

ORDINATION PRAYER

Gracious God, in you alone dwells the fullness of wisdom and goodness, truth and mercy. As we gather to consecrate (*full name*) to the Christian ministry, we recognize that if you had not first called her as your servant, no hands of ours could empower her, no prayers of ours could create her, no rituals of ours could ordain her. It is your Holy Spirit present in this time, in this place, in this moment that both exalts and humbles (*first name*) as she is called to be your Minister of the Christian gospel. Because of your presence, we as the gathered body, witnesses to this holy sacrament, are made ready to be your blessing incarnate and we celebrate with joy this sacred act.

We declare to all people that you have summoned (*name*) to your particular service, and in the company of your chosen congregation, we commission her to be set apart to the particular obligations and responsibilities of ministry. When she preaches, Lord, may she preach not just words, but The Word. When she handles human souls, let her mind be kept warm by compassion and her heart held firm in the truth. When she leads congregations in your praise, guard her from such anxiety about leading that she overlooks her need to be praising. May she be diligent in prayer, study and service. We pray that she will see the world with your eyes of justice and her heart be kept kindled with your mercy so that she might bless the world she walks in.

In your name we place our hands upon (*name*) and do ordain her to Christian Ministry, to be strength to those who are weak, peace to those in strife, light to those who walk in darkness and hope to all in sorrow. May your faithful call to (*first name*) be the faithfulness in which she ministers. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

CHARGE TO THE ORDINAND

Reverend Yvette Wilson, you are ordained to the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament and by the authority of Jesus Christ discerned by Plymouth Church, you are commissioned to preach and teach the word of God, lead the worship of Christ's church, administer the Holy Sacraments of the church and to be a faithful shepherd of the people of God.

Remember, therefore, how great a treasure is committed to your care. The people you serve are the flock of Christ for whom he gave his life. Never stop loving Christ the Shepherd and never cease caring for his sheep. Labor faithfully on their behalf and do everything in your power to bring all those entrusted to your care to mature faith and the knowledge of God.

I charge you, therefore, in presence of Jesus Christ: preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort. Be unfailing in patience and care for the people of God. Do the work of an evangelist. Fulfill your ministry.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord be kind and gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace. Amen.