan Tate, trumpet Elizabeth Tate, french horn