

COMMISSIONING OF THE MISSION STUDY TEAM OF PROVIDENCE FORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(Ruth Adams, Pete Adamson, Chris Christian, Martha Martin Daugherty,
Laura Richards, Paul Robinson)

Adapted from the *Book of Common Worship*, pp. 518-522

Rev. Nancy Coleman, presiding

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling,

one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind. The great ends of the Church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship. Our discipleship is a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism. Discipleship is both a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility.

Ruth, Pete, Chris, Martha, Laura, and Paul, the grace bestowed on you in baptism is sufficient for your calling because it is God's grace. By God's grace we are saved, and enabled to grow in the faith and to commit our lives in ways that serve Christ. God has called you to particular service. Show your purpose by answering these questions.

Questions for the Mission Study Team

- Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**
- Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**
- Do you welcome the responsibility of this service because you are determined to follow the Lord Jesus, to love neighbors, and to work for the reconciling of the world? **I do.**
- Will you serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, relying on God's mercy and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit? **I will, with God's help.**

Questions for the congregation

- Do you, the members of Providence Forge Presbyterian Church, confirm the call of God to these friends as members of the Mission Study Team in the service of Jesus Christ? **We do.**
- Will you support and encourage them in this ministry? **We will.**

COMMISSIONING PRAYER

Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us; and by your Holy Spirit you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. We thank you for leading Ruth, Pete, Chris, Martha, Laura, and Paul to this time and place. Establish them in your truth, and guide them by your Holy Spirit, that in your service they may grow in faith, hope, and love, and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forevermore.

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you called disciples and, by the Holy Spirit, made them one church to serve you. Let your Spirit rule your church, so that we may be joined in love and service to Jesus Christ, who, having gone before us, is coming to meet us in the promise of your kingdom. Amen.

BLESSING (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

May the God of peace make you holy in every way, and keep your whole being, spirit, soul, and body, free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Alleluia!**

CHARGE (Colossians 3:17): Leigh Quick, Clerk of Session

Ruth, Pete, Chris, Martha, Laura, and Paul, you are commissioned to service as the Mission Study Team of Providence Forge Presbyterian Church. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him. **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and forevermore. Amen.

Peace be with you!