

Service of Installation



A SERVICE FOR INSTALLATION

Leader: There are different gifts,

People: But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

Leader: There are different ways of serving God,

People: But it is the same Lord who is served.

Leader: God works through different people in different ways.

People: But it is the same God who achieves God's purpose through them all.

Leader: Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

People: To use it for the common good.

Leader: Together we are the Body of Christ,

People: And individually members of the Body.

Leader: Together we have different gifts, we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make Christ's church useful in the world, and we call men and women of faith, so that in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Creator.

People: "Within our common ministry, some members are chosen for particular work as ministers of the word and ruling elders. In ordination and installation, we recognize these special ministries, remembering that Jesus said:

Leader: Whoever among you wants to be great must become the servant of all, and if anyone wants to be first among you they must be a slave to all!"

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE FOR INSTALLATION AS RULING ELDER

ELDER: *Andy Kirkpartick*

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATE

- a. *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.
- b. *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.
- c. *Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?*
I do and I will.
- d. *Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?*
I will.
- e. *Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?*
I will.
- f. *Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?*
I will.
- g. *Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?*
I do.
- h. *Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.*
I will.
- i. *Will you be a faithful Ruling 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.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO CONGREGATION

- a. *Do we, the members of the church, accept **Andy Kirkpatrick**, as chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?*
We do.
- b. *Do we agree to encourage him, to respect his decisions, and to follow as he guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the church?*
We do.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER AND LAYING OF HANDS

*Leader: Let us pray. Almighty God, in every age you have chosen servants to speak your Word and lead your people. We thank you for **Andy Kirkpatrick**, whom you have called to serve you. Give to him special gifts to do his work; and fill his with your Holy Spirit, so that he may have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and be a faithful disciple as long as he shall live.*

People: God of grace, who called us to a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ, trusting us with your good news, give us courage and discipline to follow where your servants rightly lead us. Together may we declare your wonderful deeds and show your love to the world. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION AND CHARGE TO CANDIDATE

WELCOME