



**The Service of the Ordering of Ministry in the United Methodist Church  
The Licensing of Local Pastors & Commissioning of Deaconess**  
Tuesday, June 15, 2021  
10:00 a.m. at Reville United Methodist Church

*Please join in responding with the words printed in **bold**.  
Please rise as you are able for the acts of worship marked with a cross†*

## **ENTRANCE**

Gathering

†Processional Hymn

Come, All Christians Be Committed

BEACH SPRING

Come, all Christians, be committed, To the service of the lord; Make your lives for God more fitted, Tune your hearts with one accord. Come into God's courts with gladness, Each your sacred vows renew, Turn away from sin and sadness, Be transformed with life anew.

Give your time and talents give God, They are gifts from God above; To be used by Christians freely, To proclaim God's wondrous love. Come again to serve the Savior, Tithes and offerings with you bring. In your work, with God find favor, And with joy, God's praises sing.

God's command to love each other, Is required of every one; Showing mercy to each other, Mirrors God's redeeming Son. In compassion He has given, Of His love that is divine; On the cross sins were forgiven; Joy and peace are fully thine.

†Greeting and Prayer

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis

The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

We come together to praise God,  
to hear the Holy Word,  
and to seek for ourselves and others  
the power, presence, and direction of the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit  
you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts.  
Give your grace  
to all servants of your church,  
that we may with diligence and faithfulness  
fulfill our various ministries.  
Grant that we your people may follow where you lead,  
perfect our ministries,  
and live in joyful obedience to your will,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

## **Recognition of our Shared Ministry and Reaffirmation of Baptism**

\*Invitation

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis

Ministry is the work of God, done by the people of God.  
Through baptism,  
all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers,

the church, Christ's body, made visible in the world.  
We all share in Christ's ministry of love and service  
for the redemption of the human family and the whole of creation.

Therefore, in celebration of our common ministry, I call upon all God's people gathered here:  
Remember you are baptized, and be thankful.

**We reaffirm our baptism and our common call to ministry.  
Thanks be to God!**

### **Presentation of Persons to be Ordained, Recognized, Commissioned and Licensed**

***Bishop Lewis:***

Who presents these candidates to be ordained, recognized, commissioned and licensed?

*All Laity, led by Mrs. Martha Stokes, Conference Lay Leader:*

**We have recommended them in our local congregations.  
We present them with our prayers and support.**

*Members of the Board of Ordained Ministry, led by Rev. Scott Davis, Cabinet Representative, Lynchburg*

We have examined these candidates according to the standards of our Discipline  
and this annual conference of The United Methodist Church.  
We present them with our prayers and support.

*All Local Pastors and Associate Members, led by Rev Gary Miller, Fellowship of Local Pastors & Associate Members*

We present these persons for licensing as local pastors.  
We present them with our prayers and support.

***Bishop Lewis:***

These persons are by God's grace  
to be ordained, recognized, commissioned or licensed for set apart ministry  
in Christ's Holy Church...

...We ask you, people of God,  
to declare your assent  
to the set apart ministry of these persons.

Do you trust that they are worthy, by God's grace,  
to be ordained, recognized, commissioned, or licensed?

**We do! Thanks be to God!**

Will you uphold them in their ministry?  
**With God's help, we will.**

*Transitional Music*

**Thuma Mina**

Thuma Mina (Send Me Jesus)

## PROCLAMATION

†Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez  
Harrisonburg District Superintendent

The Word of God for the people of God  
**Thanks be to God!**

Song of Preparation

**(God) Knows My Name**  
*adpt. Gerald Lee Ricks*

Gerald Lee Ricks & Music Team

Sermon

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis  
Resident Bishop, Richmond Episcopal Area

## RESPONSE

Special Music

†The Apostles' Creed

Mrs. Martha Stokes  
Conference Lay Leader

Do you believe in God?  
**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**The General Examination**

***Bishop Lewis:***

My sisters and brothers in Christ,  
you have been called to a new status in set apart ministry.  
The church now confirms your calling...

...So we may know you believe yourselves to be called by God  
and that you profess the Christian faith,  
we ask you:

Do you believe that God has called you  
to the life and work of commissioned or licensed ministry?

**I do so believe.**

Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

**I do so believe and confess.**

Are you persuaded  
that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments  
contain all things necessary for salvation  
through faith in Jesus Christ  
and are the unique and authoritative standard for the church's faith and life?

**I am so persuaded, by God's grace.**

Will you be faithful in prayer,  
in the study of the Holy Scriptures,  
and with the help of the Holy Spirit  
continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you?

**I will, with the help of God.**

Will you do your best to pattern your life  
in accordance with the teachings of Christ?

**I will, with the help of God.**

Will you, in the exercise of your ministry,  
lead the people of God to faith in Jesus Christ,  
to participate in the life and work of the community, and  
to seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people?

**I will, with the help of God.**

Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church,  
accepting and upholding its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline,  
defending it against all doctrines contrary to God's Holy Word,  
and committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you,  
and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?

**I will, with the help of God.**

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission,  
covenant to participate in the life of the order, fellowship, or membership  
into which you are commissioned or licensed?

Will you give yourself to God through this connection  
in order to sustain and build each other up  
in prayer, study, worship and service  
under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day?

**I will, with the help of God.**

May God,  
who has given you the will to do these things,  
give you grace to perform them,  
that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection. **Amen.**

### **Commissioning for the Office of Deaconess**

**Imelda De Los Santos**

Do you now affirm these commitments publicly in the presence of this assembly?

**I do so publicly affirm these declarations, with God being my helper.**

### **The Licensing of Local Pastors**

*Bishop:*

The licensed local pastor is called  
to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole church  
and authorized by the bishop:  
to preach and teach the Word of God, shepherd the local congregation,  
and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion  
while appointed to a particular charge.

Do you believe you are moved by the Holy Spirit to serve as a licensed local pastor?

**I do.**

Will you strive to live a life in keeping with what you preach and teach?

**I will, with the help of God.**

*The congregation prays in silence and then the bishop prays:*

Almighty God,  
may the grace of ministry rest upon these your servants  
and may the opportunity to serve lead them into the fullness of your calling.  
Bless them in their proclamation, their leadership,  
their care, and their mission in their communities.  
Equip them and encourage them that they may honor you with faithful service,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Evelyn Morrissey Archer-Taminger  
Lynn Marie Barbour  
Timothy Matthew Blake  
Daniel Chun  
Tammy Cox  
H. Ellis Crum  
Elizabeth Lee Davis  
Gary George Denette  
Alyssa M. Densham  
Nilse Furtado-Gilliam  
Angeline Meadows Hoen  
Betsy Taylor Hudson  
Lacey Charles Hughes  
Taeshin Kim  
James Arnold Lewis

Michael Wayne Lewis\*  
Michael A. Liskiewicz  
Mario Velez-Lopez  
Joseph Stanley Maslanka  
Dennis Carter Morgan\*  
*Bland Sadler Newman in absentia*  
Isaiah Jennifer Park  
Elizabeth W. Petry  
Michele M. Pettway  
Kendra Sue Powell  
Kwangmin Shin  
Hosub Sung  
Jeffrey Michael Thompson  
Phillip Patrick Urban  
Charles Stewart Winner, II

*Bishop:*

Brothers and sisters, you are hereby authorized to serve as a licensed local pastor  
in the congregations to which you are appointed.  
Take care that you perform these duties faithfully as you are able, the Lord being your helper.

## SENDING FORTH

Let us pray.

**We thank you, gracious God,  
for raising up among us faithful servants.  
Clothe them with your righteousness,  
and grant that we, with them,  
may glorify you by giving ourselves to others. Amen.**

†Hymn

Here I Am

Wash me, O God, renew me. Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
Right now God. I submit to You. Here's my life Lord; use it as You please.  
Here I Am, here I am, here I am, here I am, O God.

†Dismissal with Blessing

***Bishop Lewis:***

The grace of Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all always.  
Go in peace to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do.  
**We are sent in Christ's name.  
Thanks be to God!**

\*Music for Going Forth

Worship Leaders

Presiding Bishop & Preacher  
**Bishop Sharma D. Lewis**  
Resident Bishop, Richmond Episcopal Area

Cabinet Representatives, Board of Ordained Ministry  
**Rev. Scott Davis**, Lynchburg District  
**Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez**, Harrisonburg District

Conference Lay Leader  
**Martha Stokes**  
Richmond District

Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members  
**Rev. Gary Miller**  
St. John's United Methodist Church  
Eastern Shore District

Dean of the Cabinet  
**Rev. Jeff Mickle**  
Alexandria District

Annual Conference Worship Leader: **Mr. Gerald Lee Ricks**

*We give thanks to District Superintendents: Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez, Rev. Alex Joyner, Rev. Sylvia Meadows, and Rev. Scott Davis for serving as Cabinet representatives to the Board of Ordained Ministry.*

*With gratitude to the staff and congregation at Reveille United Methodist Church for their hospitality, worship leadership and live streaming. We also give thanks for J.F. Legault and the AV Company.*

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