

The Ordination of
First Middle Last
to the
Sacred Order of Deacons



Friday, June 8, 2025

The Right Reverend Phil Ashey
Bishop, Diocese of Western Anglicans
Anglican Church in North America

Parish Name
City, State



The Ordination

Prelude

Processional Hymn

The People standing, the Bishop says this or an appropriate seasonal greeting

The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh,
People **And your sons and daughters shall prophesy.**
Bishop Your old men shall dream dreams,
People **And your young men shall see visions.**
Bishop You shall know that the Lord is in the midst of his people,
People **That he is the Lord and there is none else.**
Bishop And it shall come to pass
People **That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.**

The Bishop prays (and the People may be invited to join)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Presentation

The Bishop and People sit. The Presenters, standing before the Bishop, shall present the Ordinand, saying

Right Reverend Father in God, we present **First Middle Last Name** to be admitted to the Order of Deacons.

Bishop Has he been selected in accordance with the Canons of this Church? And do you believe his manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Presenters We certify to you that he has satisfied the requirements of the Canons, and we believe him to be qualified for this order.

The Bishop shall then require the Ordinand to take the Oath of Conformity saying

The Canons require that no one may be ordained a Deacon or a Deacon may be ordained a Priest in the Church before subscribing without reservation to the Oath of Conformity. It is also required that each Ordinand subscribe without reservation to the Oath of Canonical Obedience. In the presence of this congregation, I now charge you to make your solemn declaration of these oaths.

The Ordinand then declares

I, **First Middle Last Name**, do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation, and I consequently hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and therefore I do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.

The Ordinand then declares the following Oath of Canonical Obedience as well, saying

And I do promise, here in the presence of Almighty God and of the Church, that I will pay true and canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to the Bishop of the Diocese of Western Anglicans, and his successors, so help me God.

The Ordinand then signs the Oath of Conformity and the Oath of Canonical Obedience in the sight of all present.

All stand. The Bishop says to the People

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting this person for ordination to the sacred Order of Deacons. Therefore, if any of you know of any impediment or crime because of which we should not proceed, come forward now and make it known.

If no objection is made, the Bishop continues

Is it your will that this person be ordained as Deacons?

People **It is.**

Bishop Will you uphold him in his ministry?

People **We will.**

Bishop In peace let us pray to the Lord.

The Litany for Ordinations

[LITANIST NAME]

All kneel. The Litany is said responsively, the Litanist leading

O God the Father,

Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son,

Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Spirit,

Have mercy upon us.

O holy Trinity, one God,

Have mercy upon us.

We beseech you to hear us good Lord: That it may please you to grant peace to the whole world, and to your Church,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to sanctify and bless your holy Church throughout the world,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to inspire all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons with the love of you and your truth,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to endue all ministers of your Church with devotion to your glory and to the salvation of souls,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to bless this your servant, now to be admitted to the Order of Deacons, and to pour your grace upon him, that they may duly execute his office to the edification of your Church, and to the glory of your holy Name,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to guide by your indwelling Spirit those whom you call to the ministry of your Church; that they may go forward with courage, and persevere to the end,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to increase the number of ministers in your Church, that the Gospel may be preached to all people,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to grant us true repentance, amendment of life, and the forgiveness of all our sins,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to hasten the fulfillment of your purpose, that your Church may be one,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to grant that we, with all your saints, may be partakers of your everlasting kingdom,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Hear us, O Lord, when we cry out to you;

Have mercy upon us and hear us.

O Lord, arise and help us;

And deliver us for your Name's sake.

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness;

And let your saints sing with joy.

Lord, hear our prayer;

And let our cry come to you.

At the conclusion of the Litany for Ordinations, the Bishop shall stand and pray the following collect, first saying

The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Bishop Let us pray.

The Bishop continues

Almighty God, by your divine providence you appointed various Orders of Ministers in your Church, and you inspired your Apostles to appoint to the Order of Deacons the first martyr Stephen, with others: mercifully behold this your servant now called to the same office and administration; so fill him with the truth of your doctrine and adorn him with holiness of life, that by word and good example he may faithfully serve you in this office, to the glory of your Name and the edification of your Church; through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The People sit.

First Reading [READER NAME]

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Reader A Reading from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” ⁶Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” ⁷But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the LORD.”

⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.” ESV

The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 119:1-8

Lector The psalm appointed is Psalm 119:1-8. We will read it responsively by whole verse.

¹ Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord!

² **Blessed are those who keep his testimonies,
who seek him with their whole heart,**

³ who also do no wrong,
but walk in his ways!

⁴ **You have commanded your precepts
to be kept diligently.**

⁵ Oh that my ways may be steadfast

in keeping your statutes!

⁶ **Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.**

⁷ I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your righteous rules.

⁸ **I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me!**

Second Reading **[READER NAME]**

Acts 6:1-7

Reader A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

ESV

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence

The Gospel - **[GOSPELER NAME]**

Luke 12:35-40

Then, all standing, the Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

³⁵“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! ³⁹But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

ESV

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Sequence

The Sermon

Name of Homilist

The Nicene Creed

All stand to recite the Nicene Creed, the Bishop first saying

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

Bishop and People

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Exhortation and Examination

All are seated except the Ordinand to the Diaconate, who stand before the Bishop. The Bishop addresses the Ordinand as follows

It belongs to the office of a Deacon to share in the humility and service of our Lord Jesus Christ, for the strengthening of the Church, which is his body. You are to read the Gospel and proclaim Christ at all times through your service, to instruct both young and old in the Catechism, and, at the direction of the Bishop or Priest, to baptize and preach.

You are to assist the Priest in public worship, to guide the intercessions of the Congregation, to aid in the administration of Holy Communion and to carry the Sacrament to those who are kept from the Table by illness, infirmity, or imprisonment.

Furthermore, you are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. It is the Deacon's office to encourage and equip the household of God to care for the stranger, to embrace the poor and helpless, and to seek them out, so that they may be relieved.

The Bishop examines the Ordinands as follows

Bishop Will you take up this charge gladly and willingly?

Answer I will, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon yourself this Office and ministry, to serve God for the promoting of his glory and the edifying of his people?

Answer I do so trust.

Bishop Do you believe that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in accordance with the Canons of this Church, to this Office and ministry?

Answer I do so believe.

Bishop Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ?

Answer I am so persuaded.

Bishop Will you diligently read these Scriptures to the people assembled in the church where you are appointed to serve?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you be diligent to frame and fashion your own life, and the life of your family, according to the Doctrine of Christ, and to make both yourself and them, as much as you are able, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

Answer I will, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop Will you reverently obey your Bishop and other chief Ministers who, according to the Canons of the Church, may have charge and authority over you, following with a glad mind and a good will their godly admonitions, and submitting yourself to their godly judgments?

Answer I will, the Lord being my helper.

The Congregation may kneel, and prays silently for the fulfillment of these purposes.

The Bishop prays

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who has given you a good will to do all these things, grant you also the strength and power to perform them, accomplishing in you the good work which he has begun, that you may be found perfect and without reproach on the last day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All may kneel.

The Ordinands shall kneel or lie prostrate, facing the Bishop. The Veni, Creator Spiritus is sung by Cantor as a prayer for the renewal of the Church.

Veni, Creator Spiritus – [CANTOR NAME] “Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire”

Hymnal 504

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost Thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above,
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face
With the abundance of Thy grace.
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where Thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And Thee, of both, to be but One;
That, through the ages all along,
This may be our endless song:

Praise to Thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Ordination of the Deacons

All now stand as witnesses, except the Ordinand, who kneels facing the Bishop.

The Bishop then prays the following prayer, first saying

Let us pray.

The Bishop prays

O God, most merciful Father, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to take upon himself the form of a servant. He humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death on a Cross. Yet you have highly exalted him, and made him Lord of all. For this great mystery, and for this your servant whom you now call to obedience after his example, we offer you our most hearty thanks; and we ask that we may daily increase in humility and service, that by his ministry as well as by those with whom he serves, your holy Name may for ever be glorified, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then the Bishop shall lay his hands upon the head of every one to be made Deacon, each one humbly kneeling before him, and says

Receive the Holy Spirit for the Office and work of a Deacon in the Church of God, now committed to you by the imposition of my hands; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The Bishop then prays the following over the Ordinand.

In your great goodness, O Lord, make this your servant a Deacon in your Church; give him grace to be modest, humble, and constant in his ministry; give him a ready will to observe all spiritual discipline; and with the testimony of a good conscience always before him, may he continue stable and strong in the service of your Son Jesus Christ, to whom be glory and honor, world without end.

The People in a loud voice respond

AMEN.

The new Deacon may now be vested according to the Order of Deacons.

As the Deacon is vested with the Stole, the Bishop says

Receive this stole as a sign of the yoke of Christ, your Savior.

Then the Bishop shall deliver to the Deacon a Book of Gospels or New Testament saying

Take the Authority to read the Gospel in the Church of God and to teach the same.

The Bishop then says to the People

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

The liturgy continues with the Offertory. The newly-ordained Deacons prepare the Table.

The Offertory

The offering today is given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the ministry of Deacon Robert Polen. All offerings received will go towards each ordinand's discretionary fund as established by his local church and will be available to defray the extraordinary cost of vestments and other essential ministry items. Please be generous!

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the provided sentences of Scripture.

During the Offertory a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung. Representatives of the congregation may bring the People's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Deacon or Priest.

Offertory Hymn

The Doxology

Lasst uns

erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The People stand while the offerings are presented. The following may be said.

Bishop Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People **And of your own have we given you.**

The Sursum Corda

Standing at the Holy Table with the Bishop and other Ministers, the newly ordained Deacons join in the celebration of the Holy Communion and in the Breaking of the Bread.

The People remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Bishop Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Bishop continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

The Prayer of Consecration

The People stand or kneel. The Bishop continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Bishop continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Bishop then says

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Celebrant and People together pray

Our 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.

The Fraction

If the consecrated Bread was not broken earlier, the Celebrant breaks it now. A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

Bishop Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Prayer of Humble Access

Celebrant and People together may say

We do not presume to come to this, your table, O merciful Lord,

trusting in our own righteousness,

but in your abundant and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up

the crumbs under your table;

but you are the same Lord,

whose character is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,

so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,

and to drink his blood,

that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,

and our souls washed through his most precious blood,

and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Agnus Dei

The Ministration of Communion

Facing the People, the Celebrant may say the following invitation

The gifts of God for the people of God. [Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.]

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion [only if streaming]

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. **Amen.**

The Ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the People.

During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.

Communion Hymns

The Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Bishop says

Let us pray.

The Bishop and People together say

Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

When the Communion is finished, after the Post-Communion Prayer, the Bishop prays the following Collect

Go before us, O Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, through your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Blessing

The Bishop shall then bless the People saying

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

People **The maker of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

People **From this time forth for evermore.**

Bishop The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

The Dismissal

The newly-ordained Deacons together dismiss the People saying

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Participants:

Celebrant and Preacher

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Phil Ashey, *Diocese of Western Anglicans*

Lectors

Gospeler

Litanist

Bishop's Chaplain

Crucifer

Master of Ceremonies

The Very Rev. Name Name, *Dean of Deanery*

Presenters for Robert

Music Ministry