

Ordination and Induction of Ministers of the Word and Sacraments

7 KLV VHU YLFH LV R†HUHG DV DQ H[DPSOH 0LQLVWHUV D
 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 meeting of the synod shall be constituted, at which the Synod Moderator (or a deputy) shall preside representing the synod. (The Structure Section B). The ordination shall normally be held in the pastorate to which the Minister of The Word and Sacraments is being inducted. If desired, the Lord’s Supper may be celebrated.

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Spirit128

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Welcome and Call to Worship

Including one or more Scripture sentences, in simple or responsive form
(suitable sentences include Ephesians 6:23-24; Revelation 1:4b;
Colossians 1:15-16, 18a-b, 19a)

Hymn or song

Prayers of Approach

Beginning with praise:
either

All Sovereign God, you are neither made nor fashioned:
you are the Creator and source of life,
perfect Saviour,
Intercessor and giver of spiritual gifts.
God of all grace, whose love for us is unconditional:
All you are the Source and Guide and Goal of all that is;
we stand in awe at your majesty and might.
When we are in your holy presence,
All our hearts are renewed with adoration, we praise you;
our souls are renewed with lasting peace, we praise you;
our minds are renewed with inspiration, we praise you;
and our strength is renewed with hope, we praise you.

or

All We praise you, God, the Creator:
through your love and power all things came to be and continue
in their being.
: H S U D L V H \ R X - H V X V & K U L V W W K H : R U G P D G H Å H V
All through your death and resurrection
we are reconciled within God's family
and born into a new and living hope.
We praise you, Holy Spirit, the Giver of life:
All W K U R X J K Z L Q G D Q G ¿ U H W K H & K X U F K Z D V E R U Q
and by your gifts the body of Christ is built up.
With the whole Church on earth and in heaven we praise you:
All one God for ever.
Amen.

or

All For the wonders of creation and the beauty of this earth:
:
All

Continuing with assurance of forgiveness:

either

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance:

& K U L V W - H V X V F D P H L Q W R W K H Z R U O G W R V D Y H V L C

1 Timothy 1:15

To all who turn to God, who take hold of the grace that has been revealed,
this is Christ's gracious word:

Statement

The presiding Minister says:

We meet today as the ... X ... Synod of the United Reformed Church, in the company of members of ... YZ ... churches (representatives of ...) ... and friends from far and wide. We welcome you all.

Christians share, through their baptism, in the ministry of Christ; and all Christians are called to be ministers of God's love. The life of faithful discipleship is cradled in worship, shaped in study of the Scriptures, and expressed in loving service in the Church and in the world. God gives a variety of gifts, from the same Spirit, to equip the Church for the work of ministry and to build up the body of Christ.

Continuing with either (at an Ordination and Induction):

In succession to the apostles and in company with all who follow in Christ's way, some are called to be Ministers of the Word and Sacraments; and it is to this ministry that we have come to ordain ... N ... , and to induct them to serve in ...

or (at an Induction of a previously-ordained Minister of the Word and Sacraments):

In succession to the apostles and in company with all who follow in Christ's way, some are called to be Ministers of the Word and Sacraments; and it is within this ministry that we have come to induct ... N ... to serve in ...

Readings from Scripture

The following readings are appropriate:

Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures):

Exodus 33:12-14; Deuteronomy 30:11-20; 1 Kings 19:1-21; Nehemiah 8:1-12;
, V D L D K - H U H P L D K

New Testament:

Matthew 5:1-12; Mark 3:13-19; 6:30-44; 10:35-45; Luke 4:14-21; 10:1-11;
- R K Q \$ F W V 5 R P D Q V
1 Corinthians 12:4-13; 2 Corinthians 4:1-15; Ephesians 3:8-21; 4:1-16;
Philippians 2:1-16; 1 Peter 4:8-11; 5:1-4.

An appropriate response may be used before and/or after each reading, for example:

Let us listen for God's word to us today.

All May our ears and our hearts be open.

or

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All Thanks be to God.

Presentation of the Candidate

The Interim Moderator may present the candidate to the presiding Minister with these or similar words:

Moderator, I present to you ... N ... for [ordination and] induction.

At an Ordination with Induction:

... N ... was accepted as a candidate by the United Reformed Church,
has been prepared for ordination by ... College,
is commended for ordination by ... their sending Synod,
and, through a process of prayerful discernment,
has been called to serve here by decision of ... (church meeting/appointing body)
[with the concurrence of ...]

Or, at an Induction of a previously ordained Minister:

... N ... has previously served as a Minister of the Word and Sacraments
at ... AB ... ,
and, through a process of prayerful discernment,
has been called to serve here by decision of ... (church meeting/appointing body)
[with the concurrence of ...]

Narrative of the Call

One or more representatives of the congregation/s or appointing body makes a



8. Do you promise
as a Minister of the United Reformed Church
to seek its well-being, purity and peace,
to cherish love towards all other churches
and to endeavour always to build up

WKH RQH KRO\ FDWKROLF DQG DSRVWROLF & KXUFH

By the grace of God, I do.

9. Will you undertake to exercise your ministry
in accordance with the Statement concerning

WKH 1DWXUH)DLWK DQG 2UGHU RI WKH 8QLWHG 5RC

I will, and all these things I profess and promise

: K D W O H D G V \ R X W R W K L V P L Q L V W U \ "

So far as I know my own heart,
I believe that zeal for the glory of God,
love for the Lord Jesus Christ,
obedience to the Holy Spirit
and a desire for the salvation of the world,
are the chief motives which lead me to enter this ministry.
Relying on the strength of Christ,
I promise to live a holy life,
and to maintain the truth of the gospel,
whatever trouble or persecution may arise.

: L O O \ R X I D L W K I X O O \ I X O ¿ O W K H G X W L H V R I \ R X U F K D U .

By the grace of God
I promise to lead the Church in worship,
to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments,
to exercise pastoral care and oversight,
to take my part in the councils of the Church,
and to give leadership to the Church in mission to the world.

As a Minister of the United Reformed Church
I promise to seek its well-being, purity, and peace,
to cherish love towards all other churches,
and to endeavour always to build up
the one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I undertake to exercise my ministry
in accordance with the Statement concerning the Nature,
Faith and Order
of the United Reformed Church.
All these things I profess and promise in the power of the
Holy Spirit.

* The presiding Minister (after appropriate consultation) may modify the wording

R I W K H D Q V Z H U W R T X H V W L R Q W R ¿ W W K H N L Q G R I P L
has been called.

Promises

The presiding Minister asks the congregation:
either

Do you confess again your faith in one God, the Trinity of love –

ZKRVH FKLOGUHQ ZH DUH FR KHLUV ZLWK &KULVW FUR

All We do.

or

'R \RX FRQIHVV DJDLQ \RXU IDLWK LQ RQH *RG)DWKHU

All We do.

Continuing:

Do you receive ... N ... as from God, as a Minister of The Word and

6DFUDPHQWV RI WKH 8QLWHG 5HIRUPHG &KXUFK"

All We do.

Will you pray for ... N ... in this ministry,

giving them GXH KRQRXU VXSSRUW DQG HQFRXUDJHPHQW"

All We will.

Continuing with a question addressed to those in particular who will receive

Hymn of the Holy Spirit

2 QH SRVVLEOH K\PQ RI WKH +RO\ 6SLULW LV R‡HUHG

(NOTE: At an Ordination and Induction, this hymn is instead used earlier in the
VHUYLFH DIWHU WKH 2UGLQDQG‡V D^UPDWLRQV

Induction Prayer

The presiding Minister prays:

Eternal God, you have called and gathered us, with all your Church,
to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed;
and, in your Holy Spirit, we receive all the gifts we need.
We give thanks, today, because you have called and set apart ... N ...
to be a Minister of The Word and Sacraments in this place [or, in this pastorate].

As we receive and induct them LQ WKH QDPH RI -HVXV &KULVW W
strengthen and encourage them, we pray,
that the ministry and mission of your people may bear fruit.
Inspire them in leading worship,
in preaching and teaching and service;
may the Gospel be celebrated when they preside at the sacraments.
Nurture them with love and humility
WR WHQG \RXU ÀRFN WR IHHG WKH KXQJU\ KHDO W
Bless them with power and patience,
to witness with all Christians to your way,
and labour with all people of goodwill for justice and mercy in society.

Give them joy in their ministry,
DQG WKH IXO ÿOPHQW RI EHLQJ URRWHG LQ \RXU ZL
Watch over them in times of trial; in weariness, disappointment, or frustration;
and keep them from complacency and spiritual pride.
Fill their home with your peace.

(Special petitions may be added at this point)

Give grace to the people of this church [or, this pastorate; or other suitable
description],

WKDW WKH\ PD\ DFFHSW WKH VHUYLFH *RG R‡HUV W
May they work together in unity and joy for the glory of your name.
And may the good work you have begun today
EH EURXJKW WR FRPSOHWLRQ LQ -HVXV &KULVW
who lives and reigns with you, God who brought us to birth,
and with the Holy Spirit, the Breath of life:
one eternal Trinity of love, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Welcome

The newly inducted Minister of The Word and Sacraments is greeted by the presiding Minister and by others duly appointed, who may include representatives of the pastorate or appointing body, and of such local grouping or area of URCs as may exist within the synod, as well as by ecumenical, civic and community representatives.

Giving of Gifts

The Minister of The Word and Sacraments may be presented with symbolic gifts, and appropriate words may be used; for example:

All Receive this Bible,
the word of God, living and active.

Hebrews 4:12a

All Receive this cup and plate,
to hold bread and wine for the feeding of God's people.

All Receive this water,
symbol of baptism and sign of new life.

Prayers of Intercession

7 K H V H S U D \ H U V P D \ E H V S R N H Q E \ G L † H U H Q W Y
Lord's Prayer.

Hymn or song

Dismissal and Blessing

Either

5 H M R L F H L Q K R S H E H S D W L H Q W L Q V X † H U L Q J S H U
Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
[Live in harmony with one another;
do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly;
do not claim to be wiser than you are.
Do not repay anyone evil for evil,
but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.
If it is possible, so far as it depends on you,
live peaceably with all.]

Romans 12:12-15 [-18]

or

Go into the world: dance, laugh, sing and create.

All With the assurance of God's blessing, we go.

Go into the world: risk, explore, discover, and love.

All With the assurance of God's blessing, we go.

Go into the world: believe, hope, struggle and remember.

All With the assurance of God's blessing, we go.

Go forth remembering who you are and to whom you belong.

All Thanks be to God!

Amen.

or

Now to the One who is able to keep you from falling,
and to make you stand without blemish
in the presence of divine glory with rejoicing,
to the only God our Saviour,

W K U R X J K - H V X V & K U L V W R X U / R U G

be glory, majesty, power and authority,
before all time, now and for ever.

- X G H

All Amen.

or

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak;
K H O S W K H D % L F W H G
honour everyone;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Continuing with:

(And) The blessing of God Almighty,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer
[or, Author of all, and living Word, and Voice of love within]
[or, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,]
be with you always.

All Amen.