

Act of Commissioning for Deacons

Leader: We come now to an Act of Commissioning for our newly elected deacons in the course of which they will declare their faith and make promises to serve this church. We will also ask the other deacons to reaffirm their commitment and then the church as a whole to promise to support them.

[Newly elected deacons are invited to come forward and stand facing the church]

Leader: *Name(s)* since we are about to appoint to you the role of Deacon, I ask you, do you believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and do you confess Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord?

NED(s) I do.

Leader: You have opened yourself up to God's leading. Do you believe that you have been led to work in partnership with others on the diaconate of this church?

NED(s) I do.

Leader: Do you commit yourself to participate fully in Deacons' and Church meetings and the wider life of this fellowship, being faithful in public worship and private prayer, active in mission and cheerfully undertaking the work assigned to you?

NED(s) I do.

[Existing members of the diaconate are invited to stand in their places]

Leader: As existing members of the Diaconate of this fellowship, do you welcome these newly elected brothers and sisters to share with you in the service of this fellowship?

Deacons: We do.

Leader: Will you continue to participate fully in Deacons' and Church meetings and the wider life of this fellowship, being faithful in public worship and private prayer, active in mission and cheerfully undertaking the work assigned to you?

Deacons: We will.

[Congregation members invited to stand in their places]

Leader: As regular worshippers, do you affirm your support of the Diaconate of this fellowship?

People: We do.

Leader: Will you support and encourage them in their work and uphold them in prayer?

People: We will

[A question for all]

Leader: As the body of Christ in this place, do you commit to work together to discern the will of God, to be active in worship and mission, accepting the challenges such a commitment will bring?

All: We do.

[Prayer for newly elected deacons & diaconate]