

**The Way Forward: Lead with Excellence**  
**A Service of Commissioning and Ordination**  
**The Arkansas Annual Conference**

*Sunday, June 22, 2014 1:00 P.M.*

*Rogers, AR*

**GATHERING**

PRELUDE

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

arr. by Diane Bish

WELCOME

Reverend DeeDee Autry

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Here I Am, Lord*

UMH 593

(TUNE: HERE I AM, LORD)

\*GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

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

**All: And also with you.**

*Leader:* 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.

*Leader:* Let us pray:

**All: 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 COMMON MINISTRY AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

*Leader:* ...remember your baptism and be thankful.

**All: We remember our baptism and affirm our common ministry.**

PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE COMMISSIONED, ORDAINED, OR RECOGNIZED

Karon Mann, Reverend Stephen Coburn, Reverend JJ Whitney, and Reverend Adam Kirby

We present these persons to be commissioned (into a provisional relationship with the Annual Conference):

*Deacon*

Michelle Whitfield

*Elders*

Clark Atkins

Bill Cato

Blake Langston

Kathleen McMurray

Bill Sardin

Todd Vick

Dane Womack

We present these persons to be ordained deacons:

Donna Hendricks  
Martha Taylor  
Garry Teeter

We present these persons to be ordained elders:

Mike Blanchard  
Katie Pearce  
David Ruehr

*Leader:* ...Do you trust that they are worthy, by God's grace,  
to be commissioned or ordained?

**All: We do! Thanks be to God!**

*Leader:* Will you uphold them in their ministry?

**All: With God's help, we will!**

GENERAL EXAMINATION

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 13:1-5

Madison Akins-Banman

ANTHEM

*Order My Steps*

Glen Burleigh

EXAMINATION OF PERSONS BEING COMMISSIONED

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING

*Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer as candidates are commissioned.*

*Leader:* ...in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:16-20

Madison Akins-Banman

*Leader:* This is the Word of God for the people of God!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Lead by Following"

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Today's offering is designated for "Imagine No Malaria."*

Bishop Felton May

OFFERTORY

*Santo*  
The New Hope Singers  
*Capriccio*  
Marilyn Lee

Mark Burroughs

LeMaigre

\*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 95  
(TUNE: OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>)

EXAMINATION OF DEACONS

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER OF ORDINATION FOR DEACONS

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

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

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

**All: Amen.**

*Leader: Name, take authority as a deacon  
to proclaim the Word of God,  
and to lead God's people to serve the world  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**All: Amen.**

#### EXAMINATION OF PERSONS BEING ORDAINED AS ELDERS

#### LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER OF ORDINATION FOR ELDERS

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

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

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

**All: Amen.**

*Leader: 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.*

**All: Amen.**

#### HYMN

*Thy Word Is a Lamp*

UMH 601  
(TUNE: THY WORD)

#### THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

#### SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

#### INVITATION TO THE TABLE AND PEACE

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

*Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, and all who seek to be at peace  
with God and one another.*

*Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you!*

**All: And also with you!**

*Signs of reconciliation and love may be exchanged.*

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

*Leader: The Lord be with you.*

**All: And also with you.**

*Leader: Lift up your hearts.*

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing...*

*Leader: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn:*

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Leader: Holy are you...*

*Leader: ...in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

**All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*Leader:* Pour out your Holy Spirit...

*Leader:* ...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,  
now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, they will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power  
and the glory forever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

Bishop Gary E. Mueller

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

*Adagio*

Nyquist

CELEBRATION OF APPOINTMENTS

*As each District Superintendent shares the liturgy for their district,  
those clergy and lay who are a part of the district are invited to stand.*

#### **SENDING FORTH**

\*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Donna Hendricks, Rev. Martha Taylor, Rev. Garry Teeter

*Leader:* Go in peace to serve God and your neighbor...imagining unlimited possibilities in all that you do.

**All: We go in the name of Christ. Thanks be to God!**

*Leader:* The blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you always.

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Go, Make of All Disciples*

UMH 571  
(TUNE: LANCASHIRE)

\*POSTLUDE

*III Parade*

Young

*\*Those who are able may stand*

*Reception immediately following, sponsored by Hendrix College*

## **Worship Participants and Notes**

### **Participating Bishops**

Bishop Gary E. Mueller, Resident Bishop of the Arkansas Episcopal Area  
Bishop Felton May, Retired United Methodist Bishop

### **Liturgists**

Reverend JJ Whitney, Hendrix College, Conway, AR  
Karon Mann, Pulaski Heights UMC, AR  
Reverend Stephen Coburn, Springdale First UMC, AR  
Reverend Adam Kirby, Central High School, Little Rock, AR  
Madison Akins-Banman, Arkansas Conference Council on Youth Ministry

### **Service Music**

The New Hope Singers from Central UMC, Rogers, AR  
Under the Direction of Jachin Mann, Director of Music and Worship at Central UMC, Rogers, AR  
Instrumentalist, Marilyn Lee, Central UMC, Rogers, AR

### **Ushers and Greeters**

Central UMC, Rogers, AR

### **Service Planning**

Reverend DeeDee Atry, Chairperson, Wesley UMC, Russellville, AR  
Conference Board of Ordained Ministry Subcommittee  
Reverend Pat Henry, First UMC, Maumelle, AR  
Conference Worship Committee

A special thank you goes to Nancy Meredith, Board Secretary, for providing support and assistance for our newly commissioned and ordained members.

A special thank you to Frank Kayter, First UMC, Beebe, and Reverend Russell Hull, First UMC, Beebe, for refurbishing the Conference kneeler.

Hymns are used under agreement with CCLI#795390.

## A Word of Explanation

Through the years, many changes have occurred in the process of becoming a United Methodist Minister, in part to accommodate the different kinds of ministry into which one is called, various journeys of Christian faith and diverse stages of life. As accommodating as these changes have been, they may be confusing. Hence, the following brief explanation of parts of tonight's service.

### CLERGY CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP/ CLERGY ORDERS

Although often tied together, clergy conference membership and clergy orders are actually distinct from each other.

- **Orders** relate to God's call to ministry
- **Conference membership** relates to fulfilling that call within the United Methodist Church.

### ELDER/DEACON

- **Deacons** are ordained to a "lifetime ministry of Word and Service to both the community and the congregation..." (Par.329.1)
- **Elders** are ordained to a "lifetime ministry of Service, Word, Sacrament and Order." (Par.332)

### PROVISIONAL COMMISSIONING

- Commissioning denoted progress toward, but not completion of, the requirements for ordination, a commitment to ministry and intention to enter full conference membership. Therefore, commissioned clergy are **Provisional Members**.