

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF DALLAS

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
ST. MATTHEW

THE ORDINATION OF

ROBERT TRENT PETTIT

TO THE SACRED ORDER OF DEACONS
IN CHRIST'S ONE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH



THE TWENTY SECOND DAY OF MAY
ANNO DOMINI TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY
AT TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

PREFACE TO THE ORDINATION RITES

The Holy Scriptures and ancient Christian writers make it clear that from the apostles' time, there have been different ministries within the Church. In particular, since the time of the New Testament, three distinct orders of ordained ministers have been characteristic of Christ's holy Catholic Church. First, there is the order of bishops who carry on the apostolic work of leading, supervising, and uniting the Church. Secondly, associated with them are the presbyters, or ordained elders, in subsequent times generally known as priests. Together with the bishops, they take part in the governance of the Church, in the carrying out of its missionary and pastoral work, and in the preaching of the Word of God and administering his holy Sacraments. Thirdly, there are deacons who assist bishops and priests in all of this work. It is also a special responsibility of deacons to minister in Christ's name to the poor, the sick, the suffering, and the helpless.

The persons who are chosen and recognized by the Church as being called by God to the ordained ministry are admitted to these sacred orders by solemn prayer and the laying on of episcopal hands. It has been, and is, the intention and purpose of this Church to maintain and continue these three orders; and for this purpose these services of ordination and consecration are appointed. No persons are allowed to exercise the offices of bishop, priest, or deacon in this Church unless they are so ordained, or have already received such ordination with the laying on of hands by bishops who are themselves duly qualified to confer Holy Orders.

It is also recognized and affirmed that the threefold ministry is not the exclusive property of this portion of Christ's catholic Church, but is a gift from God for the nurture of his people and the proclamation of his Gospel everywhere. Accordingly, the manner of ordaining in this Church is to be such as has been, and is, most generally recognized by Christian people as suitable for the conferring of the sacred orders of bishop, priest, and deacon.

THE ORDINATION OF A DEACON

Bishop Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Bishop Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE PRESENTATION

The presenters, standing before the bishop, present the ordinand, saying

Presenters George, Bishop in the Church of God, on behalf of the clergy and people of the Diocese of Dallas, we present to you Trent Pettit to be ordained a deacon in Christ's holy catholic Church.

Bishop Has he been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church? And do you believe his manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Presenters We certify to you that he has satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we believe him qualified for this order.

The Bishop says to the ordinand

Bishop Will you be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church has received them? And will you, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey your bishop and other ministers who may have authority over you and your work?

Ordinand I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.

The ordinand then signs the above Declaration in the sight of all present.

All stand.

Bishop Dear friends in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting Trent Pettit for ordination to the sacred order of deacons. Therefore if any of you know any impediment or crime because of which we should not proceed, come forward now and make it known.

If no objection is made, the Bishop continues:

Bishop Is it your will that Trent be ordained a deacon?

People **It is.**

Bishop Will you uphold him in this ministry?

People **We will.**

Bishop In peace let us pray to the Lord.

All kneel for the litany.

THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS

Litanist God the Father,
All **Have mercy on us.**

Litanist God the Son,
All **Have mercy on us.**

Litanist God the Holy Spirit,
All **Have mercy on us.**

Litanist Holy Trinity, one God,
All **Have mercy on us.**

Litanist We pray to you, Lord Christ.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the Day of your Coming, we pray to you O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For all members of your Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve you in a true and godly life, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for George our Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, that they may be filled with your love, may hunger for truth, and may thirst after righteousness, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For Trent, chosen deacon in your Church, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist That he may faithfully fulfill the duties of this ministry, build up your Church, and glorify your Name, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist That by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit he may be sustained and encouraged to persevere to the end, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For his family, that they may be adorned with all Christian virtues, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Litanist Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Matthew and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

All **To you, O Lord our God.**

Litanist Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Litanist Lord, have mercy.

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were being cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Lesson: Acts 8:26-40

Pew Bible p. 1270

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:24-30 *Read in unison*

My praise is of him in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him:

"May your heart live for ever!"

**All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations bow before him.**

**For kingship belongs to the LORD;
he rules over the nations.**

**To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

**My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.**

**They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done.**

The Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21

Pew Bible p. 1382

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel: John 15:1-8

Pew Bible p. 1253

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

***People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord

***People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed *(please stand)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE EXAMINATION

All are seated except the ordinand, who stands before the Bishop. The Bishop addresses the ordinand as follows:

My brother, every Christian is called to follow Jesus Christ, serving God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit. God now calls you to a special ministry of servanthood directly under your bishop. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely.

As a deacon in the Church, you are to study the Holy Scriptures, to seek nourishment from them, and to model your life upon them. You are to make Christ and his redemptive love known, by your word and example, to those among whom you live, and work, and worship. You are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. You are to assist the bishop and priests in public worship and in the ministration of God's Word and Sacraments, and you are to carry out other duties assigned to you from time to time. At all times, your life and teaching are to show Christ's people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself.

Bishop My brother, do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to the life and work of a deacon?

Answer I believe I am so called.

Bishop Do you now in the presence of the Church commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

Answer I do.

Bishop Will you be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your bishop?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you be faithful in prayer, and in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures?
Answer I will.

Bishop Will you look for Christ in all others, being ready to help and serve those in need?
Answer I will.

Bishop Will you do your best to pattern your life and that of your family in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to all people?
Answer I will.

Bishop Will you in all things seek not your glory but the glory of the Lord Christ?
Answer I will.

Bishop May the Lord by his grace uphold you in the service he lays upon you.
Answer Amen.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE DEACON

The Bishop says this Prayer of Consecration

O God, most merciful Father, we praise you for sending your Son Jesus Christ, who took on himself the form of a servant, and humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death on the cross. We praise you that you have highly exalted him, and made him Lord of all; and that, through him, we know that whoever would be great must be servant of all. We praise you for the many ministries in your Church, and for calling this your servant to the order of deacons.

Here the Bishop lays hands upon the head of the ordinand, and prays

Therefore, Father, through Jesus Christ your Son, give your Holy Spirit to Trent; fill him with grace and power, and make him a deacon in your Church.

The Bishop continues

Make him, O Lord, modest and humble, strong and constant, to observe the discipline of Christ. Let his life and teaching so reflect your commandments, that through him many may come to know you and love you. As your Son came not to be served but to serve, may this deacon share in Christ's service, and come to the unending glory of him who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

The People respond in a loud voice **Amen.**

The new deacon is now vested according to the order of deacons.

The Bishop gives a Bible to the newly ordained, saying

Receive this Bible as the sign of your authority to proclaim God's Word and to assist in the ministration of his holy Sacraments.

The Peace

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Bishop and the Clergy present now greet the newly ordained.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please stand for the presentation of the bread and wine, after which you may be seated for the offering.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, **who art in heaven,**
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread *The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Bishop Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Bishop The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people kneel.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the holy food of the **Body and Blood of your Son**, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of your **Holy Spirit**. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your **Word and Sacraments**. We pray that Trent may be to us an effective example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with him, may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Bishop blesses the people.

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**