

## GATHERING

### Music Prelude

**Introit: I Praise You, O God (MV 61)**

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart.  
With all the earth I will sing your praises.  
*(Repeat)*

Words and music: David Robertson, after Psalm 138: 1  
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**Greeting:** (Darrell Reine)

**Call to Worship:** (Darrell Reine)

From the place the morning sun rises,  
From the place the evening sun sets,  
From the place that brings the cool winds,  
From the place that offers us warm rains,  
We gather.

**We gather as a community of faith,  
we gather as justice seekers,  
creation lovers, peacemakers,  
we gather as people of hope,  
and joyful participants in God's love and vision.**

We gather in spirit, calling ourselves to the work of this church,  
calling us to offer God praise and to build relationships with all  
people.

We come to this time of worship to give thanks for all that has been  
offered.

**Lighting of Christ Candle** (Children at Conference)

**Opening Prayer** (Darrell Reine)

**God of all nations,  
we gather towards the end of this time together  
in the greatness of your love.  
Our spirits come together in compassion,  
seeking truth and reconciliation  
and opportunities to build relationships in caring  
communities.**

**May there be hope in the work we have done  
and may it continue to help us  
as we live with one another in your creation.  
Be with us now in this time of worship as we pray;**

**hearing ancient and holy words  
 and letting the words of wisdom soak deep within our souls.  
 May we sing the words of our faith  
 as we give thanks for our elders  
 and uphold those who have been called into the ministry of  
 this church.  
 This we pray. Amen**

**HYMN: Creator God You Gave Us Life (MV27)**

Creator God you gave us life,  
 your image formed within our souls,  
 yet through the mist of time and space,  
 we search for that which makes us whole.

*Refrain (after each verse)*

Through hands that paint majestic skies,  
 and voices chanting melody,  
 with words that reach beyond the page,  
 we comprehend your mystery.

In ev'ry flow'r and ev'ry tree,  
 we see your great diversity,  
 yet greater still we see your love,  
 expressed in our humanity.

When with our hearts, our hands our minds,  
 we share our gifts with all the world,  
 our spirits soar beyond the veil,  
 to touch the very face of God.

Words and music: Judith Snowdon, 2004  
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**Prayer for Transformation (based on 1 Corinthians 12: 14-26 -Darrell Reine)**

Holy Mystery,

You knit us together in our mothers' wombs and breathe life into us  
 as we are born. You shower us with skill, intelligence, talent, and  
 insight and invite us to love one another as we reach for your  
 dream of a just and harmonious world. But we do not always  
 recognize your gifts in the people around us. There are times we  
 forget that each one of us is a unique child you created and love;  
 and we find that we are capable of causing great pain. Remind us  
 God; remind us that when one of us hurts, we all hurt. Remind us  
 that when one of us flourishes we can all celebrate. Open our  
 hearts and our eyes to see humanity, all living creatures, and the

world around us as you see them: filled with potential and deserving of love. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

(Pause for silent reflection)

**Words of Assurance** (Darrell Reine)

**God's transforming love comes to each one of us as a free gift of grace - it is already here for us, surrounding us, infusing us, and simply waiting for us to accept it. For that we sing,**

**HYMN: Rise Up, Rise Up** (MV130)

Rise up, rise up, rise up, O my soul.  
Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.  
Rise up, rise up, rise up, O my soul.  
Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.  
(Repeat)

Words and music: Linnea Good, 2003  
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**Children's Time including the Lord's Prayer** (Gayle Wensley)

**HYMN: Ha-la-la-la (Grab Another Hand)**

Grab another hand, grab a hand next to ya,  
Grab another hand and sing this song.  
Grab another hand, grab a hand next to ya,  
Grab another hand and sing, sing this song:

*Refrain (after each verse)*  
Al-la, la, la, la, la, la, le-lu-ya,  
Al-la, la, la, la, la, la, la, le-lu,  
Al-la, la, la, la, la, la, le-lu-ya,  
Al-la, la, la, la, la, la,  
Al-le-lu-ya.

Pat another back, pat a back next to ya,  
Pat another back and sing this song.  
Pat another back, pat a back next to ya,  
Pat another back and sing, sing this song:

Pat another head, pat a head next to ya,  
Pat another head and sing this song.  
Pat another head, pat a head next to ya,  
Pat another head and sing, sing this song:

Shake another hand, shake a hand next to ya,  
 Shake another hand and sing this song,  
 Shake another hand, shake a hand next to ya,  
 Shake another hand and sing, sing this song:

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### **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**First Reading: I Corinthians 12: 24 - 26** (Kate Sarauer)  
 Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel: Matthew 11: 28 - 30 The Message** (Maggie McLeod)  
 This is the Good News of Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music: Take This Heart of Mine**  
 Words by Jim Strathdee  
 Desert Flower Music, 1995

**Reflection:** Sue Bland

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**HYMN: My Life Flows On** (VU716)

My life flows on in endless song,  
 above earth's lamentation.  
 I hear the sweet, though far off hymn  
 that hails a new creation.  
 Through all the tumult and the strife,  
 I hear the music ringing:  
 It finds an echo in my soul -  
 how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die?  
 My Saviour still is living.  
 What though the shadows gather 'round?  
 A new song Christ is giving.  
 No storm can shake my inmost calm,  
 while to that Rock I'm clinging:  
 since Love commands both heaven and earth,  
 how can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,  
 and hear their death knells ringing:  
 when friends rejoice both far and near,  
 how can I keep from singing?  
 In prison cell and dungeon vile  
 our thoughts to them are winging:  
 when friends by shame are undefiled,  
 how can I keep from singing?

I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin;  
 I see the blue above it;  
 and day by day this pathway smooths,  
 since first I learned to love it.  
 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
 a fountain ever springing:  
 all things are mine since I am Christ's -  
 how can I keep from singing?

Words and music: Robert S. Lowry, 1869

## PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO RETIREES

Karen Mitchell  
 Ray Purdie  
 Louise Robson

*[The retirees will approach the front of the space as a group during the singing of the hymn and stand in order...they will be called up separately to receive their certificate. The congregation should be asked to reserve their applause until the end...the retirees should stay on the stage, lead us in the New Creed, and then leave the stage as we sing the next hymn.]*

Executive Secretary: President and members of Conference, the following persons are retiring from active paid ministry this year...Karen Mitchell, Ray Purdie, and Louise Robson. *He continues with kind words...* Each retiree will be called up in turn but we would ask that you hold your applause until all have received their certificates.

Executive Secretary: President Darrell, I present, \_\_\_\_\_, to be recognized at the time of his/her retirement.

President: \_\_\_\_\_, I present you this certificate in recognition and gratitude for your years of ministry within the Church. May God bless your years of

retirement with hope, joy and love, and grant you new opportunities for service.

Executive Secretary: And I present...

**A Statement of Faith:**

President: As people of faith, I invite you to stand and say together A New Creed.

**All: We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word  
made flesh, to reconcile  
and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

**Offering** (Darrell Reine)

**The Gifts For and Of God Are Gathered:**

The Offering from this Service of Worship is designated for  
The Mission and Service Fund of The United Church of Canada

**Special Music: Pie Jesu**

Music by Marcy Pyrtle, Arrangement by Jay Althouse;  
Published by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.

**Dedication of Offering** (Darrell Reine)

## CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY

### ORDINATION

#### **HYMN: I Have Called You By Your Name (MV161)**

I have called you by your name, you are mine;  
 I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.  
 I will not abandon you;  
 all my promises are true.  
 You are gifted, called, and chosen;  
 you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go;  
 read it written in my people, help them grow.  
 Pour the water in my name,  
 speak the word your soul can claim,  
 offer Jesus' body given long ago.

I know you will need my touch as you go;  
 feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.  
 Like the woman reaching out,  
 choosing faith in spite of doubt,  
 hold the hem of Jesus' robe,  
 then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine;  
 I have given you my Spirit as a sign.  
 With my wonder in your soul,  
 make my wounded children whole;  
 go and tell my precious people  
 they are mine.

Words and music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1995  
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#### **Statement:**

President: Friends, Jesus Christ came into the world to be the servant of God and all people. Jesus calls his Church to a ministry of worship, witness, and reconciliation. In baptism we were received as members of his Church and at confirmation we committed ourselves to its ministry. In order that this ministry of the whole Church may be fulfilled, we have given the ordained the ministry of Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care. It is the responsibility of the Church to seek, train, and set apart as to function, those whom God calls so to serve.

**Presentation of Candidate:**

**Michele Lori Rowe**

Executive Secretary: President and members of Conference, I present Michele Lori Rowe to be ordained.

President: As part of our celebration today we gather to ordain Michele Rowe. Presbytery and Conference have examined her and believe that she is called and equipped to serve as an ordered minister within the Church of Jesus Christ. Do you believe that she is, by God's grace, called and equipped to serve the church?

**All:** *[in a loud voice]* **By God's grace she is! Glory be to God!**

**Ordination Vows:**

President: Michele, do you believe in God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and do you commit yourself anew to God?

Candidate Responds in the Affirmative.

President: Michele, do you believe that God is calling you to a ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care?

Candidate: I do.

President: Are you willing to exercise your ministry in accordance with the scriptures, in continuity with the faith of the church, and subject to the discipline and oversight of The United Church of Canada?

Candidate: I am.

**Laying On of Hands:**

**Ordination:**

President: Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon your servant, Michele Rowe, for the office and ministry of Ordained Minister in your church.

Declaration: In the name of Jesus Christ, head of the Church, and by the authority of Saskatchewan Conference, I declare that Michele Rowe has been ordained to a ministry of word, sacrament and pastoral care within The United Church of Canada.

**Presentation of Bible:**

President: Take this book and with the people of God who are called to make a difference, proclaim in word and action the gospel of Christ with diligence and love.

**SERVICE OF THE TABLE****Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

In the beginning,  
**when God was creating the world,**  
 God separated the darkness and the light,  
**And it was good.**  
 God separated the dry land and the water,  
**And it was good.**  
 God created canola, wheat, mustard, grass, flowers, trees, and every living plant,  
**And it was good.**  
 God created white-tailed deer, buffalo, trout, sturgeon, prairie chickens, and every other living creature of the land, air, and water,  
**And it was good.**  
 God created humanity,  
**And it was good.**  
 God looked at all creation and declared  
**It is very good!**  
 The light of goodness continues to be found  
 in every generation,  
 shining brightly  
 when strangers are welcomed,  
 sparkling with beauty  
 when creation is cared for,  
 bursting forth  
 when differences are reconciled.  
 As people of faith  
 we join those who have gone before us  
 in seeking the light of goodness,  
 in yearning for the arrival of God's new creation  
 and in trusting God's reconciling and grace-filled love.

And so we thank you, eternal Creator,  
 for the gift of Jesus' life and ministry:  
 Jesus who healed the sick,  
 fed the hungry,  
 welcomed children,  
 broke down racial barriers,

and shared your love with us.  
 Therefore we raise our voices  
 with all those who have been inspired  
 by the light of goodness  
 that shone in Jesus' life, singing:

**Holy, Holy, Holy (MV203)\***

**O holy, holy, holy God,  
 O God of time and space.  
 All earth and sea and sky above  
 bear witness to your grace.  
 Hosanna in the highest heav'n,  
 creation sings your praise.  
 And blessed is the One who comes  
 and bears your name always!**

We gather at this table,  
 brothers and sisters in Christ  
 coming from many different communities and backgrounds,  
 united in faith  
 to remember that on the night before he died,  
 Jesus shared a meal with his friends.  
 He took a loaf of bread, gave thanks for it,  
 and gave it to them, saying,  
 "Take, eat.  
 Each time you do this, remember me."  
 Following the meal, Jesus took a cup,  
 gave thanks for it and shared it with his friends saying,  
 "Drink this.  
 Each time you do this, remember me."

We remember Jesus' death,  
 we celebrate his resurrection  
 we await with hope his coming again,  
 and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Memorial Acclamation (MV204) \***

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
 Christ will come again!  
 Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
 Christ will come again!**

Most holy Creator,  
 in the beginning your Spirit hovered  
 over the chaos of creation,

may your Spirit also rest upon us and what we do here  
 so that we and these gifts, touched by your Spirit,  
 may be beacons of your goodness and grace  
 to everyone we encounter  
 and to the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 all glory is yours, God most holy,  
 now and forever.

**Great Amen (MV205) \***

**Amen, amen, O Holy One!  
 Hosanna and Amen!  
 Amen, amen, O Holy One,  
 Hosanna and Amen!**

Breaking the Bread and Filling the Cup:  
 May this bread, broken, bring fullness and wholeness to life...  
 May this cup, poured out, quench thirsting souls...

Sharing the Bread and Cup:

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

*Call the Servers Forward*  
*Further Instructions for Communion*

The Bread of Life...  
 The Cup of Promise...

**Hymns during Communion:** (to be repeated while receiving the elements)

**Eat This Bread and Never Hunger (VU471) Refrain only**

Eat this bread and never hunger,  
 drink this cup and never thirst;  
 Christ invites us to the table  
 where the last become the first.

Words and Music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1992  
 Words and music copyright ©1993 Hope Publishing Company

### **Bread of Life, Feed My Soul (MV194)**

Bread of life, feed my soul,  
as the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.  
Bread of life, fill my heart  
with the grace and mercy you impart.

I have heard your voice calling,  
“Come, my friend, and share in the feast  
that is laid out for you  
to show how much I care.”

Bread of life, help me live  
a life as pure and true as Jesus did.  
Bread of life, help me see  
the boundless love of Christ for you and me.

I have heard your voice calling,  
“Come, my friend, and share in the feast  
that is laid out for you  
to show how much I care.”

Bread of life, feed my soul,  
as the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.  
Bread of life, fill my heart  
with the grace and mercy you impart.

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### **Bread for the Journey (MV202) LicenSing**

Bread for the journey, (*for the journey*)  
food for the way. (*food for the way*)  
Cup of God's blessing, (*God's blessing*)  
tomorrow, today. (*tomorrow, today*)  
(2X)

Words and Music: Bruce Harding, 2000  
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### **Post Communion Prayer**

**Great Creator,  
You welcome us at your table,  
nourish our bodies and souls,  
and bless us as we prepare to go out from this place.**

**May we be so transformed by this time together  
and this meal we have shared  
that we are truly beacons of your light, justice, and love  
for one another and the world.  
We pray in Christ's name.  
Amen.**

### **THE GOING FORTH**

#### **INSTALLATION OF THE PRESIDENT:**

##### **Presentation:**

Executive Secretary: President Darrell, I present to you, Gayle Wensley, who has been chosen by this Conference to preside over its life and work until such time as her successor comes to office, that she be installed as President of Saskatchewan Conference.

President: My sister in Christ, all are called to Christ's ministry, both within the church and beyond it. Now you are called, by the grace of God and the will of these people, to a particular ministry as President of Conference.

It is given to you to serve this Conference by presiding at its Eucharistic table, its recognition, commissioning and ordination of members, and its business proceedings. You are called, further, to be a servant of the gospel among presbyteries and congregations of the Conference and to exercise a ministry of pastoral care, education and outreach among its people.

Do you covenant to seek the help and guidance of God and to call upon the support that we, the members of Conference, promise to you this day as you respond to this call and accept this trust?

President-elect: I do.

President: Will you diligently perform the duties of your office within the polity of The United Church of Canada?

President-elect: I will, God being my helper.

President: The next question is going to be directed to the members of Saskatchewan Conference. This will include all of you here who are part of the work of the wider church in your Presbytery or within the structure of the Conference.

Will you, the members of Saskatchewan Conference, covenant to support and encourage Gayle with your prayers and work as she undertakes to exercise her ministry among you?

**People: We will, God being our helper.**

**Prayer (Darrell):**

Gracious God, whose Spirit has ever blessed the church with various gifts for the work of ministry, we thank you that we, too, have been blessed with gifts that enrich our life together and strengthen our witness and service in the world. We thank you for the particular gifts that this, your servant, Gayle Wensley, brings to the presidency of the Conference. By your grace, enable her to exercise this ministry with wisdom and humour, courage and compassion, to the glory of your name. Amen.

As you are now installed in the office of President of Saskatchewan Conference, receive this stole as a symbol of your ministry among us.

Receive also this cane and gavel, which speak of our history and link us with the other Conferences and with General Council.

Retiring President: Please, greet your President. [applause]

**Presentation of the Past President's Pin:**

[All past Presidents are invited to stand in their place and be recognized by the court as Gayle Wensley presents the pin to Darrell Reine.]

**Installation of Conference Executive:**

President, Gayle: Would all of the members of the Executive of Saskatchewan Conference please rise where you are seated. Sisters and brothers of the Conference Executive, let us covenant to work together, in the name of God, to do whatever is required of us as we discharge the duties and responsibilities of the Saskatchewan Conference Executive.

Executive Members: **We do so covenant. Thanks and praise to God.  
Love and joy to the people of God.**

President, Gayle: Please be seated.

**Closing of Conference:**

President: In the name of Jesus Christ, the source of the Church's life, and by the authority of Saskatchewan Conference of The United Church of Canada, I now declare this Conference Annual Meeting to be closed. And, pursuant to the decisions of Conference, I order the next Annual Meeting of The United Church of Canada in Saskatchewan to be held in Melville, Saskatchewan, from...

**Commissioning:** Gayle Wensley

As we go from this place, let us continue to build relationships with one another and with our neighbours. Let us be the face of Christ in the world.

**South African Blessing:** Gayle Wensley, Darrell Reine, and Bill Doyle

Walk tall, walk well, walk safe, walk free  
And may harm never come to thee.

Walk wise, walk good, walk proud, walk true  
And may the sun always smile on you.

Walk prayer, walk hope, walk faith, walk light  
And may peace always guide you right.

Walk joy, walk brave, walk love, walk strong  
And may life always give you song.

**Recessional Hymn:** **Sent Out in Jesus' Name (MV212)**

Words and Music: traditional song, Cuba;  
English trans: Jorge Maldonado  
English translation copyright ©1988 Abingdon Press

Sent out in Jesus' name,  
our hands are ready now  
to make the world the place  
in which the kingdom comes.

**(2X)**

The angels cannot change  
a world of hurt and pain  
into a world of love,  
of justice and of peace.  
The task is ours to do,  
to set it really free.  
O, help us to obey,  
and carry out your will.

**(2X)**

## Musical Postlude

***Following the recessional, people are invited to remain for a reception and take the opportunity to greet the person who has been ordained who will be found under a sign that bears her name.***

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Music: traditional melody, England and Ireland  
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