

Friday Evening

A Service for the Ordering of Ministry



Pictures from this service may be found on the conference Flickr site

Bishop Pete Weaver and Bishop Tracy Malone process into the coliseum.

at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/vaconf/albums/72157709201007388>

A Service for the Ordering of the Ministry was held Friday evening, led by Bishop Pete Weaver. Lyndsie Blakely read the Scripture from Hebrews 11:29-12:3.

Bishop Weaver reintroduced Bishop Tracy Malone to the congregation who preached on "From start to finish."

"Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen," she said. "I can feel the prayers even tonight and as we look up into the stadium we see the people looking on not as spectators but saying 'Praise be to God.'"

Since we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses we need to "throw off the baggage." Don't you know tonight we are "going to go through," she said. "But look at how Jesus took up the cross and ran the race with perseverance."

That means "we better get on with it," Bishop Malone said. "We need to finish this race we are in, that exhilarating finish with God."

She said Paul has given us a good road tonight about what it means to go the distance. That is the race that is before us. Paul speaks to us what this running looks like.



"I commend this to you tonight," she said. "He says for this reason I am reminding you to fan into flames the gift of God that is within you. The spirit of God has given you power, discipline, love. Don't be ashamed about the testimony of the Lord."

She reminded the gathering "God has put the power in YOU! The spirit of God that has taken up residence in us, we must be convinced that we are ready, we are willing and that we will go with courage and boldness."

She also said you have to use those around you and be convinced there is nothing impossible with God. The prayer God has for you are for your good and not your harm.

"It is good to be here," the bishop said. "It's a high moment tonight. But don't we know we can't stay here. Ministry calls us the mission field, the margins, the border, the prisons, the schools, the White house, the poor house. It calls us to places we thought we would never, ever go, to show love to people we never loved before. Ministry calls us."



She admitted there will be times you will be discouraged, distracted, and disillusioned. "You have to keep the gift of life in Jesus

Christ."

"Be bold in your witness," she directed. "It is not popular to be bold, to be prophetic, but yet that is who we are called to do. We live in world we label, judge and demonize one another. Our society is becoming more racially divided, and hated. Suicide rates are increasing. The political climate has us more fearful and suspicious of each other. We've got to be bold in our witness." She said, "God is calling us to be a voice for the voiceless. We have to teach, we have to model radical inclusive love and what that looks like. That's our work to do."

"We are one family whether we like it or not," she said. "Dare to challenge the status quo."

Lastly, she said, "Keep at work." She continued, "There can be no such thing as secret discipleship. We know we serve a God who has called us and a God who has equipped us. Do you believe this tonight?"

"So I will leave you with these three things," Bishop Malone said, "Keep alive the gift, be bold in your witness and keep at work and let God do what He can do and will do."

Bishop Weaver conducted the General Examination with the candidates.

The service continued with the Licensing of Local Pastors, the Commissioning of Provisional Members, the recognition of an Associate Member, the Ordination of Deacons, and the Ordination of Elders.

Licensing as Local Pastors

Donovan H. Archie

MiRhang Baek

Raleigh M. Felton III

Costella L. Forney

Jasmyn C. Graham

Virginia L. Greer

Daniel W. Guenther

SeongUk Hong

David J. Jimenez-Cardenas

Seong Jae Jo

Patricia Cassada Kelley

Pamela Berkley Kipps

Eric D. Kleppinger

Sheena A. Laine

Matthew Laskey

Yosep Nam

Cynthia A. Rainger

John F. Rowe Jr.

Carlson M. Sawyer

Theresa Swindell

Mary Sue Terry

Ivelisse M. Torres

Donald E. Williams

Kenneth P. Woodie

Commissioning of Provisional Members

Anthony J.

Arnold

D. Teer Hardy

IV

Timothy J. Barth
Lorena E. Beach
Robin G. BeMiller
Rebecca L. Copeland
Kevin F. Elmore
Jonathan D. Fuller

Jesse M. Moffitt
Elizabeth H. Neil
Elizabeth A. Nordan
Jonathan F. Poarch
Lauren E. Wright

Recognition of Associate Member

Donna Smith

Recognition of Orders

Jeongin Kim

Ordination of Deacons

Susan Hughes

Anne West Kesner

Heather Wray

Ordination of Elders

Ashley B. Allen

Carl M. Chapman

Terry Lee Hendricks

Jiyeon Kim

Ellen LaCroix Fillette

Ryan Scott LaRock

Michelle Leigh Matthews

Kwon Hong 'Moses' Kim

Emily A. Moore-Diamond

Amanda Hill Newman

Donghwan Paul Oh

Clayton W. Payne

Brian Edward Posey

Koren Brittney Robins

Ryan Mark Schaeffer

Andrew Jackson Ware

Following the service, Bishop Weaver invited any who were feeling a call to ministry in any form to come forward.