

Prayers at Times of Ordination and Induction

An Induction Prayer

(recognising the Five Marks of Mission)

Eternal God, we bring to you our thanks,
we offer to you our praise
for the demonstration of your eternal love made to the world
in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus who is the Christ
for the vulnerable infant, the suffering servant, the crucified
Christ
for the risen, living, glorified Christ accompanying his people
through this life and beyond.

We thank you for the generations of the faithful who have
gone before us, who enjoyed the gifts of your Spirit and with
whom you unite us in your great church that is in heaven and
on earth.

Today we thank you for the service thatN has
given to your church in different ways and in different places,
and we pray that his/her sense of calling may be renewed as
s/he comes to this work in

We thank you for the talents and skills s/he has exercised and
which s/he now brings to this charge, for her/his integrity and
faith

We thank you for all that s/he has learned in ministry, all that
s/he has given and all that s/he has shared in

We thank you for the pilgrimage of her/his past and the
mission that is the future.

We thank you for N. 's family, and pray forN
. and N. andN , that in their own
right they may know that they are welcomed by a community,
embraced by a fellowship and loved for themselves.

In this ministry, may . . .N. give and be given to,
hear and be heard,
Love and be loved, support and be supported.
Grant your grace to both minister and congregation
to forge together a partnership of trust and respect.

May they *proclaim the good news of the kingdom*
Through their life and worship together,

May they *teach, baptise and nurture new believers*
Through their faith and fellowship,

May they *respond to human need by loving service*
Through the stewarding of energies, funds and resources.

May they *seek to transform unjust structures of society*
Through their compassion and courage.

May they *strive to safeguard the integrity of creation,*
To sustain and renew the life of the earth

Through their vigilance and vision.
We pray for your presence in the dreams they dare to dream,
In the hopes they begin to build and the future they begin
to plan.

God, who transformed the cross into a victory and built your
church on the weak and the powerless
Keep them faithful to their calling
Equip them for your service
Guide them on their pilgrimage
And welcome them into your future.

Amen

Alan Paterson

Ordination of Elders Pastoral Care Responsibilities

Loving, strengthening God,
through your church you call people
into positions of leadership
and to care for you people.
Such a task loving God
can be filled with joy one moment
and frustration the next.
So today we pray for those
you have call to be Elders in this church
thinking especially of the task of Pastoral Care
of your people here.
Give to those you have called the strength and the wisdom
to care for your people.
Lord it is not always doing it themselves,
but about being part of a team
sharing with the whole congregation
making sure that this your church,
cares for its people
physically, mentally and spiritually,
ensuring that it is not only the few who are cared for but all.
Loving God may those you have called,
find their faith and trust in you
strengthened and their vision
of your Kingdom enlarged.

Amen

David Coote

O Shepherd-God

O Shepherd-God, your people knew
your presence on their way –
its sign, a fire to guard by night,
a cloud to guide by day;
their goal, a distant promised land,
a home where they'd belong.,
a place of peace, of hopes fulfilled,
their song, your freedom-song.

In later years your people learned
to trust a shepherd-king;
to value in their prophets, too,
the wisdom shepherds bring;
and Jesus, the good shepherd, called
on burdened souls to come;
he sought the wayward, healed the sick,
and led his followers home.

So many in our world today
have nowhere they belong,
like sheep without a shepherd, lost,
like singers with no song;
their minds and spirits sorely lack
a hope that satisfies,
that wholesome Bread, the Word of Life,
the peace true faith supplies.

Lord Christ, we're called to feed your lambs,
restore the sheep that stray,
to learn the wisdom shepherds need
for this, your work today;
your cross, the sign of selfless love,
will light the way ahead;
we'll serve with joy the God who raised
our Shepherd from the dead.

Tune: Ladywell
Basil Bridge