Morning Order of Worship

September 22, 2013—9:30 AM

Ordination and Installation Service of Matthew Riddle

APPROACHING THE LORD

Prelude

Welcome and Call to Worship

\*God’s Greeting and Mutual Greeting

\*Opening Songs of Worship

PH #483, vs. 1, 3, 4—How Great Thou Art

HWC #204, vs. 1, 2, 3—Rock of Ages

Litany for Ordination (see insert)

Ministry of Music

O Church Arise

LISTENING TO THE LORD

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11

Message by Rev. Tom Groelsema:

The Catch of a Lifetime

Prayer of Application

Offering for the General Fund

PH #521—God of the Prophets

SERVICE OF ORDINATION

Ordination and Installation of Matthew Riddle (See insert)

The Instruction

Pastoral Vows

Laying on of Hands

Congregational Vows

Charge to the Pastor

Charge to the Congregation

Prayer

LEAVING TO SERVE THE LORD

\*Song of Response

Screen—In Christ Alone

\*God’s Parting Blessing led by Rev. Matthew Riddle

\*Doxology

PH #373, vs. 1, 7—Lift High the Cross

\*Postlude

Worship Participants

Worship Leaders: Rev. Jonathan DePoy, Rev. Tom Groelsema,

Rev. Chad Steenwyk, Rev. Howard Vanderwell

Organist: Bea Molendyk

Pianist: Brenda Molendyk

Ministry of Music: Randy and Tricia Van Dyke

A Litany for Ordination

Let us hear the Word of the Lord from Isaiah 6 concerning Isaiah’s calling. Let each of us also reflect upon God’s calling for us and our new pastor: “In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.”

Let us remember that the One who is on the throne is also the head of the church, the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us exalt him and yield our hearts to him who is robed in majesty and might.

“Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.’”

We stand before him who is the Lord Almighty, the Creator of the universe. We stand before him who is without sin – perfect in his being, character, and actions. We confess that he is the Lord of absolute glory and power!

“At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook, and the temple was filled with smoke.”

Let no one remain unmoved in his presence! Let us all tremble before him. The Lord himself is in this place. We behold his glory!

"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty."

Woe to us! For we, too, are a people of unclean lips. Yet the Lord has revealed himself to us, chosen us, redeemed us, is our Savior and King, and calls us to serve him!

“Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, ‘See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.’”

Grace! Marvelous grace! Mysterious grace! That God came to sinners, such as you and me, cleansed us in the blood of Christ, and prepared us for his service!

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I. Send me!’”

So also, may each of us, together with our new pastor say, “Lord, here am I. Send me!”

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF MATTHEW RIDDLE

September 22, 2013

The Instruction—Led by Rev. Chad Steenwyk

Congregation of Jesus Christ:

For some time you have known that Matthew Riddle is to be ordained to the Ministry of the Word. No one has alleged anything against his person or teaching. We shall therefore proceed, in the name of the Lord, to his ordination.

The Holy Scriptures teach us that God, our heavenly Father, intends to gather his church out of the corrupt human race to life eternal, and to give to his church such teaching and care that it may grow in faith and love and service. Thus God, by a particular grace, appoints his people to preach the gospel and to build up the body of Christ. The apostle Paul solemnly charged Timothy to "preach the Word" (2 Tim. 4:2), and our Lord Jesus charged his disciples to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19-20). The apostle Paul declares that the Lord Jesus Christ intended "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" (Eph. 4:11-12).

Let us now hear what the Scriptures say concerning the office of minister of the Word: The minister of the Word is called by the command of God to preach the gospel of his kingdom. This preaching has the twofold object of calling sinners to reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ and nurturing believers in the faith and life of the kingdom of God. Ministers are called "Christ's ambassadors," as though God were pleading by them, "Be reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:20). This preaching must be addressed to all people. The preaching of the gospel must also be addressed to the gathered congregation for the nurturing of Christian faith and life and for strengthening them against the ploys of the devil. Paul charged Timothy, "In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus . . . preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season, correct, rebuke

NOTES

The Pastoral Vows

We will now ordain a minister of the Word in this congregation. We rejoice that in his faithful love the Lord Jesus has provided a minister to serve as pastor and teacher to this people, and also as their leader in the missionary calling of this church. We receive this servant of our Lord from the hand and heart of the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. We thank our Savior for committing preaching, teaching, and pastoral care to the office of the ministry, and we pray that he will continue to use sinful people for such high and holy purposes until the day of his return.

We are not equal to this holy ministry in our own strength. We put our hope in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has said: "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matt. 28:20). Now, to show that you, Matthew Riddle, intend to accept this office, you are requested to stand and, in the presence of God and his church, answer the following questions:

1. Do you believe that in the call of this congregation, God himself calls you to this holy ministry?
2. Do you believe that the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and life; and do you subscribe to the doctrinal standards of this church, rejecting all teachings which contradict them?
3. Do you promise to do the work of your office faithfully, in a way worthy of your calling and in submission to the government and discipline of the church?

Answer: I do so believe and promise, God helping me.

Laying on of Hands

(Ordained ministers are invited to come forward.)

Congregational Vows

Dear congregation of Christ:

1. Do you in the name of the Lord welcome this brother as your minister and pastor?
2. Do you promise to take to heart the Word of God as he proclaims it?
3. Do you promise to pray for him, to share with him in the work of his ministry, to encourage him in the exercise of his tasks, and to respond to his work with obedience, love, and respect?

Congregation, what is your answer?

Answer: We do, God helping us.

Charge to the Pastor (Led by Rev Tom Groelsema)

Dear brother and fellow servant of Christ:

We rejoice with you on this day that, after years of preparation, you have been ordained to the ministry of the Word. May you experience much joy in fulfilling your calling. As you exercise the authority of the office entrusted to you, may you always remain a humble servant. Look faithfully after the whole flock, the old and the young, the faithful and the unfaithful, the healthy and the sick, the strong and the weak. Rejoice with those who rejoice and suffer with those who suffer. Use all your talents to the utmost of your ability, and do not neglect any of your gifts. And one day our chief Shepherd will give you the crown of glory, saying, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Charge to the Congregation (Led by Rev. Howard Vanderwell)

And to you, dear fellow Christians, congratulations also. This is truly the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Keep your vows. Receive your minister as a gift of God. Listen to him with all the respect due his office. Encourage him when he needs strength, and pray for him daily. Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward (Matt. 10:41). May you as pastor and congregation live as the bride longing for the coming of our heavenly Bridegroom, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20).

Prayer (Led by Rev. Jonathan DePoy)

Let us now give thanks and ask the Lord to help us do what we have promised.

Thank you, Lord, on this day for your many blessings. Thank you for your church, "elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth." Thank you for giving your church the task of calling others to your saving grace in Jesus Christ and to the fellowship of the covenant community.

Today we thank you in particular for giving the church the special office of the minister of the Word. We rejoice that we as a congregation have received a new pastor to work among us. We pray that you will bless him as a servant of Christ and the church. Help him to be an inspired ambassador for his King, bringing the message of salvation and reconciliation to all. Bless him as a preacher and a teacher, as a pastor and a counselor. May he prove himself a faithful steward in the household of God.

Enable us, as a congregation, to listen gladly and attentively to him, recognizing in his words the voice of the good Shepherd. Strengthen us all in the work of the ministry so that we may be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Help us, congregation and pastor, to endure the heat of the day and the darkness of the night, sustained by your healing and guiding presence.

All this we ask with thankful hearts in the name of your dear Son, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction" (2 Tim. 4:1-2), and he charged Titus that a minister "must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it" (Titus 1:9). The minister of the Word is called to administer the sacraments which the Lord has instituted as signs and seals of his grace. Christ gave this charge to his apostles, and through them to all ministers of the Word, when he commanded them, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19); and when he said of the Lord's Supper: "Do this in remembrance of me" (1 Cor. 11:24-25).

The minister of the Word is called to the service of prayer. In speaking of their calling, the apostles said: "We will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4). So, too, it is the calling of all God's ministers to lead the people of God in "requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgivings . . . for everyone--for kings and all those in authority" (1 Tim. 2:1-2).

The minister of the Word is called, together with the elders, to shepherd the people of God in the Christian life, guiding and counseling in strictest confidence, exhorting them to contend earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3), and keeping the church of God in good order and discipline. They are pastors, appointed to shepherd the church of Christ which he purchased with his own blood, in keeping with the Lord's command: "Feed my sheep!" "Feed my lambs!" They, together with the elders, watch over the house of God for the right and fruitful ordering of the faith, life, and worship of the people of God. In their exercise of the keys of the kingdom, what they bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and what they loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven (Matt. 18:18).