



*Induction
of a
Presbyter*

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Approved by Conference 1993
Methodist Church of New Zealand
Te Haahi Weteriana O Aotearoa
P O Box 931, Christchurch, NZ

Introduction

The District Superintendent, who normally leads the worship, arranges the service together with parish representatives and the Presbyter to be inducted. In Cooperative Ventures there should be provision for members to partner Churches to take part.

Where Presbyters are being inducted into non-parish appointments, some amendments need to be made.

The symbols presented to the Presbyter may include a chalice and paten, water, the Bible and pastoral roll, and any other symbol representing the life of the Parish.

Hymns may be sung at appropriate points.

Order of Service for the Induction of a Presbyter

Leader: Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. *God be with you.*

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

Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ, we are gathered here to worship God, to receive... who has been appointed by Conference to serve as Presbyter in the ... Parish and together to recommit ourselves to the service of God.
Gracious God, awaken our spirits.

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

Leader: Loving God, fill us with compassion.

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

Hymn

During the hymn the presbyter to be inducted, accompanied by her/his whanau or sponsors will come forward. One member will speak for all.

REMAIN STANDING

Whanau: In recognition that none of us stands alone,
and that a new partnership in ministry is about to begin,
we present to you ... (and ...) .

SIT

*A welcome is extended by a parish leader,
and/or a powhiri is given by the tangata whenua.*

Leader: Let us pray.
For the mystery of creation;
for the wonderful diversity of the natural world;
for the beauty of the land and sea which nurture us:

People: **We praise you, O God.**

Leader: For Jesus Christ who lived and died and lives again;
for the power of his suffering love in the midst of life;
for the gospel of forgiveness and freedom
we are called to proclaim:

People: **We praise you, O God.**

Leader: For the Holy Spirit who strengthens us;
for the love that fulfils our deepest needs
and calls us to love and serve others;
for the joy of Christian hope
which gives meaning to the future:

People: **We praise you, O God.**

Leader: For the church and the love that has made us your people;
for your coming reign when all shall be one in Christ:

People: **We praise you, O God.**

Silence

Leader: Let us seek God's forgiveness:

Silence

All **Forgive us, God,
when we forget to praise you,
when we turn your love into legalism,
your freedom into slavery,
your promises and gifts
into demands and duties.
Forgive us when we forget
we are your people
and make your church exclusive.
Forgive us when we forget
that you are active here and now,
and try to lock you up
in forms and customs,
words and structures.**

Silence

Leader. God is rich in mercy;
in the name of Jesus Christ,
you/we are forgiven.

People: **Amen. 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 hold e muru. nei
I o te hunga e hara ana ki a matou
Aua hoki matou e kawea Ida whakawala;
Engari whakaorangia matou i te kino.
Nou hold 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

Litany:

Leader: There are diverse gifts

People: **but it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

Leader: There are different ways of serving God

People: **but it is the same Lord who is served.**

Leader: God works through people in different ways

People: **but it is the same God
whose purpose is achieved
through them all.**

Leader: Each one of us is given gifts by the Spirit

People: **and there is no gift
without its corresponding service.**

Leader: There is one ministry of Christ

People: **and in this ministry we all share.**

Leader: Together we are the body of Christ

People: **and individually members of it.**

All: **We pray therefore that we may
become a community
in which every member
can discover and stir into flame
the gifts that God has given. Amen.**

The Induction

The Presbyter to be inducted comes forward

Leader ..., you have been appointed to serve
in this parish and with these people.
It is your ministry to lead in worship,
preach the gospel of Christ
and celebrate the Lord's Supper with them.
It is your responsibility to call people to repentance,
assure them of God's forgiveness, and baptise.
You are called to teach and encourage by word and action.
Taking Christ the Good Shepherd as your example,
care for these people and serve with them
in witness to the world.
Do you accept this appointment
as being God's call to you?

Presbyter: I do. I will equip myself for this ministry
through prayer, study
and the reading of the Bible.
By God's grace I will preach the Word of God,
I will teach, administer the sacraments,
love and serve these people.
I will encourage them in their ministry.
Accepting my appointment through the Conference,
I will carry out my District and Connexional duties
in accordance with our Methodist discipline.

Leader: Let us pray.
Loving God, in every age you have chosen servants
to speak your word and lead your people.
We thank you for
whom you have called to this parish.
Fill her/him with the Holy Spirit
and nourish her/his gifts for ministry in this place.
May she/he have the same mind
that was in Christ Jesus
and as a faithful disciple
be an example to your people
and a witness in this community,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

STAND

Leader: As members of the ... Parish,
it is your task to use the gifts
that God has given you
to minister to one another
and to the community
in which you are set.
Do you affirm your ongoing call
to be the servant people of God?

Parish Members: **We do.**

**With God's help, Christ's love
will reach others through us.
We will equip ourselves for this ministry
through regular worship,
prayer and study of the Bible.**

Leader: Let us pray.
Loving God, in every generation
you have called people
to be your disciples
and follow your way.
We give thanks for the ... Parish
and pray for its mission.
May the Spirit continue to release
gifts for ministry in this place. Amen.

... has been appointed
to minister with you in this parish.
Do you accept her/him
as your presbyter?

Parish Members: **We do. We will be partners with ...
in the mission of the church.
We promise her/him our prayers,
our loving support
and our active participation in ministry.
We welcome ... (and ...) to this Parish.**

The presbyter (with family members if they wish) kneels with the District Superintendent, two or three parish representatives and other presbyters and deacons working in the parish.

Leader. Let us pray.
Gracious God,
may this presbyter and these people
find you strong to help.
Give them courage
to be your faithful people
in the wider community.
By your Holy Spirit, guide
and lead them to love and serve others.
Grant that in all things
they may fulfil their ministry
without reproach in your sight.
This we ask
in the name of Jesus Christ,
who offered to you
the perfect ministry. Amen.

Now let ... pray for the people
and the people pray for ... (and ...)

Silence

An opportunity may be given for spoken prayers.

The District Superintendent stands.

Leader: A new partnership in ministry has begun.
Together you are the people of God in this place.

*Those who are kneeling stand and extend both hands
in greeting to the presbyter (and ...).*

*Symbols of presbyteral and shared ministry
are presented to the presbyter by members of the parish.
The presbyter may also present a symbol to the people.*

STAND

Leader:, be a good pastor to the people.
Preach the Word.
Celebrate the sacraments.
Minister to the sick.
Restore the outcast.
Seek the lost.
Abide in Christ.

People of the ... Parish,
Be the people of God.
Meet regularly for worship and study.
Serve daily in the world.
Cherish your presbyter.
Value her/his gifts.
Care for one another.
Abide in Christ.

SIT

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

Hymn

Presbyter Go into the world in the power of the Spirit.

People: **We go to serve in the name of Christ.**

"Ma te marie "is sung unaccompanied:

Ma te marie a te Atua
Tatou katoa e tiaki;
Mana ano e whakau
O tatou ngakau ki te pai

*The peace of God
keep us all.
He will confirm our
hearts in goodness.*

Ma te Atua Tamaiti ra,
Ma te Wairua Tapu hoki,
Ratou, Atua kotahi nei.
Tatou katoa e whakapai.

*May the Son of God
and the Holy Spirit
too, one God,
bless us all.*

Amine.

Amen.

Acknowledgements

The Christian Church has a rich heritage of prayers and liturgies that have influenced our spirituality and helped to shape contemporary orders of service. It is almost inevitable that we will have unconsciously incorporated echoes from some of these in our liturgies. We apologise if we have unknowingly used material written by others without acknowledging its source. Substantial sections of pp4-5 have been adapted from *Uniting in Worship*, ©The Uniting Church in Australia Assembly Commission on Liturgy 1988.