

THE ORDINATION OF ELDERS

Constitutional Questions:

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

I do.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

*Do you believe in God the Father?
(The people respond)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

*Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
(The people respond)*

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

*Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
(The people respond)*

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.

Thanksgiving for Baptism:

Remember your baptism and be thankful;

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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Thanksgiving for Baptism:

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And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Anointing

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

I do.

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

I do.

Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I will.

Do we, the members of the church, accept our candidates to be Ordained as Elders, and to be installed as Ruling Elders, all chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

(The people respond)

We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?

(The people respond): **We do.**

Prayer for Elders

Laying of Hands

Charge to Elders [from 2 Tim. 2:15]

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

Welcome Elders to the Session

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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