

## The Form of the Public Reception of Presbyters

¶ After suitable Services and a Sermon, the Presbyter to be received shall be presented to the Bishop officiating, by a Presbyter of this Church, saying,

**R**EVEREND Father in God, I present unto you this godly and well-learned Presbyter, to be received into the Ministry of this Church.

¶ The Bishop, sitting in his chair, shall say to him that is presented,

**R**EVEREND Brother, it has been duly certified to us that you have been ordained to the holy Ministry in the Church, and now desire to exercise your Ministry in this Church.

**D**O you think in your heart, that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, and according to the Canons of this Church, to the Order and Ministry of Presbyter?

*Answer.* I think it.

*Bishop.* Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all Doctrine required as necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined, out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge; and to teach nothing, as necessary to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the Scripture?

*Answer.* I am so persuaded, and have so determined, by God's grace.

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*Bishop.* Will you then give your faithful diligence always so to minister the Doctrine and Sacraments, and the Discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded, and as this Church hath received the same, according to the Commandments of God; so that you may teach the people committed to your cure and charge with all diligence to keep and observe the same?

*Answer.* I will so do, by the help of the Lord.

*Bishop.* Will you be ready, with all faithful diligence, to banish and drive away from the Church all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word; and to use both public and private monitions and exhortations, as well to the sick as to the whole, within your cure, as need shall require, and occasion shall be given?

*Answer.* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop.* Will you be diligent in Prayers, and in reading the Holy Scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of the same, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?

*Answer.* I will endeavour so to do, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop.* Will you be diligent to frame and fashion your own self, and your family, according to the Doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourself and them, as much is in you lieth, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

*Answer.* I will apply myself thereto, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop.* Will you maintain and set forwards, as much as lieth in you, quietness, peace, and love, among all Christian people, and especially among those who are or shall be committed to your charge?

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*Answer.* I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop.* Will you reverently obey your Bishop, and other chief Ministers, who may have the charge and government over you; following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions, and submitting yourself to their godly judgements?

*Answer.* I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop.* Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Answer.* Who hath made heaven and earth.

*Bishop.* Let us pray.

¶ All kneeling, and saying,

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy 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. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**M**OST merciful Father, we beseech thee to send upon this thy servant thy heavenly blessing; that he may be clothed with righteousness, and that thy Word spoken by his mouth may have such success, that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant also, that we may have grace to hear and receive what he shall deliver out of thy most holy Word, or agreeable to the same, as the means of our salvation; that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory, and the increase of thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ Then, the Presbyter to be received kneeling, the officiating Bishop shall lay his hands upon him, and say,

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**R**EVEREND Brother, take thou Authority to execute in this Church the Office of a Presbyter, to which thou hast already been ordained. And be thou a faithful dispenser of the Word of God, and of his holy Sacraments; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

¶ Then the Bishop, or a Presbyter appointed by him, shall deliver a suitable Charge to the newly received Presbyter. After which a Hymn may be sung, followed by collects or extemporaneous prayer, closing with this Benediction.

**G**OD the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless you, and keep you; the LORD make his Face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the LORD lift up his Countenance upon you, and give you peace. *Amen.*