

AN ORDER FOR A CELEBRATION OF VOCATION AND MINISTRY

Opening Hymn [See suggested hymns & music]

The Introduction

Grace, mercy and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

And also with you.

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence, to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his word, and to pray that we may be given grace to discern his will for our lives and give ourselves to his service.

There are varieties of gifts,

but the same Spirit.

There are varieties of service,

but the same Lord.

There are different kinds of working,

but the same God is at work in all.

(cf 1 Corinthians 12.4–6 – Common Worship)

The Opening Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer
for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word [See suggested readings]

Old Testament Reading

Psalms

New Testament Reading

Gospel Reading

Homily or Reflection*

Hymn [See suggested hymns & music]

The Prayers [See suggested prayers & intercessions]

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father...

The Responsoy

There is one body, one Spirit, one hope in God's call,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

There is one God, Father of all, over all and in all,
to whom Christ ascended on high.

And through his Spirit he gives us gifts:

some are apostles, some are his prophets.

Evangelists, pastors and teachers he gives us,

so we can minister together

to build up his body,

to be mature in the fullness of Christ.

(cf Ephesians 4.4–13 – Common Worship)

The Blessing and Dismissal

In baptism we are buried with Christ and raised to new life with him. May you know his joy in lives of service and praise. **Amen.**

We are renewed by the healing grace of the Holy Spirit. May the fruits of the Spirit grow and flourish in your works of compassion and love. **Amen.**

We are ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven. May you proclaim by word and example the good news of God's love in Christ. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...

Or

May the boldness of the Spirit transform you,
may the gentleness of the Spirit lead you,
may the gifts of the Spirit equip you
to serve and worship God;
and the blessing ...

(Common Worship)

Go in peace to love and serve God and neighbour.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Closing Hymn [See suggested hymns and music]

[* During a time of reflection, images of Christian service, vocation and ministry may be shown while appropriate music is played.]

