

cultivate



North Alabama Annual Conference 2013

new in Christ

**NORTH ALABAMA
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013**

WORSHIP SERVICES

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OPENING CELEBRATION

JUNE 2, 2013 ♦ 7 P.M.

BILL BATTLE COLISEUM

**Those who are able, please stand.*

WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL REHEARSAL

As we worship together this evening we will experience the rich diversity of United Methodism in North Alabama. We represent a multiplicity of traditions and cultures. Let us prepare ourselves for a beautiful tapestry of prayer and praise, woven by the Holy Spirit from threads in familiar hues and some magnificently new.

HANDBELL ACCLAMATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

O taste and see that the Lord is good!

Let us give thanks to God and bless God's Holy Name!

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Preludio from Organ Sonata Number 3 in C Minor* ALEXANDRE GUILMANT
Christopher Henley, Organist

SCRIPTURE SENTENCES

Will English

So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything,

But only God gives the growth.

The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose,

But only God gives the growth.

Each will receive wages according to the labor of each,

But only God gives the growth.

We are God's servants, working together; God's field, God's building;

Hallelujah! God gives the growth!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN
North Alabama Conference Mass Choir and Orchestra — Quinton Harris, Conductor

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;

join me in glad adoration.

(Choral interlude)

*Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning
bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.*

God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds.

Hast thou not known his sustaining?

(Choral interlude)

*Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.*

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,

who with his love doth befriend thee.

(Choral interlude)

*Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.*

(Choral interlude)

*Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING	Tongsung Kido	Rev. Hong-il Ji, Rev. Mitchell Williams
FIRST LESSON	Isaiah 55:8-13	Rev. Dr. Regenia Garrett
ANTHEM	<i>Shine Jesus Shine</i> Gordo United Methodist Kids Worship Team — Jennifer Manning, Director	CRYSTAL LEWIS
GOSPEL LESSON	John 15:1-5	Rev. T. H. Barrett
*HYMN	<i>O Blessed Spring</i>	SUSAN PALO CHERWIEN
	<i>O blessed spring, where Word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine: here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life-giving Tree. Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, be praised for this blest mystery: that Word and water thus revive and join us to your Tree of Life.</i>	
EPISTLE LESSON	I Corinthians 3:7-9	Will English
ANTHEM	<i>Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee</i>	DAN GOELLER
SERMON	“Becoming New in Christ”	Bishop Wallace-Padgett

COMMISSIONING OF NORTH ALABAMA CAMPUS MINISTRY LEADERS

Bishop Wallace-Padgett says:

These leaders are to be the hands and feet of Christ, to serve this generation of young adults at the colleges and universities in our Conference. They are role models for faithfulness in a world where many young adults are falling away from faith and involvement in the church. These leaders will be working at Jacksonville State University, the University of North Alabama, Athens State, the University of Alabama, Birmingham-Southern College and at the University of Alabama-Birmingham. This day we affirm them and their commitment to exploring God’s call to service. We commission them for service in the name of Jesus Christ.

All who take upon themselves the name of Christ are called to be ministers of love and service by the example of Christ. As you serve your campus in the coming academic year, may the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in this, and in all things, you may do God’s will and serve faithfully in the name of Jesus Christ. On behalf of the North Alabama Conference, I commend you to this work and pledge our prayers, encouragement, and support.

The congregation responds:

We recognize you as ambassadors among us and dedicate you to service in the name of Jesus Christ. Through our prayers we will be united with you in your work. May God richly bless your labors.

Bishop Wallace-Padgett and the Cabinet lay hands on these leaders as she prays:

Almighty God, look with favor upon these leaders whom we have commissioned to serve in your name. Give them courage, patience, strength and vision that they may serve faithfully, grow spiritually and find much fulfillment in their good works. **Amen.**

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II

INVITATION

Bishop Wallace-Padgett, Celebrant

Christ our Lord invites to his Table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.
All exchange signs and words of God's peace.

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
almighty God, creator of heaven and earth...

...And so,

with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...And so,

in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine...

...Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The elements will be received by intinction at stations located throughout the Coliseum. Please exit your seat to the left and return from the right as directed by the ushers.

ANTHEMS DURING COMMUNION

*O Blessed Spring
Christ Hath a Garden*

JOHN HELGEN
K. LEE SCOTT

REFRAIN: *Walk on, O people of God;
walk on, O people of God!
A new law, God's new alliance,
all creation is reborn.
Walk on, O people of God;
walk on, O people of God!*

*Look on Calvary's summit;
on the rock there towers a cross;
death that gives birth to new living,
a new people, a new light
Christ has brought us salvation
with his death and rising again.
Everything comes to new birthing,
all creation is reborn.*

(Refrain)

*Christ takes into his body
all our sin, enslavement, and pain;
as he destroys them he brings us
life's abundance, life's new joy.
Christ brings reconciliation
to all things and people with God.
Nature bursts into new flowering,
all creation is reborn.*

(Refrain)

*Heaven and earth are embracing,
and our souls find pardon at last.
Now heaven's gates are reopened
to the sinner, to us all.
Israel walks a journey;
now we live, salvation's our song;
Christ's resurrection has freed us.
There are new worlds to explore.*

(Refrain)

ESTRIBILLO: *Camina, pueblo de Dios,
camina, pueblo de Dios,
Nueva ley, nueva alianza,
en la nueva creación.
Camina, pueblo de Dios,
camina, pueblo de Dios,
Mira allá en el Calvario
en la roca hay una cruz;
muerte que engendra la vida,
nuevos hombres, nueva luz.
Cristo nos ha salvado
con su muerte y resurrección.
Todas las cosas renacen
en la nueva creación.*

(Estrillo)

*Cristo toma en su cuerpo,
el pecado, la esclavitud;
al destruirlos nos trae
una nueva plenitud.
Pone en paz a los hombres,
a las cosas y al Creador.
Todo renace a la vida
en la nueva creación.*

(Estrillo)

*Cielo y tierra se abrazan,
nuestra alma halla perdón.
Vuelven a abrirse los cielos
para el hombre pecador.
Israel peregrino
vive y canta tu redención.
Hay nuevos mundos abiertos
en la nueva creación.*

(Estrillo)

*SENDING FORTH

Bishop Wallace-Padgett

Let us go forth with a common purpose to plant and to water, trusting that God will give the growth.
Hallelujah! God gives the growth! We go to work together as God's servants. Amen and Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Improvisation on *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

Christopher Henley, Organist

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

Preacher and Communion Celebrant

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Resident Bishop, Birmingham Episcopal Area

Liturgists and Readers

Rev. T. H. Barrett
Retired Elder, North Alabama Conference

Will English
*Wesley Foundation Mission Staff
Member, Helena United Methodist Church*

Rev. Dr. Regenia Garrett
*River of Living Water United Methodist Ministries
Pastor, Christ and Durr's Chapel United Methodist Churches*

Rev. Hong-il Ji
Pastor, Birmingham Korean United Methodist Church

Rev. Mitchell Williams
Pastor, Cullman First United Methodist Church

Communion Servers

Campus Ministry Leaders in the North Alabama Conference

Mass Choir and Orchestra Conductor

Quinton Harris
Director of Music Ministries, Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church

Organist

Christopher B. Henley
Organist, Pell City First United Methodist Church

Mass Choir and Instrumentalists

Members of United Methodist Churches in the North Alabama Conference

Children's Choir

Gordo First United Methodist Church Kids Worship Team
Jennifer Manning, Director

Soloist

John Elliott
North Alabama Conference Worship Leader

Altar Arrangements and Visuals

Chrystal Smith
Director of Programs, Camp Sumatanga

Opening Celebration Coordinator

Rev. Lonna Lynn Euler Higgs, ACC
Director of Church Relations, UMCH of Alabama and Northwest Florida

COMMUNION BREAD PROVIDED BY SUMATANGA

The bread for communion was provided through the Bread for the Soul ministry of Camp Sumatanga. Through Bread for the Soul your congregation may have handmade bread delivered to your church for use during the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. For more information contact Sumatanga Food Service Director, Donna Bailey at foodservice@sumatanga.org.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION, COMMISSIONING AND LICENSING

MONDAY, JUNE 3 ♦ 7 P.M.

VESTAVIA HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Those who are able, please stand.*

BELL ACCLAMATION

VOLUNTARY

God of Grace

PAUL MANZ

The service begins with a processional of all clergy.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

Refrain: *Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign.
The hosts of God in unity combine.*

(Refrain)

*Each newborn servant of the Crucified
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.*

(Refrain)

*O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw the world to thee.*

(Refrain)

*So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory!*

(Refrain)

*GREETING AND PRAYER

Bishop Robert C. Morgan

The bishop begins; the people respond.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

The Creator of heaven and earth.

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 together.

**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 COMMON MINISTRY

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 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 LICENSES TO NEW LOCAL PASTORS

The candidates come to the altar rails and the bishop says:

Dear Friends,
These persons have completed the requirements
for their licenses as local pastors
and are recommended by their District Committees on Ordained Ministry.
We have inquired diligently concerning them
and have found them to be fit for this sacred vocation.

The bishop addresses the candidates, saying:

Do you believe you are moved by the Holy Spirit to serve as a local pastor?

I do.

Will you strive to live a life in keeping with what you preach?

I will.

The bishop says:

You are hereby authorized to serve as a local pastor
in the congregation to which you are appointed.
Take care that you perform these duties faithfully
as much as you are able, the Lord being your helper.

The bishop calls the people to prayer, saying:

Let us pray for these persons.

Almighty God, whose Word is truth, in the keeping of which is eternal life:

We thank you 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.

OFFERING

ANTHEM

O Be Joyful in the Lord

JOHN RUTTER

COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

Rev. Donald S. Neal, Executive Director of the Office of Ordained Ministry and Superannuate Homes:

I present for commissioning these person who have been elected provisional members. They have completed the educational requirements prescribed by the *2012 Book of Discipline*, and they come with the affirmation of their local churches, district committees on ordained ministry, and the annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

Joseph Scott Coats
Adlene Rutendo Kufarimai
Christopher Ervin Martin
Angela Denise Teel

The bishop says to the congregation:

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 us all 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 plentiful the harvest,
and are ready to respond generously to the Lord
in the words of the prophet: “Here I am; send me.”

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

The Church has discerned that they are persons of sound learning
and of Christian character,
possessing the necessary gifts and signs
of God's grace for ministry.

We ask you, people of God, to declare you assent
to the commissioning of these persons.

Do you trust that they are called by God's grace to be commissioned?

We do so trust! Thanks be to God!

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

With God's help, we will!

The Bishop examines the candidates:

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
this is a solemn hour in your life and the life of the church.

You have shared in the ministry of all the baptized
and have witnessed to Christ's call to leadership among the people of God.

Serving among us as faithful disciples, you have shown gifts and graces
for leading the people of God in living and proclaiming the gospel to all people.

Will you give yourself fully to the work of God in the world
and to servant leadership in the life and work of Christ's church?

Following Christ, I will.

Will you join with other provisional members for mutual support in the practice
of leadership among the people of God?

With God's help, I will.

As you have placed your faith in the Triune God,
committed yourself to the study of scriptures,
and seek to pattern your life after the mission and ministry of Christ,
Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church,
accepting its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline,
defending it against all doctrines contrary to God's Holy Word,
and committing yourself to be accountable to those serving with you,
and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?

I will, with the help of God.

PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING FOR PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

Persons invited to stand with the candidates come forward. The candidates kneel. Invited persons lay hands on shoulders. The bishop, laying both hands upon each candidate, prays:

Gracious God, 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.**

After all the candidates have been commissioned, the bishop says:

Let us pray.
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.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION

Steve Lyles, North Alabama Conference Lay Leader:

Bishop Wallace-Padgett,
on behalf of the laity of the local congregations
who have examined and approved these candidates,

Dr. Rick Owen, Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry:

and on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry of this Annual Conference,
which has examined and recommended these persons,
and this Annual Conference, which has approved them,
we present to you this person to be ordained as a deacon:

John Faison Oates Bailey

and we present these persons to be ordained elders:

Patrick Ryan Cooley
Dedric Amad Cowser
Joseph B. Dewitte
Drew Samuel Holland
Tammy Linette Hicks Jackson
Christopher Anthony Montgomery
Melissa Self Patrick
Daniel Drew Pope
Henry Dennis Prater
Kim Marie Teehan

After the candidates have been presented, all candidates remain standing, and the bishop says:

These persons are by God's grace
to be ordained to ministry in Christ's holy church.
Those authorized by the Church to inquire about them
have discerned that they are persons
of sound learning and of Christian character,
and possess the necessary signs of God's grace,
and have demonstrated a profound commitment
to serve Jesus Christ.
Therefore, we believe them to be duly called to serve God.
We ask you, people of God,
to declare your assent to the ordination of these persons.

Do you trust that they are worthy, by God's grace, to be ordained?

We do! Thanks be to God!

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

With God's help we will!

PROCLAMATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 43:1-7

Rev. Robert Mercer

EPISTLE LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Rev. Donna Godwin

*GOSPEL PROCESSION

Celtic Alleluia

O'CARROLL & WALKER

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth;
 And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead, and buried;
 the third day he rose from the dead;
 he ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
 from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**



SERMON

“The Leader as Follower”

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

ANTHEM

Hear, O Israel

RON NELSON

GENERAL EXAMINATION

The candidates for ordination go to the altar rails. The bishop asks the traditional Wesleyan questions:

- Have you faith in Christ?
- Are you going on to perfection?
- Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?
- Are you earnestly striving after perfection in love?
- Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and God’s work?
- Do you know the General Rules of our Church?
- Will you keep the General Rules of our Church?
- Have you studied the doctrines of The United Methodist Church?
- After full examination do you believe that our doctrines are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures?
- Have you studied our Church government and polity?
- Will you support and maintain them?
- Will you exercise the ministry of compassion?
- Will you diligently instruct children in every place?
- Will you visit from house to house?

Will you recommend fasting or abstinence, both by precept and example?

Are you determined to employ all your times in the work of God?

Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in your work?

Will you observe the following directions?

Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Never trifle away time; neither spend any more time at one place than is strictly necessary. Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but for conscience' sake.

The bishop continues:

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,
you have been called, to an ordained ministry.

The church now confirms your calling through ordination.

As ordained ministers,
you are to be coworkers with the laity, bishops, deacons,
diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missionaries, commissioned ministers,
local pastors and elders.

Remember that 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 that we may know that you believe yourselves to be called by God
and that you profess the Christian faith, we ask you:

Do you trust that God has called you to the life and work of ordained ministry?

I do so trust.

Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

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?

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?

I will, God being my helper.

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?

I will, with the help of God.

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

I will, with the help of God.

The bishop addresses the candidates:

May God,
who has given you the will to do these things,
give you the grace to perform them,
that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection. **Amen.**

EXAMINATION OF DEACON

The bishop examines the deacon candidate, saying:

A deacon
is called to share in Christ's ministry of servanthood,
to relate to the life of the community in its service to 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 the elders 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,
even in the face of hardship and personal sacrifice.
These are the duties of a deacon.

Do you believe that you have been called by God
to the life and work of a deacon?

I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission
covenant to participate in the order of deacons?

Will you give yourself to God through the order of deacons
in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study,
worship and service?

***I will, with the help of God, and with the help of my sisters and
brothers in the order of deacons.***

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR DEACON

The bishop begins:

As this person is ordained by God and the church
for the ministry of a deacon
to which we believe he has been called by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray for him

The bishop, with hand extended toward the candidate to be ordained:

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 the 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 this your servant the grace to be faithful to his promises,
constant in his discipleship,
and always ready for words of loving service.
Make him modest and humble, gentle and strong,
rooted and grounded in love.
Give him a share in the ministry of Jesus Christ,
who came not to be served but to serve. **Amen.**

The deacon candidate kneels. Persons previously invited to participate come forward. Calling the candidate by name, the bishop lays a hand on his head. Invited persons lay hands on shoulders. Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands. While hands are imposed, the bishop prays:

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

The candidate places his hand on the open Bible as the bishop lays hands on the hand of the candidate and says:
Name, take the 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.**

Presentation of the Stole

EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

The bishop examines the elder candidates, saying:

An elder
is called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole Church:
to preach and teach the Word of God
to 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.
These are the duties of an elder.

Do you believe that you are called by God to the life and work of an elder?

I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission,
covenant to participate in the order of elders?

Will you give yourself to God through the order of elders
in order to sustain and build each other up
in prayer, study, worship, and service?

***I will, with the help of God,
and the help of my sisters and brothers in the order of elders.***

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER FOR ELDERS

The bishop, standing and facing the candidates, begins:

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,

The bishop, with hand extended toward the candidates to be ordained:

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, the Church,
and to fulfill your gracious purpose in the world. **Amen.**

One by one, the candidates go to the bishop and kneel. Persons previously invited to participate come forward. Calling each candidate by name, the bishop lays a hand on his or her head. Invited persons lay hands on shoulders. Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands. While hands are imposed, the prayer continues:

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

The candidates place their hands on the open Bible and the bishop says:

Name, take the 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.**

Presentation of the Stole

Candidates return to the altar rail and others are seated. After laying hands on all the candidates, the bishop, facing the candidates, concludes the prayer:

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.**

The elders remain at the altar rails, where the deacon joins them.

SENDING FORTH

PRAYER

The bishop prays:

We thank you, gracious God, for raising up among us faithful servants.
Clothe them with your righteousness, and grant that we, with them,
may glorify you by giving ourselves to others;
In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN

A Charge to Keep I Have

BOYLSTON

*A charge to keep I have,
a God to glorify,
a never-dying soul to save,
and fit it for the sky.

To serve the present age,
my calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage
to do my Master's will!

Arm me with jealous care,
as in thy sight to live,
and oh, thy servant, Lord prepare
a strict account to give.

Help me to watch and pray,
and on thyself rely,
assured, if I my trust betray,
I shall forever die.*

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

The bishop begins and the people respond:

Go in peace to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do.
We go in the name of Christ. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Old Hundredth

MICHAEL BURDHARDT

STATEMENTS OF CALL

Several years ago, some people invited me to join in one small aspect of God's redeeming work in the world. Through that invitation and the guidance of others, I came to truly understand and surrender to God's call. I am grateful that God has called me to do the same thing that others have done for me – to equip, empower and encourage God's children to join in God's work in the world.



John Faison Oates Bailey



A minister said to me, “Just because you have ‘Reverend’ in front of your name doesn’t mean that you know squat about God. It does mean, however, that God knows something about you.” I never planned to be in ministry. God knew my heart, though, and by grace has brought me into this unexpected life. My calling is to help others realize that they, too, are known by God and are invited into new life.

Patrick Ryan Cooley

My call has been a continuous urging of the Holy Spirit in my life. When I was a young child, I could always convince whoever was around to join me in “playing church.” I see now, more than ever, that my call was solely God's idea before I came into existence. I am often reminded of God's words to Jeremiah: “Before I created you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I set you apart; I made you a prophet to the nations.”



Dedric Amad Cowser



I love our Methodist heritage that saw a fledgling movement fully embrace the missional call of Christ to make disciples. As America expanded, the Methodists were on the leading edge of the frontier. Now, I believe God is calling me to help my beloved church discover the frontier spirit to which God is calling us, to be incarnate in the unknown and to live on the leading edge making disciples of all people.

Joseph B. Dewitte

The very Word that created the world and was made flesh to redeem us speaks to all of us still. This gift of ordination is the Church's recognition of God calling me to help reveal that life-changing Word to others. I am both grateful and humbled that God would use me for such a task. Thanks be to God for God's graciousness and for my family, friends, and mentors who have nurtured this calling.



Drew Samuel Holland



When I first felt God's nudge into vocational ministry at summer camp, I dreamed of medical missions in Africa. Soon, however, I discovered that I was certainly not cut out to do medical work on the human body. Now, I assist the Great Physician who heals hearts, minds, souls and bodies. I see my role as one of making disciples—not just introducing them to Christ, but encouraging such thoroughly Methodist practices as accountability, personal holiness and social justice.

Tammy Linette Hicks Jackson

STATEMENTS OF CALL



I did not see a burning bush or a light from heaven. I was simply asked to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ one beautiful Sunday morning. After that experience, I knew that I could not not do this for the rest of my life. The United Methodist Church provided more than a connectional system and a pulpit; it gave me a spiritual home.

Christopher Anthony Montgomery

In the midst of being spiritually nurtured through the UMC my whole life, growing up at Sumatanga, planning and leading worship as a teen and young adult, gathering with God's people around the table of Holy Communion, and leading racial reconciliation and leadership programs with people from all walks of life, God has called me to live and serve as an ordained elder. With joy and courage, I continue to live into this call.



Melissa Self Patrick



Converted at home while reading the Gospel of John, called while helping serve Holy Communion, I began ministry with street evangelism while being connected to a traditional United Methodist Church. Presently, I believe that I am called to make disciples of Jesus Christ by reconnecting the people of our churches to the people of their communities through preaching and teaching biblical truth, prayer, leadership, witness, and example that in all things God may be glorified.

Daniel Drew Pope

As a Methodist for most of my life, I have a passion for my church to be a church where people experience God's love. I believe God has called me to serve in this by helping the church live out the two great commandments: to love the Lord our God with all of our hearts, souls, minds, and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.



Henry Dennis Prater



God's call on my life is an intense and overwhelming desire to use my gifts and life experiences to lead others to a relationship with Christ, and to nurture and equip them in that relationship to serve God by serving one another in the world. Surrendering to God's call offers a unique sense of peace and closeness to God that is distinct from all other experiences of my life.

Kim Marie Teehan

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Resident Bishop, Birmingham Episcopal Area

Bishop Robert C. Morgan
Bishop-in-Residence, Birmingham-Southern College

Bishop L. Jonathan Holston
Resident Bishop, Columbia Episcopal Area

Rev. Dr. P. Richard Owen
Board of Ordained Ministry Chair

Steve Lyles
North Alabama Conference Lay Leader

Rev. Donald S. Neal
Director, Office of Ordained Ministry and Superannuate Homes

SCRIPTURE READERS

Rev. Steve West
Chair, Order of Elders

Rev. Robert Mercer
Chair, Order of Deacons

Rev. Donna Godwin
Chair, Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members

MUSIC LEADERS

Choir is comprised of members from churches in the Birmingham area.

Mass Choir and Orchestra Conductor

Quinton Harris
Director of Music Ministries, Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church

Organist

Karen Krekelberg

Acolytes

Clayton King and Ann Martin Richardson

Bible Bearer

Bentley Brunson

Crucifer

Margo King

The ordained clergy participating in leading worship and in the processional wear red stoles, the traditional color for ordination. Red denotes the wind and fire of the Holy Spirit, present at Pentecost.

A SERVICE OF MEMORIAL AND CELEBRATION

JUNE 4, 2013 ♦ 11 A.M.

BILL BATTLE COLISEUM

**Those who are able, please stand.*

PRELUDE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Kings 2: 1-14

Rev. Donald S. Neal

GREETING

We gather today to give thanks and testify to our faith, in the promises of Christ Jesus our Lord, for the lives of the saints who have lived, loved, and worked among us, and now rest from their labors.

We praise God for their witness and their lives in ministry to the Church of Jesus Christ.

Friends, we have gathered here to praise God, for in dying, Christ destroyed our death. In rising, Christ restored our life. Christ will come again in glory!

Here and now, we proclaim that we are God's children, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. What we shall be has not yet been revealed; but we know we shall be like him. We, who have this hope, celebrate this day, for the promises are sure and worthy of acceptance! Blessed be the name of our God forever and ever!

*OPENING HYMN

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

*For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia, Alleluia!*

INVOCATION

Rev. Dedric Cowser

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Eternal and Almighty God, we praise you for the great company of saints, who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labor. We praise you for those dear to us, who we name in our hearts before you. Especially we praise you for these your servants in ministry, who answered your calling, gave their lives to it, and who now have been graciously received into your presence. We come before you today praising you for your presence, love, and grace even in the midst of tragedies and untimely deaths that can shake the very foundations of our faith. To all, grant your peace. Help those of us who, for now, here remain. Enable us so to believe where we have as yet to see, that your presence may lead us through our years, and bring us at last with them into the joy of your kingdom, not made with hands, but eternal in the heavens, through Jesus Christ our Lord, and the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

EPISTLE LESSON

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

ANTHEM

Remembrance

ARR. DAN LOCKLAIR

Sung by the Combined Chancel Choirs under the direction of Dr. Lester Seigel

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

As the combined choir leads us in the anthem, Bishop Wallace-Padgett will recall the names of the saints we honor and remember this day.

Reverend Edward B. Black
Mrs. Georgia Freida Gibson Boling
Reverend Talmadge M. Clayton
Mrs. Margaret Ann Cole
Mrs. Ruth E. Crowson
Reverend William Eli Eslick
Mrs. Helen Morris Fears
Reverend Robert M. Garrett
Mrs. Gladys Giddens
Mrs. Carol Clotfelter Golson
Reverend Dr. Eley Bert Goodwin Jr.
Mrs. Mary Christine Gordon
Mrs. Lisa Ann Greer
Mrs. Claudia Mae Burgess Hardy
Mrs. Brenda Joyce Driver Williams Havens
Mrs. Azilee Bobo Howard
Mrs. Deborah Marie Howard
Mrs. Willa Dene Inmon
Mrs. Mildred Daphine Jones

Reverend Frank J. Lee
Reverend Billy W. Limbrick
Mrs. Virginia Clemons Logan
Mrs. Gayle Smith Long
Reverend Dr. Joseph Maples
Mrs. Martha C. McMinn
Reverend Thomas Leonard McMinn, Jr.
Reverend Dr. Allen David Montgomery
Reverend Jimmy Ray Nixon
Reverend William Allen Payne
Mrs. Barbara Rodgers
Mrs. Martha McInish Rosser
Mrs. Billie Jo Perry Sanders
Mrs. Catherine Collum Stabler
Reverend Dr. Michael M. Stewart
Mrs. Ila Dean Hill Webster
Mrs. Sara Frances Whitten
Mrs. Viola Wilburn

*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 8: 22-26

Claire Stewart

SERMON

“The Second Race”

Rev. Dr. William Morgan

*A PRAYER FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Rev. Tammy Jackson

God of us all, your love never ends. When all else fails, you are still God. We pray to you for our saints now departed. May the lives they lived in your service, and the lessons they taught us about your grace never be forgotten. We ask for your comfort in our grief, and for all who grieve with us this day. For those who doubt, give light; to those who are weak, strength; to all who have sinned, mercy; and to all who sorrow, your peace. Keep true in us your love, in which we hold one another. And to you, with your Church on earth and in heaven, we offer glory and honor, now and forever. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. William Morgan

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Resident Bishop, Birmingham Episcopal Area

Rev. Dr. William Morgan
Senior Pastor, Canterbury United Methodist Church

Dr. Lester Seigel
Choirmaster and Organist, Canterbury United Methodist Church

Mr. Keith Brandenburg
Trumpeter, member of Canterbury United Methodist Church

Rev. Donald S. Neal
Executive Director, Superannuate Homes and Board of Ordained Ministry

Rev. Dedric Cowser
Senior Pastor, Sweet Home United Methodist Church

Rev. Tammy Jackson
Associate Pastor, Gadsden First United Methodist Church

Claire Stewart
Daughter of Rev. Dr. Michael Stewart, whose life and ministry we celebrated today.

Rev. Kevin Payne
Senior Pastor, Dadeville First United Methodist Church, Worship Service Director

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND SENDING FORTH

JUNE 4, 2013 ♦ 4 P.M.

BILL BATTLE COLISEUM

Please sit by district with pastor and lay member from each church sitting together.

GREETING AND EXPLANATORY REMARKS

Rev. Wade Langer

INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 6:1-4

PRAYERS

Invocation

SONG

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,

though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,

only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 6:5-7

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

We have broken your law,

We have rebelled against your love,

We have not loved our neighbors,

And we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS

Personal Confession

Group Confession

SONG

Kyrie Eleison

KRIEWALD KYRIE

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

PARDON

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.

PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 6:8, Isaiah 61:1-4

PRAYERS

For Revelation, God's Vision

SONG

Lost Are Found

HILLSONG

*Everlasting
While Earthly ages fade
In mercy
Our God, Your kingdom reigns
Lord over everything
You are near
All of the universe at Your feet
In the Saviour
Injustice brought to right
For Your glory
That Your name be lifted high
The lost are found
The blind will see
The lame will walk
The dead will live
And You Are God
Forever You will reign*

SCRIPTURE

John 17:9-23

PRAYERS

For Unity

*The lost are found
The blind will see
The lame will walk
The dead will live
And You Are God
Forever You will reign*

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9:35-38

PRAYERS

For the Mission and Ministry of all Believers

*The lost are found
The blind will see
The lame will walk
The dead will live
And You Are God
Forever You will reign*

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 21:3-5a

PRAYERS

For Revival

*Refrain: The lost are found
The blind will see
The lame will walk
The dead will live
And You Are God
Forever You will reign*

FIXING OF APPOINTMENTS

Bishop Deborah Wallace-Padgett

The Bishop will be joined by the District Superintendent and the District Lay Leader as the appointment changes for each district are read. Pastors and lay members stand as pastor's name is called.

HYMN

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

*Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.*

COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Bishop Deborah Wallace-Padgett

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
almighty God, creator of heaven and earth...

...And so,

with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...And so,

in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine...

...Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
now and forever.

Amen.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion Servers

Imagine No Malaria Offering Baskets are available at communion stations for donations.

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

Bishop Deborah Wallace-Padgett

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Presiding Bishop, North Alabama Conference

Rev. Wade Langer
Senior Pastor, The Capstone United Methodist Church

John Elliott
North Alabama Conference Worship Leader

Special thanks to Western Supermarket-Rocky Ridge for providing on loan the beautiful plants and flowers which adorned the worship table and stage area throughout Annual Conference.