Litany of Ordination

Leader: And it shall come to pass in those days that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy.

People: The old will dream dreams and the young will see visions. Even on my servants, both male and female, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

Leader: Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"

Candidate for Ordination: Here am I. Send me.

Leader: God has called and this one has answered.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: God calls us all to the grand and lowly task of servant work; and God calls us each to the particular task toward which we have been equipped and inspired.

People: We have heard the Voice that commissions us all. We give thanks to the God who makes us co-laborers.

Leader: Today we celebrate the calling of [Name of Candidate]. What shall be said to her?

People: We recognize and affirm your gifts. We thank God for your obedience. We charge you to hold fast to your calling, to root yourself firmly in the Spirit and the Word of God. Weep with those who weep. Rejoice with those who rejoice. Bear your witness bravely and tenderly, preach and teach with tolerance and gentleness and discipline. Pray without ceasing.

Candidate: I commit myself this evening to the calling of my God. I renew my vows of love and obedience to God. With thanksgiving I ask you, my sisters and borthers in Christ, to encourage me, challenge me, strengthen me, and pray for me.

People: These things we will do.

Leader: Let us uphold one another in fervent love that we may be faithful to our Lord. Let us press toward the mark for the prize of the upward calling of God in Christ Jesus.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Shared with permission from the ordination service of Elizabeth Watson-Martin.