

# The Ordination of a Pastor, Deacon or Bishop

Prepared by a working group of the Program Committee for Worship Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

PB - Presiding BishopO - Ordinand(s)PO - Presenter(s) of Ordinand(s)A - Assisting MinisterPG - Presenter(s) of Gift(s)Bold print - Assembly

### 1. WELCOME AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/ WELCOME TO THE LAND

#### 2. THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Children in the assembly may be invited to gather around the font and lift the water with the presider.

**PB** - Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlast- ing wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honour to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection. We bless you for these gifts of water: (Local waters may be named.) Your steadfast love fills the earth.

### Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through water, a sign of your saving power:

Noah's family, and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well.

The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock.

The Ethiopian eunuch is washed in the waters of baptism,

and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through water, calling all the baptized to live out their unique vocation in daily life, in the church and in the world. Shower us with your Holy Spirit. Fill us with your love. Clothe us and all people with your grace.

Pour out your Spirit upon the church that it may be:

faithful in service, prophetic in witness, and missional in loving response to your world. Your steadfast love fills the earth.

### Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Satisfy the thirst of all with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### Amen.

- **3.** The assembly stands for the Entrance Song and remains standing through the Prayer of the Day.
- 4. ENTRANCE SONG
- 5. GREETING

### 6. KYRIE and/or CANTICLE OF PRAISE

### 7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION/CALL AND PRESENTATION OF THE ORDINAND

The presiding bishop (**PB**) meet the Ordinand(s) (**O**) and Presenter(s) of the Ordinand(s) (**PO**) in front of the Communion table. The presentation takes place separately for each ordinand.

**PO**: I present (name) who has been called to serve as a (pastor/deacon/bishop).

**PB:** Our church rejoices that (congregation/synod/the church in convention) has chosen (name) as (pastor/deacon/bishop). Let (their) call be certified.

**PO:** I certify the call of (name) as (pastor/deacon/bishop).

**PB:** Dear servants of God, witnessing on behalf of the whole church, is it your will to ordain (name) to serve as a (pastor/deacon/bishop) with prayer and laying on of hands?

Yes, by the grace of God.

**PB:** (Name[s]) before your ordination(s), join now with the whole assembly in attending to the word of God.

We pray together:

The assembly joins in silence for prayer.

### 8. PRAYER OF THE DAY

### 9. FIRST READING

### 10. PSALM

### 11. SECOND READING

The assembly stands for the Gospel Acclamation and for the reading of the Gospel.

### 12. GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### 13. GOSPEL

The assembly is seated.

# 14. SERMON

Following the sermon, the assembly joins in silence for reflection.

The assembly stands for the Hymn of the Day.

### 15. HYMN OF THE DAY

16. The presiding bishop joins the ordinand(s) at the font at the conclusion of the Hymn of the Day. The assembly is seated.

### **17. THE PROMISES**

**PB:** Gathering people through water and the word, God builds the church of living stones in which Christ is the cornerstone. Through baptism, all of God's people are called to use their gifts to bear the good news into the whole world.

As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada—a missional, prophetic, and diaconal church, we are called by Christ to serve people, communities, and creation in the mission of God. The Spirit calls us to uphold the unique baptismal vocation of every person in service of God's mission, nurturing the understanding and practice of Christian faith in action. The Spirit calls us to risk-taking and new ideas, paying particular attention to those in minorities, their voices and representation. The Spirit calls us into partnerships with others in compassion for God's world and awareness of community needs. The Spirit calls us to invite into the Christian journey those who are seeking good news and liberation in the gracious promise of God in the risen Christ.

*The word(s) appropriate to the ordination(s) are spoken:* 

#### **Pastor**

Pastors have a particular calling to inspire the whole church for mission through word and sacrament, to provide leadership in the church's mission, to work collegially with all public ministers, communicating God's care for all people and all creation.

Pastors are equipped to teach the people they serve to reflect theologically about their vocations in relationship to God's mission and encouraging them to serve the common good.

Pastors are empowered to serve people with the Gospel in words of scripture, the water of life, and the meal of grace, to share the traditions of the church and bring fresh ideas to their com-munities, and to continue in their own learning, formation, and growth.

#### Deacon

Deacons have a particular calling to inspire the whole church for mission through word and service, to provide leadership in the church's mission, to work collegially with all public ministers, communicating God's care for all people and all creation.

Deacons are equipped to create pathways for all people to participate in God's mission, through faithful reflection of the Gospel and encouraging them to serve the common good.

Deacons are empowered to serve people with the Gospel in places where church and society intersect, especially on the margins, to engage in partnerships in service of neighbour and stranger, to bring fresh ideas to the diverse communities they serve, and to continue in their own learning, formation, and growth.

### **Bishop**

Bishops have a particular calling to inspire the whole church for mission under the authority and as representative of the synod/national church, working with all expressions of the church to encourage partnership and collaboration for mission, communicating God's care for all people and all creation.

Bishops are empowered to encourage the church to take risks, to be nimble, to be realistic in assessing the future, always pointing to the Gospel as touchstone. Bishops see opportunities for learning in successes and failures, encouraging lay leadership and accompanying deacons and pastors, congregations, and specialized ministries, in their work together to serve the common good.

Bishops represent the church in ecumenical, multi-faith and international relationships, both to offer and to learn, on behalf of and in partnership with the church, and to continue in their own learning, formation, and growth.

The first statement is spoken for each ordinand. The promises are spoken together if there are multiple ordinands.

**18.** *PB*: By acclamation of God's people, (name), you are chosen to serve as (pastor/deacon/bishop).

Believing that you are called by God to take up the work of a (pastor/deacon/bishop), will you exercise this call to ordained ministry honouring God, equipping God's people, serving God's world through living and speaking the Gospel promise?

**O:** May God give me a spirit of thanksgiving. I will, by the grace of God.

**PB:** Will you be faithful in prayer and worship, immersed in the Holy Scriptures and sustained by the means of grace? Will you pray for God's people, giving and receiving consolation from them?

**O:** May God give me an understanding of the heart and mind of Jesus Christ. I will, by the grace of God.

**PB:** The church in which you are ordained confesses that the Holy Scriptures are the word of God and are the foundation of its faith and life. Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the Holy Scriptures, the ecumenical Creeds, and the Confessions of the Lutheran church?

**O:** May God lead me in joyful witness to Christ crucified and risen. I will, by the grace of God.

**PB:** Will you work to build up the whole Body of Christ, together with pastors, deacons, bishops, and all people of the church, in our missional, diaconal, and prophetic call?

**O:** May God equip me to promote wholeness in the church and in creation. I will, by the grace of God.

**PB:** Will you faithfully offer hospitality in Christ, welcoming the stranger, practicing inclusion, working towards equity, and striving for justice and peace in God's world?

**O:** May God give me ears to hear, eyes to see and hands to embrace the stranger, the outcast and the broken-hearted. I will, by the grace of God.

**PB:** Will you live in the promise of the resurrection, caring for creation as an active witness to the mystery of God's love that is making all things new?

**O:** May God anoint me in gladness with all the earth as I pray and serve. I will, by the grace of God.

**19.** The presiding bishop addresses the assembly.

*PB:* Will you, the gathered people of God and speaking for the whole church, receive (name[s]), as pastor/deacon/bishop? Will you support (their) ministry among you, partner with (them) in serving our neighbours and our communities, learn together, pray together, share the meal to- gether, and work to unify the church in God's call to love and reconcile the world? We will, by the grace of God.

**20.** The presiding bishop makes the sign of the cross on the ordinand(s)' forehead(s) in remembrance of their baptism and sealing in the Holy Spirit.

**PB:** Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

Amen.

### 21. CONFESSION OF FAITH

A: We confess the faith of the church, the faith in which all our vocations are given expression...

While confessing the Apostles' Creed, the presiding bishop and ordinand(s) are given basins of water and green boughs to sprinkle the confessing assembly in remembrance of baptism.

When the Creed is concluded the presiding bishop addresses the assembly.

PB: You are baptized servants of God.

We are anointed; yes! — ministers of Christ!

**22.** The ordinand(s) kneel, if able.

### 23. PRAYERS OF ORDINATION WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

**PB:** Through baptism, all of God's people are called to use their gifts to bear the good news into the whole world. By God's commission and according to apostolic usage, we set apart (name[s]) as (pastor[s]/deacon[s]/bishop.) We pray together.

Silent prayer is offered.

- **24.** The Ordination Hymn is sung
- **25.** At the conclusion of the Ordination Hymn, those laying on hands arrange themselves around the ordinand(s). The presiding bishop prays, hands upraised in thanksgiving:

**PB:** Blessed are you, Holy and Ever-living God, you call forth light and hope and a world to come, shining throughout the ages with boundless love for all creation, creating a people to love and serve you.

Blessed are you, Only-Begotten One, you save and shepherd us, laying down your life for ours. You passed through the great depth of the cross to lead us beside still waters of saving health. You are risen, renewing your people with gifts for your ministry of peace as you are making all things new.

Blessed are you, Purifying Advocate,

you gather into one your people to serve you throughout the world, to hallow your sacred name and do your perfect will.

Renew your church that people may come to faith and creation may be restored.

In your mercy, anoint your servant(s) (name[s]), stirring up in (her/him/them) your power and gifts for ordained ministry.

- **26.** The presiding bishop lays both hands on the head of each ordinand. Others who are participating in the laying on of hands place or extend hands on/toward the ordinand.
- **27.** Following a time of silent prayer, the presiding bishop continues, praying for each ordinand in turn.
- **PB:** Send your Holy Spirit upon (name) filling (them) with your grace, to make (them) a (pastor/deacon/bishop) of your church, ordained to serve you.

O Blessed and Holy Trinity,

give to your servant, power in (their) proclamation of the word, perseverance in faithful service and wisdom in feeding your people. May (their) life so reflect your grace.

Strengthen her/his/their leadership to call your church to faith, unity and discipleship throughout all of creation. Form (them) to follow Christ in joyful service and courageous trust, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Amen.

- **28.** The ordinand(s) stand and face the assembly. The following is said for each ordinand.
- **PB:** Receive (name) as a messenger of God, praying and serving together as witnesses to Christ.

We receive you as a messenger of Christ, serving together in God's everlasting household of peace. Thanks be to God.

# **29. SIGNS OF MINISTRY**

The new deacon/pastor is presented with a stole.

**PB:** Receive this stole as a sign of your work, and live in obedience to Christ Jesus, serving all people and remembering Jesus' promise: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

O: Amen.

# Pastor - Plate and cup

**PB:** Receive this plate and cup as a sign of your calling to the ministry of Word and Sacrament.

O: Amen.

### Deacon - A basin and towel

**PB:** Receive this basin and towel as a sign of your calling to the ministry of Word and Service, a symbol that you are to serve as Christ served, humbling himself and taking the form of a servant.

O: Amen.

# Bishop - A pectoral cross and staff

**PB:** Receive this cross and staff as a sign of your calling to the ministry of shepherding Christ's flock in faithfulness and unity.

O: Amen.

The new pastor(s)/deacon(s)/bishop are presented with a Bible.

**PB:** Receive the Holy Scriptures as a sign of your calling to ministry.

O: Amen.

### 30. ENCOURAGEMENT AND ACCLAMATION

Various voices are chosen to give encouragement, keeping in mind diverse representation and a mix of ordained and non-ordained. (Other appropriate additional scripture passages may be included.)

"Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called." (I Timothy 6:11-2)

"Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son." (Acts 20:28)

"Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy." (I Corinthians 4:1-2)

"God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8) Care for God's people, bear their burdens and do not betray their confidence.

Be faithful in life and in teaching that you uphold truth, giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope. Cross every barrier that stands between the church and its ministry in the world. Seek out those places where the gospel of Jesus Christ meets the world's need. Give and receive comfort as you serve those in need, care for the sick, comfort the distressed, and, through word and actions, witness faithfully to God's love for all people.

And be of good courage, for God has called you, and your labour in God is not in vain.

The following acclamation is said for each ordinand.

**PB:** Let it be acclaimed that (name) is called and ordained (pastor/deacon/bishop) in the Church of Christ. (Name) has Christ's authority to serve God's people as together we bear God's creative and redeeming love to all the world.

### Amen. Thanks be to God.

The assembly offers acclamation with applause.

#### 31. PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assembly may stand or sit for the prayers of intercession. The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion, using the following pattern or another appropriate form.

An assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer with these or similar words.

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,

let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Prayers reflect the wideness of God's mercy for the whole world—

for the church universal, its ministry, and the mission of the gospel;

*for the well-being of creation;* 

for peace and justice in the world, the nations and those in authority, the community;

for the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, lonely;

for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;

for the congregation, and for special concerns.

Additional prayers may come from the assembly.

Prayers of thanksgiving for the faithful departed may include those who recently have died and those commemorated on the church's calendar.

Each portion of the prayers ends with these or similar words:

**OPTION A:** God of mercy

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

**OPTION B: Hear us, O God** 

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these or similar words. Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

### **32. THE PEACE**

**PB:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

After the people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, the Holy Communion continues with the liturgy of the Meal.

Prepared by the Program Committee for Worship's Ordination Renewal Working Group (2022). Adapted from the ELCIC's 'Ordination of a Bishop' (2008), with additional resources adapted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and All Creation Sings.

# Notes on the Service: Ordination - Pastor, Deacon, Bishop

Because all of its baptized members share in Christ's ministry of love and service, the church equips and supports them for their ministries in the world. Within this context of ministry, the church calls some of its baptized members for specific ministries.

Within the people of God and for the sake of the gospel ministry entrusted to all believers, God has instituted the office of ministry and three orders within it - Word and Service, Word and Sacrament, Word and Oversight. In the service of Ordination, the church entrusts this office and orders to those who have accepted the church's call and sends them into this ministry.

Ordination is properly set within the service of Holy Communion, following the sermon and the hymn of the day. The Nicene Creed or the Apostles' Creed may precede the ordination rite.

# **Time of Gathering**

It is the ancient custom of the church that the ordination take place on a Sunday, within a eucharistic celebration. However consideration should be given to the timing of the ordination, so as to involve colleagues, members from other congregations or ministries, and ecumenical partners. Therefore, a time other than Sunday morning might be the most appropriate time for an ordination.

If feasible a feast day may be chosen for the date of the ordination. The following days are especially appropriate: January 18 (The Confession of St. Peter), June 29 (St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles), July 22 (St. Mary Magdalene), September 14 (Holy Cross Day), or any festival of an apostle or commemoration of a pastor, deacon, bishop or other messenger of Christ.

Ordinations do not occur during Holy Week because of the solemn character of that time.

The opportunity to provide a livestream of the service should be considered for wider church engagement. Local context and technological capabilities will dictate how best to proceed.

# Liturgical Leadership and Participation

The bishop presiding for the liturgy is also the chief ordaining minister and is either the Bishop of the whole church or a Bishop of a Synod. In the case of the ordination of a Bishop, it is the convention that it requires three bishops laying on hands to ordain a bishop, and one bishop to ordain a pastor or deacon. Others may assist the ordination with the laying-on of hands, particularly at the invitation of the ordinand.

Those who present the ordinand are often chosen from among mentors in faith, or may be selected from official representatives or officers of the congregation, specialized ministry, synod or church body issuing the call.

Care should be given to invite full communion partners of the ELCIC. In the case of a bishop's ordination, local diocesan active and retired Anglican bishops. In the case of the ordination of pastors and deacons, local active and retired Anglican priests and deacons. Consideration should also be given to the invitation of other ecumenical partners and local interfaith communities.

Special consideration should be given to those fulfilling roles within the liturgy, with attention to including a diverse set of persons representing both lay and ordained, members of the ELCIC, ecumenical partners and other faith communities. Ordinarily, ordained pastors and bishops do not serve in the role of the assisting minister (though deacons do), while lectors and acolytes are usually lay persons. Ministers of communion are drawn from the whole people of God, whether ordained or lay.

Normally, the presiding bishop also presides at the meal, though it may be appropriate for the newly ordained bishop or pastor (such as if the installation rite is included) to preside during that portion of the liturgy according to local custom or circumstance.

In an announcement, bulletin notice, or the sermon, the assembly is made aware that those present speak on behalf of the whole church.

When crafting the rite for a particular ordination, it is appropriate to use and substitute the preferred and appropriate pronouns of those participating and being named in the liturgy.

# The Shape of the Rite

The ordination rite is set within the liturgy for Holy Communion normally using settings found in ELCIC worship resources, though consideration for alternate liturgical settings may be appropriate. The presentation of the ordinand occurs immediately following the Canticle of Praise. The Promises and Prayers of Ordination occur immediately after the Hymn of the Day, following the Sermon.

Because it is a festival occasion, the preparatory rite of confession and absolution is not used.

### The Rite in Detail

- **7.** The ordination candidate is presented using their full name; thereafter only the first or customary name is used. The ordinand is presented vested in an alb. If the ordination candidate is already ordained to another order of ministry, the appropriate stole is also worn.
- **24.** The ancient and traditional Ordination Hymn is a sung prayer. A contemporary composite translation is *Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove* ELW 577. Other possible hymnic versions are ELW 395, ELW 578. An alternative might be *Veni Sancte Spiritus*, ELW 406, for which a Taizé leader's part is available, or another hymn invoking the Holy Spirit.

- **25.** Laying on of hands The chief ordaining minister gathers together with other bishops present and additional participants for the laying on of hands. Those participating should be chosen ahead and can include both clergy and lay.
- **26.** The gathered assembly may also be invited to extend their hands.
- **29.** Signs of ministry could include other gifts as appropriate. They may reflect local custom and/or ordinand's choice and could include signs of ministry such as: a deacon's medallion, a chasuble, a bishop's cope and/or ring.

# **Propers**

### Colour

The colour for the Day is red.

### Prayer(s) of the Day

If the ordination occurs on a feast day, the prayer appropriate to the day may be used prior to the following. If there are multiple ordinands to multiple orders, the prayers appropriate to each order of ministry would be used in succession.

### Deacon

O God, through the ages you have called from among your people those who will carry out the ministry of word and service in the church. Let your blessing rest now on all who answer that call. Grant that name/s, now to be ordained to this ministry, may carry out the ministry of word and service faithfully in the power of your Spirit. Give them understanding of the gospel, sin- cerity of purpose, diligence in ministry, and the beauty of life in Christ, that many people will be served and your name be glorified; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### Amen.

#### **Pastor**

Almighty and merciful God, you built your church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, and you instituted the office of the ministry of word and sacrament so that the apos- tolic and prophetic work might continue throughout the ages. Grant that name/s, now to be ordained, may carry out this ministry faithfully in the power of your Spirit; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### Amen.

### **Bishop**

Ever-creating Word, you call your church to apostolic faithfulness. Make us all rise up and follow quickly where you lead us. Use name/s in your office of bishop to strengthen your church in uni- ty of true faith and to emblazon the world with your presence; through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen.

# Scripture

The ELCIC has approved the usage of NRSV Bible Translation for Scripture

# First Reading

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Exodus 3:1-12	God calls Moses
Numbers 6:22-27	The Aaronic blessing
Numbers 11:16-17	God's spirit on seventy elders of Israel
Numbers 27:15-20, 22-	Moses laid his hands on him and commissioned him
Ruth 1:1-19a	The Faithfulness of Ruth
Isaiah 12:2-6	God is my salvation; sing for joy.
Isaiah 40:3-11	God will feed the flock like a shepherd
Isaiah 42:5-9	I have called you; I have taken you by the hand
Isaiah 43:8-13	You are my witness, my servant whom I have chosen
Isaiah 52:7-10	The messenger who brings good news
Isaiah 61: 1-4 (5-8)	The spirit of the Lord God is upon me
Jeremiah 23:1-6	God will raise up faithful shepherds
Jeremiah 23:23-29	Speak God's word faithfully
Ezekiel 34:11-16	I will seek out my sheep
Amos 5:14-15, 24	Let justice roll down like waters
Micah 6:6-8	Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God

# Psalm

Psalm 121

Psalm 15	LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)
Psalm 16	In your presence there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)
Psalm 20	Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed (Ps. 20:6)
Psalm 40:1-17	I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)
Psalm 67	Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (Ps. 67:3)
Psalm 84	My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. (Ps. 84:2)
Psalm 91	You are my refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust. (Ps. 91:2)
Psalm 95	We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. (Ps. 95:7)
Psalm 96	Declare the glory of the LORD among the nations. (Ps. 96:3)
Psalm 99	Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God. (Ps. 99:5)
Psalm 103	Bless the Lord, O my soul (Ps. 103:1)
Psalm 113	Let the name of the LORD be blessed from this time forth forevermore. (Ps. 113:2)

My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. (Ps. 121:2)

Psalm 122	I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." (Ps. 122:1)
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Psalm 133 How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity. (Ps. 133:1)

# **Second Reading**

Acts 6:2-7	Seven are chosen to serve

Acts 20:17-35 Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock

Romans 10:13-17 Faith comes from what is heard

Romans 12:1-8 Gifts that differ according to the grace given to us

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 God will strengthen you; God is faithful

1 Corinthians 4:1-5 Servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries

1 Corinthians 11:17-26 Proclaim the Lord's death until he comes

1 Corinthians 12:4-13 Varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit

1 Corinthians 13:1-7 Nothing gained without love

1 Corinthians 15:1–11 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 By God's mercy we are engaged in ministry

2 Corinthians 5:14-20 The love of Christ urges us on

Ephesians 4:1-16 Each of us given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift

Philippians 2:5-13 God is at work in you

Colossians 3:12-17 Love binds everything together in perfect harmony

Hebrews 6:10-12 The full assurance of hope

1 Timothy 3:1-9 Now a bishop must be above reproach

1 Timothy 6:11-16 Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called

2 Timothy 1:6-14 The gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands

2 Timothy 4:1-5 Carry out your ministry fully

1 Peter 4: 8-11 Serve with the strength God supplies

1 Peter 5:1-4 Tend the flock of God that is in your charge

# **Gospel Acclamation & Proper Verse**

The appointed Proper Verse for St. John, Apostle and Evangelist; The Conversion of St. Paul; St. Bartholomew, Apostle; Holy Cross Day; St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist, or Reformation Day may be used, or, instead, Alleluia.

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see | your good works and give glory to your Fa-| ther in heaven. Alleluia. (Matthew 5:16). Alleluia.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who an- | nounces peace, \*who brings good news, who announc- | es salvation. Alleluia. (Isa. 52:7)

During Lent, the Proper Verse may be Matthew 28: 19-20, Luke 4:18-19, Galatians 6:14 or Return to the Lord...

# Gospel

Matthew 5:1-11	The Beatitudes
Matthew 9:1-8	God gives authority to forgive
Matthew 9:35-38	God sends out labourers into the harvest
Matthew 16:13-23 [24	-28] Proclaim the Messiah, the Son of the living God
Matthew 20:20-28	The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve
Matthew 25:31-40	As you did it to one of the least, you did it to me
Matthew 28:16-20	The great commission
Mark 1:14-20 J	esus calls the first disciples
Mark 4:1-9	Parable of the sower
Mark 6:30-44 J	esus teaches and feeds the people
Mark 9:33-41	Whoever wants to be first must be last
Mark 10:35-45	The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve
Luke 10:1-12, 16-20	Sending of the seventy
Luke 12:35-38	Blessed are those whom the master serves
Luke 22:24-30	I am among you are one who serves
Luke 24:44-50	Witnesses to the crucified and risen Christ
John 10:7-18	The good shepherd
John 13:[3-11]12-17,20	Wash one anther's feet
John 15:1-8	I am the vine, your are the branches
John 17:1-9, 18-21	As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world
John 20:19-23	Receive the Holy Spirit
John 21:15-19	Feed my sheep

### Creed

The Apostles' and Nicene Creed are the traditional creeds of the church, however other confessions of faith could be considered.

# **Preface**

The Preface for Apostles is used.

# **Prayer after Communion**

A: Consecrate us with the Spirit of your love, O Blessed Trinity, and by this holy food teach us to adore one another and the world you so love; strong in faith, serving in mission, and united in peace through Jesus Christ our saving God.

# Amen.

# Suggested hymns from Evangelical Lutheran Worship

358	Great God, Your Love Has Called Us
400	God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind
401	Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading
406	Veni Sancte Spiritus
407	O Living Breath of God Soplo de Dios viviente
551	The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve
576	We All Are One in Mission

# **Suggested hymns from All Creation Sings**

33	
978	God Welcomes All
980	Come, Holy Spirit, Descend
984	May the God of Hope Go with Us Dios de la esperanza
991	Go to the World
1042	May This Church Be like a Tree Que este iglesia sea un árbol
1047	What Is the World Like 1048 Founded on Faith
1086	O God, Who Gives Us Life