

## **Ordination Vows and Blessing**

Leader: [Name of Candidate], you have listened for the voice of God in sacred places, particularly within your own heart and soul and mind.

**Congregation: The delight we take in your presence is a reflection of God's joy over you.**

Leader: Like the Hebrew Samuel, you awakened to an unexpected call. You recognized the voice as God's and responded.

**Congregation: We believe the story of your call is an expression of God's continuous revelation in your life.**

Leader: [Name of Candidate], do you accept this affirmation of Lake Shore Baptist Church? Will you say "yes" to God's gifts in you? Will you follow Christ in proclaiming the good news in word and sacrament, teaching faith, caring for people, announcing God's renewing hope to all, and dedicating yourself to be God's minister under the leadership of the Holy Spirit?

*Candidate for Ordination: I will by God's grace.*

Leader: Do you, members of this community of grace, affirm [Name of Candidate]'s ministry? Will you challenge her to grow in grace with you? Will you remind her of her limits and God's unlimitedness? Will you live out your own calling to discipleship alongside hers?

**Congregation: We will by God's grace.**

Leader: [Name of Candidate], may you continue to know God's generous love and care for you even as you offer yourself as an instrument of God's love and care to others.

**Congregation: May you be surprised by God's light when you need the illumination of divine guidance.**

Leader: May the passion you feel for your calling give wholeness and life to your vocation.

**Congregation: Above all, know that no matter where your call may lead you, our prayers will surround you, Christ's peace will go with you, and God's love will sustain you. This is our assurance and hope. Thanks be to God.**

*\*Shared with permission from the ordination service of Meredith Holladay.*