

Saturday, September 21, 2024
Muskingum Valley Presbytery

Welcome

Opening: Call to Order, Declaration of Quorum, Approval of Docket. *Rev. Dr. Li Dolly Dong*

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Psalm 119:105, 111

Leader: Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

People: Your word is our heritage forever, the joy of our hearts.

Leader: As we gather here today, let us worship the Lord, the giver of light and life.

*Gathering Prayer

Worship Sourcebook

God, our Rock, our refuge, our resting place, we come to you. Out of another busy week of work, out of our struggles to be meaningful in our world, out of our desire to meet you and know you as the center of our being, we come to you, O unmovable Rock of our security. Amen.

*Hymn 469

“Morning Has Broken”

Prayer of Confession

Worship Sourcebook

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Assuring Forgiveness

Romans 8:1

Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The Spirit of God dwells in you. In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Congregational Response

“Gloria Patri”

*Sharing Forgiveness and Peace

Leader: In response to God’s forgiving us, let us forgive and be at peace with one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

You are invited to share the forgiveness, love, and peace received from God with others around you by saying, “Peace be with you.”

Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer

Scripture

Matthew 25:14-30

Message

“Good and Faithful Servant

Examination of Roger Siebert

Service of Commissioning

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

The moderator or minister addresses all present:

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them. *1 Cor. 12:4–7, 27*

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

The moderator or minister addresses all present:

We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism, and marked as Christ’s own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples of Jesus Christ and servants of our servant Lord.

Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as commissioned ruling elders. Ordination is Christ’s gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us.

Through ordination, God provides for acts of caring and compassion in the world, for the ordering and governance of the church, and for the preaching of the Word and celebration of the sacraments.

PRESENTATION

The Stated Clerk (Alison Blondheim) says:

The Muskingum Valley Presbytery, by means of this commission, welcomes **Roger Sibert** as a commissioned ruling elder and installs him as commissioned ruling elder of Central Presbyterian Church of Massillon, OH.

***PROFESSION OF FAITH**

The congregation may stand.

The candidate(s) and worship leaders gather at the baptismal font, which shall contain water.

The moderator or minister (Li Dolly Dong) addresses all present:

As God calls some to particular forms of ministry, God calls us all to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of baptism.

Let us, therefore, reaffirm our baptismal vows, renouncing all that opposes God and God’s rule and affirming the faith of the holy catholic church.

The minister (Li Dolly Dong) continues,

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

I do.

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God’s help.

The minister (Li Dolly Dong) continues:

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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.

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

More water is poured visibly and audibly into the font or pool. The following prayer is then led by the moderator (Li Dolly Dong):

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Gracious and eternal God, With joy we give you thanks and praise. We praise you for leading your people Israel through the waters of the sea, out of bondage and into freedom in the land of your promise.

We praise you for sending Jesus your Son, who for us was baptized in the waters of the Jordan, and was anointed as the Christ by your Holy Spirit. Through the baptism of his death and resurrection you set us free from the bondage of sin and death, and give us cleansing and rebirth.

We praise you for pouring out your Holy Spirit, who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with a variety of gifts, that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations and serve you as a royal priesthood.

We rejoice that you have claimed us in our baptism and anointed us for service in Christ's name, and that by your grace we are born anew.

*By your Holy Spirit renew us, that we may be empowered to do your will and continue forever in the risen life of Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever. **Amen.***

The moderator may lift some water, let it fall back into the font or pool, and then make the sign of the cross over the people while saying:

*Remember your baptism and be thankful. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

The congregation may be seated.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

Those who are to be commissioned move to the front of the place of worship.

The moderator or minister (Li Dolly Dong) addresses the candidates:

Roger, in baptism, you were claimed by the love of God, clothed in the grace of Jesus Christ, and anointed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to share Christ's mission in the world. Now you are called by God through the voice of the church for new service and ministry in Jesus' name. So, in accordance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) show your commitment to this calling by responding to these questions:

- a.** Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? (**I do**)
- b.** Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you? (**I do**)
- c.** Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? (**I do and I will**)
- d.** Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions? (**I will**)

e. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? **(I will)**

f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? **(I will)**

g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? **(I do)**

h. Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? **(I will)**

Will you be a faithful ruling elder in this commission, serving the people by proclaiming the good news, teaching faith and caring for the people, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **(I will)**

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of Muskingum Valley Presbytery, accept **Roger Sibert** as commissioned ruling elder, chosen by God through the voice of Central Presbyterian Church of Massillon and the Presbytery to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? **(We do)**

Do we agree to pray for him, to encourage him, to respect his decisions, and to follow as he guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **(We do)**

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

For Those Previously Ordained, Now to Be Installed

Gracious God, we give you thanks for your servant, **Roger**
as *he* continues in the ministry
to which you have called *him*.

Help *him* to rely on the gifts of your Spirit
and to follow Christ faithfully through life
and in his calling to serve, govern,
and proclaim the Word of Christ
from the pulpit, font, and table.

At the Ordination and/or Installation of Deacons and/or Ruling Elders

Give *him* a spirit of truthfulness
that *he* may show the compassion of Christ
in the words and actions of daily living
and rightly serve, govern, and shepherd your people.

By the gifts of your Holy Spirit
empower *him* to build up the church,
to strengthen the common life of your people,
and to lead with compassion and vision.
In the walk of faith and for the work of ministry,
give to your servant gladness and strength,
discipline and hope,
humility, humor, and courage,
and an abiding sense of your presence.

The moderator continues:

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit of power and truth
upon the whole church
that we may be for you a holy people, baptized to serve you in the world.
Sustain your church in ministry.

Ground us in the gospel, secure our hope in Christ,
strengthen our service to the outcast, and increase our love for one another.

Show us the transforming power of your grace in our life together,
that we may be effective servants of the gospel,
offering a compelling witness in the world
to the good news of Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**
The laying on of hands is complete.

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

The moderator (Li Dolly Dong) shall say:

Roger you are *now commissioned ruling elder*
ordained to ministries of *service and governance*
in the Church of Jesus Christ and for your congregation.

Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life
will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ. **Amen.**

Communion Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of Bread

Communion

Prayer After Communion

*Hymn 339

“Be Thou My Vision”

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude