

# INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

## Presentation

One: As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**All: There is one body and one Spirit, just as we are called to the one hope of our calling.**

One: In baptism, Mary Dill and Suellen Kirkwood were clothed with Christ and are now called by God through the voice of the church to enter into ministries of service and governance, announcing in word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ.

**All: We remember our common calling to serve Christ joyfully and celebrate God's particular call to our sisters.**

## Statement of Ordination and Installation

## Clerk of Session

We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. Our common calling is to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord. Some are called to particular service within the church community as deacons, elders, and ministers of Word and Sacrament. Ordination is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us, providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the church's governance, preaching the Word, and administering the sacraments. Representing the one holy, catholic, and apostolic church, the session of Westminster Presbyterian Church now installs Mary Dill and Suellen Kirkwood to the office of deacon.

## \*Constitutional Questions

*(One = pastor; All = elders, church members)*

One: Do you trust in Jesus Christ, your Savior, acknowledge him as Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

**All: I do.**

One: 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?

**All: I do.**

One: 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?

**All: I do and I will.**

One: Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

**All: I will.**

One: Will our church's polity govern you, 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?

**All: I will.**

One: Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

**All: I will.**

One: Do you promise to further the church's peace, unity, and purity?

**All: I do.**

One: Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

**All: I will.**

*(to Deacons)*

One: Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**All: I will**

### ***Clerk of Session to the congregation***

One: Do we, the members of Westminster Presbyterian Church, accept Suellen and Mary as deacons chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead in the way of Jesus Christ?

**All: We do.**

One: Do we agree to encourage them, respect their decisions, and follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is the Head of the Church?

**All: We do.**

### **Prayer**

Gracious and eternal God, with joy, we give you all thanks and praise. Throughout the ages, you have been faithful to your covenant people, whom you have called out of bondage and redeemed as your own. You have chosen servants from among your people in every time and place. We are grateful for our ancestors in the faith who followed without fear, placing their trust in you alone. We give thanks to all who ruled in righteousness and peace. We praise you for the prophets and apostles who spoke your bold words of mercy and truth. We thank you for the men and women of every age who have nurtured your people in faith and faithfulness. Above all, we praise you for Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life to set others free. Anointed by your Holy Spirit, he proclaimed your reign on earth, revealing your love in all he said and did.

### **Declaration of Ordination and Installation** *Clerk of Session*

Suellen and Mary, you are now deacons in the church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ.

### **Welcome**

*Ministers and elders welcome newly installed officers*

### **Charge**

Do your best to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.