

REMEMBERING WHO WE ARE  
**WORD, WATER  
& WITNESS**  
2019 TENNESSEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Service of Licensing, Commissioning,  
and Ordination

**June 12, 2019**  
Brentwood United Methodist Church

The Service of Worship  
for  
The Presentation of Licenses for Pastoral Ministry  
The Commissioning of Provisional Members  
The Ordination of Deacons  
and  
The Ordination of Elders

Tennessee Annual Conference  
The United Methodist Church

Brentwood United Methodist Church  
June 12, 2019, 7:00 p.m.  
Bishop William T. McAlilly, Presiding

The Board of Ordained Ministry welcomes you to this worship service.  
Please refrain from taking photos during the service  
and turn off or silence electronic devices.

A nursery is available for small children.

## GATHERING

*\*Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.*

PRELUDE

*Voluntary No. 1  
Musique Héroïque, I. La Majesté*

William Boyce  
George Philipp Telemann

SCRIPTURE READING

*Jeremiah 1:4-10*

Deborah Owens

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Lift High the Cross*

UMH 159

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.  
Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign.  
The hosts of God in unity combine.**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.  
Each newborn servant of the Crucified  
Bears on the brow the seal of him who died.**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.  
O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As thou hast promised, draw the world to thee.**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.  
So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory!**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.**

\*GREETING AND PRAYER

Bishop McAlilly

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**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 who are 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.**

*Congregation may be seated.*

**RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM***Bishop*

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 of God's people gathered here:  
Remember your baptism and be thankful.

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

**PRESENTATION**

CONFERENCE LAY LEADER

Holly Neal

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

CHAIR OF BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Bryan Brooks

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 First-Time Local Pastors**

Phoebe Jowers/Kenneth Townsend

Adam Donovan Daniels  
Stephen Douglas Grayson  
Timothy Lee Holton  
Matthew Janson McClanahan  
James Scruggs  
Wanda Lynn Spencer  
Sara Juanita Weber

Murray Paul Gordon  
William Paul Guffey  
Chelli Runelle Jones  
Daniel Anthony Meaker  
Lucinda Jan Sharp  
Charlene Head Sullivan

Cynthia Anne Gray  
Donald Lee Haston  
Colby Burnette Long  
Jeffrey Taylor Phillips  
Kenneth Walter Shelton  
Donald Johnson Terry

**These Commissioned Provisional Deacons**

Marie King

K.C. Casebier  
Jason Tyler Peterson

Keri Helen Cress  
Velma Thomas-Parker

Jedediah Wilson Hanes

**These Commissioned Provisional Elders**

Regina Hall

Corrie Beth Alexander  
Diantha Smith McLeod  
Tamika Danyell Robertson

Keith Earl Caldwell  
Zachery Christopher Moffatt  
Jacob William Wood

Eliud Martinez del Cid  
Samuel Aubrey Ordnung  
Russell K. Yoder

**These Ordained Deacons and Full Members of the Conference**

Trey Carey

Christopher Thomas Cummings

Joanna Stephanie Cummings

**These Ordained Elders and Full Members of the Conference**

Jerry Wallace

Nicholas Jay Baird-Chrisohon

Jonathan Bratt Carle

Jefferson Magalhães Furtado

David Winship Johnson

Toi Michelle King

Eric Wade Little

Samantha Tashman McGlothlin

Thomas Bowlin Myers

Mary Kathryn Myers

Nancy Hawthorne Parker

Betty L. Proctor

Mbuga David Earnest Ssebulime

*Bishop to congregation*

These persons are, by God's grace, to be licensed, 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, possess the necessary signs of God's grace, and have demonstrated profound commitments to serve Jesus Christ. Therefore, we believe them to be duly called to serve God in this ministry. We ask you, people of God, to declare your assent to the licensing, commissioning, and ordination of these persons.

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

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

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

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

**THE PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

EPISTLE READING

*II Corinthians 4:7-12*

George Brown

GOSPEL LESSON

*John 15:1-17*

Autura Eason-Williams

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Abiding on the Journey*

Bishop William T. McAlilly

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And 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, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.**

\*THE GLORIA PATRI

UMH 70

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Scott Aleridge

*The offering supports the Episcopal Emergency Fund, which assists conference families with unexpected needs.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Scott Aleridge

Let us pray:

Loving God,  
Each of us is a fragile miracle, evidence of your creative hands, and amazing grace.  
We are each unique, unrepeatable gifts to the world.  
We are proof of your love.  
And so we who are the gifts of creation now give gifts to you, our Creator.  
Gifts brought in love.  
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Total Praise*

Smallwood  
Combined Choirs

## DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## PRESENTATION OF LICENSES TO LOCAL PASTORS

### *Bishop to congregation*

These persons have completed the requirements for the license as a local pastor and are recommended by the district Committees on Ordained Ministry. We have inquired diligently concerning them and have found them to be fit for this sacred vocation.

### *Bishop to candidates*

Do you believe you are moved by the Holy Spirit to serve as a local pastor?

**I do.**

Will you strive to live a life in keeping with what you preach?

**I will.**

You are hereby authorized to serve as local pastors in the congregations to which you are appointed. Take care that you perform these duties faithfully, the Lord being your helper.

*Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the presentation of a license to each candidate.*

### *Bishop to congregation*

Let us pray for these who are newly licensed as local pastors.  
Almighty God, whose Word is truth, in the keeping of which is eternal life:  
We thank you for these persons, whom we set aside in your name as local pastors. Prepare them in body, mind, and spirit for their tasks, and continue them in your grace, that they may increase and bless your Church through their labors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

verse 1

**Lord, whose love through humble service  
bore the weight human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken,  
Offered mercy's perfect deed:  
We, your servants, bring the worship  
Not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to your purpose  
Every gift that you impart.**

## GENERAL EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION

*Bishop to congregation*

Commissioning and ordination are gifts from God to the Church and are exercised in covenant with the whole Church and within the covenant of the office and order. Will the candidates for commissioning and ordination please stand?

*Bishop to candidates*

My sisters and brothers in Christ, you have been called to a commissioned or ordained ministry. The Church now confirms your calling. As commissioned or ordained ministers, you are to be co-workers with the laity, bishops, deacons, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missionaries, associate members, commissioned ministers, local pastors and elders. 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 ordained 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.

*All audibly affirm the action, saying,*

**Amen.**

*The candidates for commissioning come forward and face the congregation, while candidates for ordination are seated.*

## **THE EXAMINATION OF PERSONS BEING COMMISSIONED**

*Bishop 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. Tonight, we commission them to service as they continue to prepare for ordained ministry among us.

## **THE PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING**

*The candidates kneel.*

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.

*Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the presentation of each candidate.*

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.**

**As we worship, grant us vision,  
Till your love's revealing light  
In its height and depth and greatness  
Dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens  
Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving  
Your abundant life to share.**

*During the singing, commissioned ministers return to their seats and the persons to be ordained deacons come to the rail.*

### EXAMINATION OF DEACONS

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,

*The Bible is lifted.*

to lead in worship,  
to teach and proclaim God's Word,  
to assist elders and appointed local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion,

*The towel and basin with pitcher are lifted.*

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.**

## LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR DEACONS

*Bishop to the congregation*

As these persons are ordained by God and the Church for the ministry of deacon to which we believe they have been called by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for them.

We thank you, Living 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 these servants grace to be faithful to their promises, constant in their discipleship, and always ready for works of loving service.

Make them modest and humble, gentle and strong, rooted and grounded in love. Give them a share in the ministry of Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. Amen.

### ORDINATION OF DEACONS IN FULL CONNECTION

*Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands of the ordinands.*

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

[Name], take authority as a deacon to proclaim the Word of God and to lead God's people in ministries of compassion and justice; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All audibly affirm the action, saying,*

**Amen.**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

verse 2

**Still your children wander homeless;  
still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom;  
Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, your deep compassion  
Healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love your Spirit kindles  
Still to save and make us whole.**

*During the singing of the hymn, the newly ordained deacons return to their seats. The elder candidates for ordination come forward.*

## EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

An elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole Church: to preach and teach the Word of God

*The Bible is lifted.*

and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion;

*The 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.

These are the duties of an elder.

*Bishop to Elder candidates*

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

*Bishop to congregation*

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:

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.**

## **ORDINATION OF ELDERS IN FULL CONNECTION**

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

*All audibly affirm the action, saying,*

**Amen.**

Take authority as an elder to proclaim 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.**

INVITATION TO CALL TO MINISTRY

Bishop William T. McAlilly

## **BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

\*HYMN

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service  
I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

verse 4  
TFWS 2129

**Called by worship to your service,  
Forth in your dear name we go  
To the child, the youth, the aged,  
Love in living deeds to show;  
Hope and health, good will and comfort,  
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
That your servants, Lord, in freedom  
May your mercy know, and live.**

**I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus -  
no turning back, no turning back.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me -  
no turning back, no turning back.**

**Though none go with me, I still will follow,  
though none go with me, I still will follow,  
though none go with me, I still will follow -  
no turning back, no turning back.**

Let us pray.

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.**

**BENEDICTION**

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

**RECESSIONAL**

\*HYMN

*God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian*

UMH 648

**God the Spirit, guide and guardian,  
Wind-spiced flame and hovering dove,  
Breath of life and voice of prophets,  
Sign of blessing, power of love:  
Give to those who lead your people  
Fresh anointing of your grace;  
Send them forth as bold apostles  
To your church in every place.**

**Christ our Savior, sovereign, shepherd,  
Word made flesh, love crucified,  
Teacher, healer, suffering servant,  
Friend of sinners, foe of pride:  
In your tending may all ministers  
Learn and live a shepherd's care;  
Grant them courage and compassion  
Shown through word and deed and prayer.**

**Great Creator, life bestower,  
Truth beyond all thought's recall,  
Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy,  
Giving and forgiving all:  
As you know our strength and weakness,  
So may those the church exalts  
Oversee her life steadfastly  
Yet not overlook her faults.**

**Triune God, mysterious being,  
Undivided and diverse,  
Deeper than our minds can fathom,  
Greater than our creeds rehearse:  
Help us in our varied callings  
Your full image to proclaim,  
That our ministries uniting  
May give glory to your name.**

**SENDING FORTH**

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! Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE

*Musique Royale*

Michel Richard Delalande

Conference Leadership Participating in the Service

Bishop William T. McAlilly (Nashville Episcopal Area)  
Bishop Joseph E. Pennel Jr. (Retired)

Holly Neal (Conference Lay Leader)  
Bryan Brooks (Board of Ordained Ministry Chair)  
Phoebe Jowers (Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members Co-Chair)  
Kenneth Townsend (Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members Co-Chair)  
Marie King (Order of Deacons Co-Chair)  
Regina Hall (Order of Elders Co-Chair)  
Trey Carey (Order of Deacons Co-Chair)  
Jerry Wallace (Order of Elders Co-Chair)  
Autura Eason-Williams (Board of Ordained Ministry Chair, Memphis Conference)  
Scott Aleridge (Dean of the Tennessee Conference Cabinet)

Others Assisting in the Service

Kaitlynn Vaughn, Belinda Grace Brooks, Xavier Bailey, Lisa Martin, George Brown,  
Lawrence C. Coleman, Jr., Gracie Dugan, Adam Jones, Jin Kim, Felicia Kumar

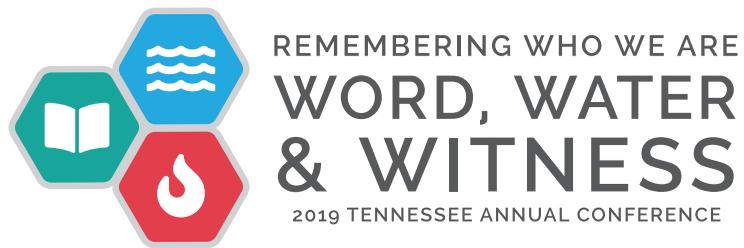
Belle Meade United Methodist Church Choir  
Brentwood United Methodist Church Choir  
Chapel Hill United Methodist Church Choir  
Christ United Methodist Church Choir  
Clark Memorial United Methodist Church Choir  
Franklin First United Methodist Church Choir  
Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church Choir  
Patterson Memorial United Methodist Church Choir  
West End United Methodist Church Choir  
Dr. Diana Sanchez-Bushong, Guest Conductor

Instrumentalists: Dr. Jared Wilson, Organist  
Michael Arndt, Trumpet  
Michael Parkinson, Trumpet  
Angela DeBoer, French Horn  
David Loucky, Trombone  
Chris Combest, Tuba

Appreciation is expressed to Tennessee Annual Conference Worship Team, Heidi Geib, Deborah Owens &  
Jacob Vaughn for the coordination of the worship service.

We welcome members of the Memphis Conference Extended Cabinet  
who are sitting among clergy from the Tennessee Annual Conference.

All song texts are printed under the CCLI License #721601.



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