



Service of Licensing, Commissioning, and Ordination

155th Session of the
North Georgia Annual Conference of
The United Methodist Church

Sue Hauptert-Johnson, Presiding Bishop
Laura Rappold, Assisting Deacon
Saturday, June 5, 2021 | 10 a.m.

*Please stand as you are
able for items marked with
an *, and speak or sing items
marked in bold print.*

Gathering Music

Brass Ensemble, Choral Ensemble, and Organ

*Processional Hymn | *The Church's One Foundation*

AURELIA

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**

**Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How
long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

**Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.**

Greeting and Prayer

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson

The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.
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 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.**

RECOGNITION OF OUR ONE MINISTRY & OUR ONE BAPTISM
Bishop Hauptert-Johnson

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 God's people gathered here:
Remember your baptism and be thankful.
We remember our baptism and affirm our common ministry.

PRESENTATION OF 2020 AND 2021 CLASS FOR LICENSING,
COMMISSIONING, AND ORDINATION
Bill Martin, Julie Boone,
Yolanda Jones-Colton, Shannon Karafanda, Yvette Massey

On behalf of the laity of local congregations who have examined and approved these candidates, and on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the North Georgia Conference, which has recommended these persons, and this Annual Conference which has approved them, with our prayers and support

We present these persons to be licensed as local pastors.
Those to be licensed as local pastors names are read.

We present these persons to be commissioned as provisional deacons.
Those to be commissioned as provisional deacons, please stand..

We present these persons to be commissioned as provisional elders.
Those to be commissioned as provisional elders, please stand.

We present these persons to be ordained deacon.
Those to be ordained deacon, please stand.

Calls to ordained and licensed ministry are first nurtured and affirmed by laity in local congregations. The Board of Ordained Ministry examines and credentials those who have been called.

*The 2021 Annual Conference
Special Offering supports the
North Georgia Conference
Ministerial Education Fund.
Donations to this offering
may be made to any North
Georgia Conference United
Methodist Church by noting
Fund #1147 - Annual
Conference Special Offering.*

*Those to be ordained and
commissioned, please stand.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Bishop Lewis

OFFERTORY | *Let Your Faith Be Stronger Than Your Fear* Tom Trenney
Cory Klose, soloist, and Annual Conference Choral Ensemble

LICENSING OF LOCAL PASTORS

Bishop Hauptert-Johnson

We thank you, O God, for these persons, whom we set aside in your name as local pastors. Prepare them in body, mind, and spirit for their task and continue them in your grace, that they may increase and bless your church through their labors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

GENERAL EXAMINATION OF THOSE TO BE COMMISSIONED AND
ORDAINED

Bishop Hauptert-Johnson

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 coworkers with all the people of God: with laity, bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors, provisional members, diaconal ministers, deaconess, home missionaries, supply pastors, with all who serve God in the church.

Remember 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 we may know 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 the ordained ministry?

*The candidates respond: **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?

*The candidates respond: **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?

*The candidates respond: **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?

*The candidates respond: **I will, with the help of God.***

Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ?

The candidates respond: 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.

The candidates respond: I will, with the help of God.

Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, accepting and upholding its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline, defending it against all doctrines contrary to God's holy word, and to committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you, and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?

The candidates respond: I will, with the help of God.

Will you, for the sake for the church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the life of the order, into which you are commissioned or ordained? Will you give yourself to God through the order in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day?

The candidates respond: 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.

Amen.

COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL DEACONS AND ELDERS

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 am I; send me."

Urged on by the love of Christ and strengthened by the 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 colleagues in full connection and by being appointed to share as servant leaders in the body of Christ.

Today we commission them to service as they continue to prepare for ordained ministry among us.

PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING

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 our

Those to be ordained, please be seated. Those to be commissioned, please remain standing.

Candidates for commissioning proceed to the stage under the direction of the marshals.

Family members and friends are invited to stand for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for each candidate.

Once commissioned, return to seats and remain standing.

Those commissioned may be seated.

Candidates for ordination as deacon please stand.

love with boldness and joy. Deepen their sense of purpose as they exercise commissioned ministry. Empower them, and those who will work with them, to guide their ministry, together with all your people. To heal the sick, love the outcast, resist evil, preach the word and give themselves freely for your name's sake. **Amen.**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR PROVISIONAL DEACONS AND PROVISIONAL ELDERS

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. Amen.

Friends, let us pray together, and as we pray, I invite the Church to extend your arms toward these persons.

Almighty God, may the grace of ministry rest upon these your servants and may the opportunity to serve lead them into the fullness of your calling. Clothe them with your righteousness, and grant that they may glorify you by giving themselves to others, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

I present to you these newly commissioned provisional deacons and elders of the North Georgia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS AND ELDERS

Ordination is a gift from God to the church and is exercised in covenant with the whole church and within the covenant of the order of deacons or elders.

My sisters and brothers in Christ, you have been called to an ordained ministry. The church now confirms your calling through ordination.

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, to lead in worship, to teach and proclaim God's word, to assist elders and appointed local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, 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, especially in the face of hardship and personal sacrifice.

This is the rule of life and work of a deacon.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of a deacon?
I do so believe.

PRAYER FOR DEACONS

As these persons are ordained by God and the Church for the ministry of deacons 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 a 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.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR DEACONS

Almighty God, pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a deacon in Christ's holy church. Amen.

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. Amen.

Friends, let us pray together and as we pray, I invite the church to extend your arms toward these persons.

Almighty God, may the grace of ministry rest upon these your servants and may the opportunity to serve lead them into the fullness of your calling. Clothe them with righteousness, and grant that they may glorify you by giving themselves to others, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

I present to you the newly ordained deacons of the North Georgia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

TRANSFER FROM ORDER OF DEACONS TO ORDER OF ELDERS

After due examination of your call and ministry in another part of Christ's holy church, we now welcome you to this communion. You have given

Candidates for ordination as deacon proceed to the stage under the direction of the marshals.

Family members and friends are invited to stand for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for each candidate.

Once ordained, please return to seats and remain standing.

Newly ordained deacons may be seated.

assurance of your faith and Christian experience. You have renewed the vows of your ordination and committed yourself to uphold faithfully The United Methodist Church. We rejoice that you have been called to serve as an Elder, and pray that God may guide your ministry. Kristen Heiden, we now recognize you as an Elder in The United Methodist Church.

Candidates for ordination as elder please stand.

EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

An elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and the whole church: to preach and teach the word of God, and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, 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.

This is the rule of life and work of an elder.

Do you believe the God has called you to the life and work of an elder?

The candidates respond: I do so believe.

PRAYER FOR ELDERS

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 for them.

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.**

Candidates for ordination as elder proceed to the stage under the direction of the marshals.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR ELDERS

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

Name, take authority as an elder to preach 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

Friends, let us pray together and as we pray I invite the Church to extend your arms toward these persons.

Almighty God, may the grace of ministry rest upon these your servants and may the opportunity to serve lead them into the fullness of your calling. Clothe them with your righteousness, and grant that they may glorify you by giving themselves to others, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

I present to you these newly ordained elders of the North Georgia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church!

INVITATION TO HEAR THE CALL

Bishop Hauptert-Johnson

SONG OF INVITATION | *Take My Life and Let It Be*

MESSIAH

**Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.**

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

*Once ordained, please return
to seats and remain standing.*

*Newly ordained elders may
be seated.*

BENEDICTION

Bishop Hauptert-Johnson

RETIRING PROCESSION | “*God of Grace and God of Glory*”

CWM RHONDDA

**God of grace and God of glory,
on the people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church’s story,
bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.**

**Cure thy children’s warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom’s goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom’s goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.**

POSTLUDE | Variations on ENGELBERG -
Variations IV, VI, and VII // Mark Miller

Will Buthod
Organist

*Please wait to be
dismissed by ushers.*

*Following the worship service, please meet
family and friends outside the Classic Center.*

Worship Leaders

Presiding Bishop | *Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson, Resident Bishop, North Georgia Conference*

Visiting Bishop | *Bishop Sharma Lewis, Resident Bishop, Virginia Conference*

Assisting Deacon | *Laura Rappold, North Georgia Housing and Homeless Council*

Presenters | *Bill Martin, Conference Lay Leader; Bernice Kirkland, Director of the Center for Clergy Excellence; Julie Boone, Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry; Yvette Massey, Chair of the Order of Elders; Shannon Karafanda, Chair of the Order of Deacons; YoLonda Jones-Colton, Chair of the Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members*

Conference Worship Coordinator | *Michael Dauterman, Glenn Memorial UMC*

Conference Music Director | *Will Buthod*

Choir | *Michael Dauterman, Director; Soprano: Deborah Stephens, Sylvia Ware, Alexis Lundy, Megan Schuitema; Alto: Kerry Ginger, Heather Witt, Liz Knight, Emily Skilling; Tenor: Ryan Koter, Erik Gustafson, Cory Klose, JD Burnett; Bass: Jacob Augsten, August Bair, Andrew Schmidt, Joel Terning*

Brass | *Philip Smith, Trumpet; Brandon Craswell, Trumpet; James Naigus, Horn; Joshua Bynum, Trombone; Matthew Shipes, Tuba; Trevor Barroero, Timpani*

Service Coordinators | *Michael Dauterman, Glenn Memorial UMC; Bernice Kirkland, Director, Center for Clergy Excellence; Will Buthod, Conference Music Director; Betsy Butler, Athens First UMC; Robert Gilleo, St. Mark UMC; Deanne Lynch, Lawrenceville UMC; Cyndi McDonald, Barnesville First UMC*

Marshalls | *Susan Allen Grady, Dave Allen Grady*

Music | *Music used by permission in agreement with Christian Copyright Licensing, Inc. - CCLI #1140516*

Special Thanks | *Special thanks to the family of Glenn Ethridge and to Oak Grove UMC for allowing us to share Glenn's final sermon today.*

About the Visuals

The worship banners were made by our visuals team to align with our Annual Conference theme, “Love is Making Room.” They created the artwork by placing pools of paint on one end of the cloth banner, then pulling an edging paint tool through the pooled paint to the bottom of the cloth.

This technique blends paint and the motion across the cloth creates an image of people gathered and embracing. The text added to side banners reflects the scripture and themes of the Service of Remembrance and the Service of Licensing, Commissioning, and Ordination.

Complementing the banners are streams of wooden hearts. Churches across the conference contributed pictures of their congregation showing love in action over the past year. More than 750 North Georgia Conference Churches are represented in the photos.

A. E. Schlueter

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New organ, Lakeland, Fla.



Cordele UMC
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New organ, Cordele, Ga.



Bethel UMC
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