

*The United Methodist Church*  
*Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference*



**Consecration of Bishops**

*Friday, July 15, 2016*  
*10:00 a.m.*

# *The Order for the Consecration of Bishops*

## ENTRANCE

### GATHERING

#### PRELUDE

*All who are able may stand for opening hymn.*

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN    *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*                      UMH 89

\*GREETING AND PRAYER    Bishop Larry Goodpaster

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.**

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, by your Son 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  
and live in joyful obedience to your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All are seated.*

### PRESENTATION

*A sponsoring Elder and a selected layperson will present each Bishop-elect for consecration.*

Bishop Goodpaster,  
we present to you, *full name of the Bishop-elect*,  
an elder in the church,  
to be consecrated a bishop in the church of Jesus Christ.

*Bishop Goodpaster addresses the congregation:*

People of God,  
These persons are,  
by God's grace,  
to be consecrated bishops in the church.  
They have been duly elected to this ministry.  
We ask you to declare your assent.

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

**We do! Thanks be to God!**

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

**With God's help, we will!**

SALUTATION AND PRAYER

*Bishop Goodpaster:*

The Scriptures tell us  
that our Savior Jesus Christ spent the whole night in prayer  
before he chose and sent forth the twelve apostles.  
The apostles also prayed before they appointed Matthias  
to be one of their number.

Let us offer our prayers to almighty God  
before these persons are consecrated for their work  
to which the Holy Spirit has called them.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

*All pray in silence for the Bishops-elect.*

*Bishop Goodpaster continues.*

Almighty God, giver of all good things,  
by your Holy Spirit you have appointed  
a diversity of ministries in your church.  
Look in mercy upon these your servants  
now to be set apart for the ministry of a bishop;  
so replenish them with holiness of life,  
and fill them with the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that by word and by deed,  
they may serve you faithfully and joyously,  
to the glory of your name  
and the building up of your church;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord and our Savior. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

<i>Jeremiah 1:4-10</i>	Emily Ballard	<i>Holston Conference</i>
<i>I Peter 4:7b-11</i>	Joanes Martin	<i>Florida Conference</i>
<i>*Matthew 20:25-28</i>	Gary Locklear	<i>North Carolina Conference</i>

### **SERMON**

*A Steward of the Manifold Grace of God*      Bishop Lindsey Davis

**\*THE APOSTLES CREED'**

Bishop Eduard Khegay  
Representative of Council of Bishops

Let us unite in this historic confession of the Christian faith:

**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.**

\*HYMN

*Go Make of All Disciples*

UMH 571

## EXAMINATION

*Bishop Goodpaster addresses the Bishops-elect.*

My sisters and brothers,  
you are to be consecrated bishops in the church of God.  
All Christian ministry is Christ's ministry of reconciling love.  
All baptized Christians are called  
to share this ministry in the world  
to the glory of God  
and for the redemption of the human family.  
From among the baptized  
some are called by God and set apart by the church  
to serve God's people  
as commissioned ministers, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home  
missioners, local pastors, deacons, elders, and bishops.

You have been ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament;  
you are now called, as bishops in the church,  
to reaffirm the vows made at your ordination as elders,  
and to represent Christ's servanthood  
in a special ministry of oversight.

You are called to guard the faith, to seek the unity,  
and to exercise the discipline of the whole church;  
and to supervise and support the church's life, work,  
and mission throughout the world.

As a servant of the whole church,  
you are called to preach and teach  
the truth of the gospel to all God's people;  
to lead the people in worship,

in the celebration of the Sacraments,  
and in their mission of witness and service in the world,  
and so participate in the gospel command  
to make disciples of all nations.

As bishops and pastors,  
you are to lead and guide  
all persons entrusted to your oversight;  
join in the consecration of bishops,  
ordain deacons and elders,  
consecrate diaconal ministers,  
and commission other ministers  
for service to the church and to the world;  
and provide for the ministry of Word and Sacrament  
in the congregations committed to your care.

Your joy will be to follow Jesus the Christ  
who came not to be served but to serve.

Will you accept the call to this ministry as bishops  
and fulfill this trust in obedience to Christ?

**I will, by the grace of God.**

Will you guard the faith, order, liturgy, doctrine,  
and discipline of the Church  
against all that is contrary to God's Word?

**I will, for the love of God.**

As a bishops and pastors, will you,  
in cooperation with diaconal ministers,  
commissioned ministers, deaconesses, home missionaries,  
local pastors, deacons and elders,  
encourage and support all baptized people  
in their gifts and ministries,  
pray for them without ceasing,  
proclaim and interpret to them the gospel of Christ,  
and celebrate with them the Sacraments of our redemption?

**I will, in the name of Christ,  
the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.**

Will you share with other bishops  
in the supervision of the whole church;  
support the elders and take counsel with them;  
guide and strengthen the commissioned ministers,  
diaconal ministers, deacons, deaconesses, home missionaries,  
local pastors, and all others who minister in the church;  
and ordain, consecrate, and send others to minister in Christ's name?

**All this I will do, by the grace given me.**

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

## LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER

*Bishop Goodpaster:*

As these persons  
are consecrated bishops in the church,  
let us invoke the Holy Spirit on their behalf  
and pray for them  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*The bishops-elect kneel.*

*The people pray for them in silence.*

*Joined by other bishops, Bishop Goodpaster prays:*

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
giver of mercies and source of all comfort,  
dwelling on high but having regard for the lowly,  
knowing all things before they come to pass:  
we give you thanks that from the beginning  
you have gathered and prepared a people  
to be heirs of the covenant of Abraham and Sarah,  
and have raised up prophets, rulers, and priests,  
never leaving your temple without a ministry.

We praise you also that from the creation  
you have graciously accepted the service  
of those whom you have chosen.

*The Bishops join in laying hands on each Bishop-elect one at a time.*

*Family and friends are invited to stand where they are and pray in  
silence during the laying on of hands for each bishop-elect.*

Almighty God,  
pour upon (name of the bishop-elect) the Holy Spirit,  
for the ministry of bishop in Christ's holy church.  
**Amen.**

*Bishop Goodpaster extends his hands over the bishops-elect:*

Almighty God,  
fill the hearts of these your servants,  
whom you have chosen to be bishops,  
with such love of you and of all people  
that they may feed and tend the flock of Christ,  
serve in the ministry of reconciliation,  
and supervise and support the life and work of the church.  
In all things may they present before you  
the acceptable offerings of a pure, gentle, and holy life;  
through Jesus Christ your servant,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and power and glory,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

*The new bishops remain kneeling. A Bible is presented to each new  
Bishop.*

*Bishop Goodpaster, laying hands on the hands of each bishop-elect,  
continues:*

(First name) receive the Holy Scriptures.  
Feed the flock of Christ,  
defend them in Christ's truth,  
and be a faithful steward of Christ's Word and Sacraments.

*Bishop Goodpaster continues.*

Reflect upon the contents of this Book.

Give attention to reading, exhortation, and teaching.

Be to the people of God

a prophetic voice and a courageous leader.

Be to the flock of Christ a shepherd; support the weak, heal the sick,

bind up the broken, restore the outcast,

seek the lost, relieve the oppressed.

Faithfully administer discipline,

but do not forget mercy,

that when the Chief Shepherd shall appear

you may receive the never-fading crown of glory. **Amen.**

*Bishop Goodpaster places a stole upon each new bishop while he/she is kneeling.*

*The other Bishops come and lay hands upon the new Bishop and share in prayer for him or her.*

## THE PRESENTATION

*Bishop Goodpaster presents the newly consecrated Bishops, who are welcomed by the congregation.*

## SENDING FORTH

*Bishop Goodpaster:*

Let us pray.

We thank you, gracious Lord,

for raising up among us

your faithful servants, *Names of new bishops*,

for the ministry of a bishop.

We pray that they may be examples

of the new life in Christ

in words and actions, in love and patience,

and in holiness of life.

Grant that we, with them, may glorify you

by giving ourselves to others;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*Rev. Stephanie Hand:*

Go in peace

To serve God and your neighbor in all that you do.

**We are sent in God's name.**

**Thanks be to God.**

*The newly consecrated Bishops offer the blessing in unison*

The grace of Jesus Christ,

and the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always. **Amen.**

*Spouses of newly consecrated Bishops are invited to come and stand with their partners during singing of hymn.*

\*HYMN

*To God Be the Glory*

*UMH 98*

Organ Voluntary

*\*Indicates those who are able may stand.*

Acknowledgements:

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**Musicians**

***Music Leadership***

*Song Leader*

Robert McMichael

*Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church  
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*Piano*

Jarvis Wilson

*Minister of Music*

*Hillside International Truth Center  
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*Organ*

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