



Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Presbyterian Church [U.S.A.]



Service for the Ordination and Installation of Rebekah Anderson
October 22nd, 2022 at 1:00pm
The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

Prelude *Fanfare for a Festive Occasion* Lani Smith
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Welcome Rev. Lisa Schrott

Presentation Elder Drucilla Wrasse

One: As members of Christ's body, we celebrate our inextricable connection to one another through God's love and the spirit that binds us together.

All: Though we are different, though we have distinct gifts, we celebrate our similarities and give thanks for the gifts and differences God has given us, that make the world vibrant and beautiful.

One: In her baptism, Rebekah was claimed by God's grace. Today, we celebrate God's continued grace in Rebekah's call to ministry. This call comes from God through the voice of the church and it is a blessing and reminder for Rebekah to embrace the gifts within her as she enters ministry as a teaching elder.

All: We remember with joy the calling for all of us to serve Christ and see the face of God in every person as we celebrate God's call to Rebekah.

Call to Worship Elder Trudy Sturk

One: God created the heavens, the earth, and everything that is in them.

All: God calls us to be creators too.

One: God calls us to make new paths in our lives:

All: To restore brokenness and to grow.

One: God calls us to create community:

All: To build bridges of understanding and systems of love and justice.

One: God calls us to take part in the work of reconciliation in the world:

All: To share the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.

One: Let us give thanks for God's work of creation in the world and take part in this work together.

All: Let us worship God!

* Hymn #749

Come! Live in the Light! vs. 1-3
[We Are Called]

Prayer of Confession

Kelly Locke, APNC Chair

One: Often when we ask God for forgiveness and restoration, we hope that God will bring us back to the way things were. But God longs to give us so much more than that. God is not content to return us to the way things were or to restore the status quo. God wants to give us new life. We become imprisoned in the past when we do not forgive ourselves and others, and we perpetuate systems of hurt and pain. But when we ask forgiveness and forgive, we create new worlds of peace. With confidence in God's restorative work in the world, let us confess our sins and create the new world God offers us.

All: God of restoration, when we're honest with ourselves, we realize that loving others and loving ourselves as you loved us is not our priority. We prioritize our comfort and ideology over the courage we are called to embrace in living out our faith. We build walls and barriers around ourselves that keep us from seeing those who are different from us. We make choices that keep us disconnected from one another. We choose to do what is easy over what is right and neglect all that we are called to do. Forgive us. Heal us and replace our fear and complacency with the will to change and make different choices. Restore our ability to see the face of God in every person and to hear your voice calling us to courage and forgiveness. Bend our lives toward your love and generosity and fill your world with the abundant love of your son Jesus. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel

One: Hear the good news: God forgives unconditionally and so can we. We have all been restored in the grace of God. This is a new day for you and me! The old life has passed away, a new life is dawning. In this new day, we are deeply rooted in God's love and share this love courageously, serving people on the margins of society, and seeing all people as worthy of love and belonging. In this new world we break free of old ways of living and embrace new life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.

The Peace

Elder Jeff Conroy-Krutz

One: Forgiveness changes who we are at our core. But this does not happen in isolation. Connection to one another fills us with compassion and allows us to be transformed by forgiveness. Since God has forgiven all of us, let us share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Please greet one another by sharing signs of peace.

* **Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

Prayer for Illumination

Christine Meland, APNC Member

Gracious God, with every word we hear spoken today, with every movement we see, and in all we feel within us as we celebrate this joyous occasion, bind us to your spirit of love and to one another. Use this time to allow all the barriers that keep us separated from one another to crumble away so we can truly hear your voice and see your image all around us.

Use this time to bind us together and to help us find all the barriers we have built in ourselves that keep us from fully experiencing your love. In Jesus's name we pray, Amen.

First Scripture *Matthew 5:1-16 (NRSV)* Evangeline Burgers

Second Scripture *Exodus 3:1-12 (NRSV)* Mary and Keith Napier

Sermon *Burning Bushes* Rev. Alex Lang

Anthem *Lift Every Voice and Sing*
[Lift Every Voice]
Amira Coleman, vocalist

Offering Elder Drucilla Wrasse

Invitation

The offering shared during this service will be used to support seminarians who are under care and in the process of seeking ordination in the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.

Offertory *Arioso* J.S. Bach

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Ordination and Installation

A Litany of Gifts Elder Allene Tucker

One: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

All: There are different ways of serving God, but the same God is served.

One: God works through each person in a unique way to accomplish God's purpose.

All: God gives every person gifts that work toward the common good.

One: If your gift is service,

All: live to serve others.

One: If your gift is the heart of a teacher,

All: teach what is true.

One: Let preachers preach with conviction, and givers give freely;

All: let leaders work diligently for God's people, and let those who serve the poor, serve gladly.

One: Let us not lack enthusiasm, but be wholehearted,

All: serving God, maintaining hope, supporting those who suffer, and welcoming all.

Statement on Ordination Elder Drucilla Wrasse

One: We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as teaching elders, as ruling elders, and as deacons. Recognizing the importance of each office, the church ordains in order to assure fulfillment of the primary responsibilities of preaching the Word and administering the sacraments, ordering the governance of the church, and providing for ministries of care and compassion in the world. Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, the Presbytery of Lake Michigan, by means of this commission, now ordains Rebekah to ministry as a teaching elder, and installs her as associate pastor of The Presbyterian Church of Okemos. Ordination calls the whole church to renewed commitment, and reminds us all to bear the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of baptism. Let us, therefore, reaffirm our baptismal

vows, renouncing all that opposes God and God's rule and affirming the faith of the holy catholic church.

Constitutional Questions to the Pastor

Elder Drucilla Wrasse

One: Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? *I do.*

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you? *I do.*

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? *I do and I will.*

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions? *I will.*

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? *I will.*

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? *I will.*

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? *I do.*

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? *I will.*

Will you be a faithful teaching elder, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? *I will.*

Constitutional Questions to the Congregation

Elder Dorinda VanKempen

One: Do we, the members of the Presbyterian Church of Okemos, accept Rebekah Anderson as our associate pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ?

All: We do.

One: Do we agree to pray for her, encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

All: We do.

One: Do we promise to pay her fairly and provide for her welfare as she works among us; to stand by her in trouble and share her joys? Will we listen to the Word she preaches, welcome her pastoral care, and honor her authority as she seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord? Do we and will we?

All: We do, and we will.

Prayer of Ordination

Rev. Kristin Stroble

Those who have been ordained as Elders, Deacons, and Ministers of the Word and Sacrament are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.

Declaration of Ordination and Installation and Welcome

Rev. Kristin Stroble

Holy Communion

Invitation

Rev. Wendy Pratt

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts,

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give both thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion Prayer

Charge to the Newly Ordained

The Youth of PCO
Elders Jill and Tom Schaberg

Charge to the Congregation

Rev. Lisa Schrott

Presentation of Symbols of Ministry

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

Dissolution of the APNC

Rev. Lisa Schrott and Rev. Rebekah Anderson

Members: Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Kelly Locke, Andrew Mayhew, Christine Meland, Tom Schaberg, Lisa Schrott, and Trudy Sturk.

* **Hymn # 769**

For Everyone Born

[For Everyone Born]

Benediction

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

Postlude

The Rejoicing

G.F. Handel

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

* *Please rise in body or spirit*

Please join us for a reception in Fellowship Hall to celebrate this new chapter in the life of the Presbyterian Church of Okemos.

Members of the Commission

Rev. Wendy S. Pratt, Pastor, Delta Presbyterian Church
Elder Tom Schaberg, The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
Rev. Lisa M. Schrott, Pastor, The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
Rev. Kristin Stroble, Pastor, Eastminster Presbyterian Church
Elder Allene Tucker, North Westminster Presbyterian Church
Elder Drucilla Wrasse, Former Moderator, Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Guest of the Commission: Rev. Alex Lang, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights in The Presbytery of Chicago

Participating in the Service

Elder Dorinda VanKampen, Stated Clerk, The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
Members of APNC: Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Kelly Locke, Andrew Mayhew, Christine Meland, Tom Schaberg, Lisa Schrott, Trudy Sturk.
Friends of Rebekah: Evangeline Burgers, Church Council Member at Princeton United Methodist Church in The Greater New Jersey UMC's Central District.
Mary and Keith Napier, Elders at First Presbyterian Church of DeLand in the Presbytery of Central Florida.
The Youth of PCO, Jill Schaberg
Ushers: Gary and Trudy Sturk
Livestream: Matt Pearson, Doug Paterson, Dave Rumminger
Musicians: Dr. Marlene Brewbaker and Amira Coleman

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The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864

(517) 349-9536

Website: <https://okemospres.org>

Email: office@okemospres.org

<https://twitter.com/okemospres>

<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>



Rev. Lisa Schrott, Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Rebekah Anderson, Associate Pastor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Colleen Chester, Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
Anna Thiel, Office Manager

