

# Commissioning of Assembly Accredited Lay Preachers

---

and encouraged to choose appropriate Bible passages, and to write or prepare their own prayers and material to use alongside or instead of the examples here. **There are, however, some parts of the text that must be used and these are indicated by the orange boxes.**

A commissioning service is conducted by the Synod after accreditation by the Ministries Committee on behalf of the General Assembly. The commissioning may be a special service and the Synod Lay Preaching Advocate/Commissioner may share in the leadership of it. Where the service is part of an act of worship at a meeting of the synod, the Moderator or their representative normally presides. If the service takes place on a Sunday at the lay preacher's own church, a representative of the synod normally presides.

Please adapt the pronouns in the service as appropriate.

The act of commissioning should follow the proclamation of the Word.

1.	Introduction .....	b2
2.	Statement .....	b2
3.	Statement concerning the Nature, Faith and Order of the United Reformed Church (Schedule D) .....	b2
4.	Prayers .....	b4
5.	Commissioning .....	b5
6.	Declaration.....	b5
7.	Presentation.....	b5

---

---

---



The highest authority for what we believe and do  
is God's Word in the Bible,  
alive for his people today through the help of the Spirit.

**All We respond to this Word, whose servants we are  
with all God's people through the years.**

We accept with thanksgiving to God  
the witness to the catholic faith  
in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds.  
We acknowledge the declarations made in our own tradition  
by Congregationalists, Presbyterians and Churches of Christ  
in which they stated the faith  
and sought to make its implications clear.

**All Faith alive and active: gift of an eternal source,  
renewed for every generation.**

We conduct our life together according to the Basis of Union  
in which we give expression to our faith  
in forms which we believe  
contain the essential elements of the Church's life,  
both catholic and reformed;  
to change the Basis of Union  
and to make new statements of faith  
in ever new obedience to the living Christ.

**All Our crucified and risen Lord,  
who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection.**

Held together in the Body of Christ  
through the freedom of the Spirit,  
we rejoice in the diversity of the Spirit's gifts  
and uphold the rights of personal conviction.  
For the sake of faith and fellowship  
it shall be for the church to decide

**All We commit ourselves to speak the truth in love  
and grow together in the peace of Christ.**

We believe that Christ gives his Church  
a government distinct from the government of the state.  
the Church is not subordinate to the state,  
its only Ruler and Head.

Civil authorities are called  
to serve God's will of justice and peace for all humankind,  
and to respect the rights of conscience and belief.

*All* **While we ourselves are servants in the world  
as citizens of God's eternal kingdom.**

Y ^Áæ ! { Á [ ~ !Áâ } c^ } cá [ } Ác [ Á \* [ Á [ } Á ] !æ ^ â } \* Áæ } áÁ , [ ! \ â } \* ÉÁ  
with all our fellow Christians,  
for the visible unity of the Church in the way Christ chooses,  
so that people and nations may be led to love and serve God  
and praise him more and more for ever.

*All*



The presiding Minister asks the congregation:

Do you, the members of this local church and the members of ... XY ... Synod receive ... N ... as an Assembly Accredited Lay Preacher and promise them

---

---

---