



## ORDINATION AND INDUCTION

### Appointment to Pastoral Ministry as a Minister or Associate Minister

#### INTRODUCTION by the Presiding Minister

The Word of God clearly teaches that the ascended Lord Jesus gives pastors and teachers to His Church. We read in Ephesians 4 v11 and 12:

“It was He Who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the Body of Christ may be built up.”

The duties of a Pastor are to be a faithful under-shepherd of that part of the Great Shepherd’s flock entrusted to his care through:

1. consistent and accurate teaching of the Word of God in all its breadth, applying it to the needs of the believing community,
2. the practice of private and corporate prayer,
3. the exercise of pastoral care and discipline, and
4. together with other leaders of the fellowship, set an example in lifestyle, service and evangelism.

#### Statement by the candidate of his conversion and call to the ministry

#### ORDINATION as a Minister of the Union of Evangelical Churches

*The Presiding Minister says:*

\_\_\_\_\_ (name), the role to which you are being set apart is of vital importance in the life of the Church. It is a high calling, and can only be fulfilled through humble dependence upon God. Therefore, I ask you in His name and in the presence of His people:

1. Do you believe in one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – and do you confess Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord?

**RESPONSE:**        **I DO**

2. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and conduct?

**RESPONSE:**        **I DO**

3. Do you wholeheartedly and without reservation affirm your belief in the doctrines and beliefs of the Union of Evangelical Churches?

**RESPONSE:**        **I DO**

4. Do you believe in your heart that God has truly called you to Ministry in the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ?

**RESPONSE:**        **I DO**

5. Do you promise to fulfill your charge faithfully, preaching and teaching the Word of God, praying for the congregation, caring for their spiritual needs, seeking to maintain the peace and unity of the Church, and doing the work of an evangelist?

**RESPONSE:**        **GOD HELPING ME, I DO**

6. Do you promise to be faithful in prayer, and in the study of God's Word, and to live in such a way, both publicly and privately, as to be an example to all?

**RESPONSE:**        **BY GOD'S GRACE, I DO**

*The congregation stands*

UEC Ministers lay hands on the candidate in recognition of God's calling. The presiding Minister says:

\_\_\_\_\_ (name), in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, and in recognition of the gifts and calling of God given to you, we lay hands on you and set you apart to the Pastoral Ministry in the Union of Evangelical Churches.

*The Presiding Minister says:*

On behalf of the fellow-Ministers of the Union of Evangelical Churches, I offer you the right hand of welcome.

**INDUCTION**

Having been ordained as a Minister of the UEC, I now invite you to lead the fellowship here at

\_\_\_\_\_ Church.

*Prayers are now offered*

for the Minister, that the Holy Spirit will equip and empower him for his task, and for the Church that together they may glorify God in the local community.

*The Presiding Minister then says:*

As you have now accepted this call and given these solemn promises and undertakings, you are no longer your own master, to do as you will or please. Instead you have become now more fully Christ's servant to do His holy will.

*The Congregation remains standing.*

*The Presiding Minister says to the congregation:*

7. Do you acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ as a (or the) Minister of the Church here at \_\_\_\_\_ Church, and accept your responsibility to him (and his family)? Will you accept his authority over you, as from Christ, and will you pray for, care for and support him (and his family) in the work of this Church?

**RESPONSE: WE DO**

8. Charge to the Minister: You have accepted this call and ordination to this ministry, and made promises before the Lord and this community of believers. In pursuit of your calling, develop your gifts with the Lord's help, give yourself to study and further training in the work of a Minister, and grow in grace as you serve His Church.

**RESPONSE: AMEN**

A representative of \_\_\_\_\_ Church says:

I give you the right hand of fellowship and welcome you as an (Associate)\* Minister here at \_\_\_\_\_ Church.

*The Congregation welcomes the newly-appointed Minister.*

\* Include "Associate" if applicable