



*Induction
of a
District
Superintendent*

Order of Service for the Induction of a District Superintendent

The service begins with a karanga and powhiri or a welcome on behalf of the District to the President or Vice-President (who conducts the service), the incoming District Superintendent and other members of the official party. Hymns may be sung as appropriate.

STAND

President: **Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou.** *The Lord be with you.*

People: **Ki a koe ano hoki.** *And with you also.*

President: Sisters and brothers in Christ, we are gathered here to worship God, to receive ... as Superintendent of the ... District, and together to commit ourselves afresh to the service of God.

Gracious God, awaken our spirits.

People: **Sustaining God, renew our faith.**

President: Loving God, fill us with compassion.

People: **Empowering God, equip us all for ministry.**

Hymn

During the hymn, the Superintendent to be inducted, accompanied by her/his whanau or sponsors, comes forward. One member may speak for all.

REMAIN STANDING

Sponsors: President/Vice-President ..., we present to you ... who has been elected by the Synod and appointed by Conference to be the (Co-)Superintendent of the ... Methodist District.

SIT

The President welcomes the Superintendent.

Litany:

President: We belong to a tradition
which has Jesus Christ at its centre.

People: **His is the way of humility and love,
of integrity and self-offering.**

President: We have seen this way
faithfully expressed in Aotearoa.

People: **We value the spirituality that has shaped us here,
its sense of the sacred
and its openness to the Good News of Jesus Christ.**

President: We celebrate the work of evangelists, Maori and Pakeha,
who proclaimed the Gospel in this land.

People: **We are blessed by the enrichment
that people of the Pacific and those of other cultures
have brought to our church and country.**

President: We are thankful for the ministry of lay people,
called to be salt of the earth and light to the world.

People: **We honour the ministry of the diaconate,
marked by costly service in the community.**

President: We acknowledge with gratitude
the faithful contribution of presbyters
in building up the body of Christ.

Silence

President: When we turn away from Christ,
fail to keep alive the prophetic tradition
and neglect works of compassion:

People: **by your Spirit, help us to amend our lives
and know the reconciliation promised in Christ.**

President: God is rich in mercy.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we/you are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord's Prayer may be said in any language:

E to matou Matua i te rangi
Kia tapu tou Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tou rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tau e pai ai
ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite ano ki to te rangi.
Homai ki a matou aiane
he taro ma matou mo tenei ra.
Murua o matou hara,
Me matou hoki e muru nei
i o te hunga e hara ana ki a matou.
Aua hoki matou e kawea kia whakawaia;
Engari whakaorangia matou i te kino:
Nou hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha,
me te kororia,
Ake ake ake. Amine.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Bible readings

Hymn or choir

Sermon

STAND

Affirmation of Faith:

President: We are not alone - we live in God's world.

All: **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 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.

'United Church of Canada'

SIT

THE INDUCTION

The Superintendent to be inducted comes forward.

President: It is the task of a District Superintendent in the Methodist Church to exercise general pastoral oversight within a District. ..., you have been nominated by the Synod and appointed by Conference to this position. It is your ministry to represent the people of this District in the councils of the church; to work with others in helping congregations, deacons and presbyters to bear a good witness to Christ; to be a pastor to the ordained and lay leaders in this District; you are called to have a special care for the faith, the unity and the discipline of the church. The church asks a great deal of District Superintendents. We assure you of our support. Trust in God, to whom we turn for the wisdom, the patience, the love and the faith required for this work. Do you accept this task as being God's call to you?

Superintendent: I do.

I will seek the way of Christ
as I work as pastor and leader
among the parishes of this District.
I will seek the mind of Christ
as I share with others
in the work of the Connexion.
I will rely on the strength of Christ
and the support of others
as I engage in this servant ministry.

STAND

President: Conference has appointed ...
to be Superintendent of the ... District.
Do you affirm ... as your Superintendent?

People: **We do, and with ... we dedicate ourselves
to ministry and mission in this District.
We promise her/him our sincere friendship,
our loyal partnership
and our constant prayers.**

SIT

*The District Superintendent kneels, together with the President
and representatives from the District.*

President: God of grace, grant your Spirit and strength to ...
Enliven the gifts she/he has,
develop the gifts she/he needs
and help her/him bring forth the gifts of others,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A new ministry has begun.
In silence let ... pray for the people,
and the people pray for ...

A time of silent prayer follows.

*A choir or soloist may sing appropriate quiet music
e.g. Arohanui Blessing, God be in my head.*

The President stands

President: In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and by the authority of Conference,
I declare ... to be inducted into the ministry
of (Co-) Superintendent of the ... District.

The President may present stole or some other symbol to the Superintendent(s).

President: Receive this ... as a symbol of your office.

*The people who are kneeling stand
and extend both hands in greeting to the Superintendent
as a sign of mutual acceptance and partnership.*

*Representatives may present symbol(s) of the District, with appropriate works,
to the new Superintendent.*

The Superintendent may also present a symbol.

STAND

President: (to the Superintendent)

..., be a good pastor to the leaders of this District.

Keep the faith.

Work for the unity of the church.

Uphold the Methodist tradition.

Abide in Christ.

People of the ... District,

Be the people of God.

Promote the work of God in this District.

Cherish your Superintendent.

Value her/his gifts.

Abide in Christ.

SIT

*The newly inducted Superintendent is invited to speak briefly and then to lead
in prayer or to preside at Holy Communion, beginning at Thanksgiving.*

Hymn

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