

INVITATION.... Come! Come praise the eternal God! Let all that is within us—body, emotions, mind, and will—praise God’s holy name! Despite our failures, He forgives and releases us. More than any doctor, He heals our diseases. When we are famished and weak, He fills us with good and beautiful things, satisfying our needs, and restoring our strength. So come! Come, praise the eternal God! Sing songs from a grateful heart, and remember all that He has done for us.

WELCOME... no matter your background, your circumstances or your reason for being here, you are welcome. Church is the perfect place for imperfect people!

WE ARE THREE CHURCHES WITH ONE CONGREGATION... we are all brothers and sisters together in Christ; worship with us *every* Sunday morning!

OUR MISSION... "We are a dedicated community of believers that endeavors to demonstrate God’s love to the world in which we live and serve.

OUR COMMISSIONED PASTOR is Joe Allmond.

FUN & FLEX... 6:00 pm at Fork Union, Choir Rehearsal at 7:00

ELDER ORDINATION & INSTALLATION... this morning and September 24th at Fork Union

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY... October 1st, Arvon

OCTOBER 1ST IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, IT IS OUR FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY... we enjoy food and fellowship with our Fabulous Fellowship Breakfast® at 9:30 in the Arvon Fellowship Hall.

TWO CENTS A MEAL... Presbyterian Hunger Relief Program – collection box in the entryway.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS... in the collections box in the entryway

Birthdays and Anniversaries

September 18 th : Helen Fuqua	September 22 nd : Ed and Debbie Rudiger
September 20 th : Rebekah Seay & Stewart Critzer	September 23 rd : Madelyn Shiflett
September 20 th : Becky Goodman	September 23 rd : Reilly Yowell
September 22 nd : Patti Williamson	September 28 th : Claudia Griffen



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Welcome



Arvon Presbyterian Church

September 17th 2017

Fifteenth Sunday after
Pentecost

New Elder Ordination

The Gathering

Ringling of the steeple bell, calling the faithful from the world into worship

Replenishing the baptismal font, reminding us we are all God's children

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-4, 12-14

Greeting One Another and Life of the Parish

The Processional: Lighting of the Candles and Entry of God's Word

▼ **Our Invitation: The Beginning of the Worship Service**

*I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me...
his life laid down for me.*

Call to Worship – Psalm 103:1-6, 8-13

Leader: Let my whole being bless the LORD!

People: Let everything inside me bless his holy name!

Leader: Let my whole being bless the LORD and never forget all his good deeds: how God forgives all your sins, heals all your sickness, saves your life from the pit, crowns you with faithful love and compassion, and satisfies you with plenty of good things so that your youth is made fresh like an eagle's.

People: The LORD works righteousness; does justice for all who are oppressed.

Leader: The LORD is compassionate and merciful, very patient, and full of faithful love.

People: God won't always play the judge; he won't be angry forever.

Leader: He doesn't deal with us according to our sin or repay us according to our wrongdoing, because as high as heaven is above the earth, that's how large God's faithful love is for those who honor him. As far as east is from west—that's how far God has removed our sin from us.

People: Like a parent feels compassion for their children—that's how the LORD feels compassion for those who honor him.

Leader: Come, let us worship our God!

Opening Prayer

▲ **Hymn of Praise: # 462 – Christ, Whose Glory (Verses 1 & 3)**

▼ **Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

What if God paid us back in full for all the wrong we have done? O Lord we seek your mercy... yet we ourselves look for payback when we are wronged. We think it "only fair" and "what is right" when we retaliate and use harsh words and withdraw from relationship. The forgiveness you offer on our account is larger than we can comprehend, still we withhold forgiveness and carry the grudge over petty items. We are eager to do your judging. And the worst: we conspire our inner thoughts to secure your forgiveness while avoiding honest repentance. Forgive us Lord for the sins we know in our hearts. Save us Lord from the sins we hide.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness: 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

▲ **Gloria Patri**

The Word

▼ **First Scripture Reading – The Old Testament: Exodus 3:11-20**

Special Music - Choir: "Here I am Lord"

Second Scripture Reading – The Epistle: Romans 1:1-12

▲ **Hymn of Reflection: # 522 – When I Came Into This Life (1&2)**

▼ **The Word Read – The Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35**

The Word Proclaimed: "How Many Times?"

Our Response to the Word

Our Offering to God

▲ **Song of Praise: The Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

▼ **Ordination and Installation** of Elders-elect Jo Elaine Justis (Arvon), Elizabeth Jones and Kirk Seay (Trinity)

▲ **Hymn of Commitment: # 343 – Called As Partners (Verses 1 & 2)**

The Sending

▲ **Charge and Blessing – Hebrews 1:12-14**

▲ **Choral Response (# 586)**

▲ **Extinguishing of the Candles and the Recessional into the World**

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Leader: God of grace, pour out your Holy Spirit on JoElaine, Elizabeth and Kirk, that they may be your faithful elders in the church. Give them prudence and sound judgment, wisdom and courage to order the life of the church in obedience to your Word. Nourish them in the life of the Holy Spirit, that *they* may exercise the ministry of discipline with humility and compassion. Guide them in governance, on this session and in every court of the church, that they may be servant leaders following Christ who came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life to set others free. Give them joy in their walk of faith and a sure sense of your abiding presence for their work of ministry.

The laying on of hands is concluded. The moderator continues:

Leader: Gracious God, through the waters of baptism, you have claimed us as your own and called us to share in Christ's ministry. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may discern the gifts you have given, calling them forth from one another, and together use these gifts for the good of all. In obedience to Christ, and in the unity of his Spirit, may we proclaim good news, make disciples, be light and leaven, share our bread, offer a cup of cold water, wash one another's feet. Make us strong in Christ to live as your people and show forth your saving love in the world, by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION (AND INSTALLATION)

The moderator addresses those who are newly ordained and installed:

JoElaine, Elizabeth and Kirk, you are now elders in the church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ.

WELCOME

Ministers and elders greet those who are newly ordained and installed.

CHARGE

The newly ordained and installed elders remain standing.

2 Timothy 2:15, ¹⁵ Make an effort to present yourself to God as a tried-and-true worker, who doesn't need to be ashamed but is one who interprets the message of truth correctly.

The moderator or minister addresses all present:

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE: *1 Cor. 12:4-7, 27*

Leader: There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; and there are different ministries and the same Lord; and there are different activities but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good. You are the body of Christ and parts of each other.

People: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

Leader: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

People: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Leader: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it. We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism, and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as deacons, as elders, and as ministers of the Word and Sacrament. Ordination is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us, providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the governance of the church, and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

The leader of the Arvon Session continues:

Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, the session of Arvon Presbyterian Church now ordains JoElaine Justis to the office of elder, and installs her to active service on the Arvon Session

The leader of the Trinity Session continues:

Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, the session of Trinity Presbyterian Church now ordains Elizabeth Jones and Kirk Seay to the office of elder, and installs them to active service on the Trinity Session

Leader: Ordination calls the whole church to renewed commitment, and reminds us all to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of baptism. Let us, therefore, reaffirm our baptismal vows, renouncing all that opposes God and God's rule and affirming the faith of the holy catholic church.

Leader: With the whole church, let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles Creed:

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the

virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Those who are to be ordained and/or installed move to the front of the place of worship to answer the questions required by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The moderator or minister addresses the candidates:

Leader: Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Elders elect: I do.

Leader: Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Elders elect: I do.

Leader Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Elders elect: I do and I will.

Leader: Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Elders elect: I will.

Leader: Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Elders elect: I will.

Leader: Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Elders elect: I will.

Leader: Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Elders elect: I do.

Leader: Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Elders elect: I will.

Leader: Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Elders elect: I will.

An elder addresses members of the congregation:

Do we, the members of the church, accept JoElaine, Elizabeth and Kirk as elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

People: We do.

Elder: Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?

People: We do.

PRAYER OF ORDINATION

Those who are to be ordained kneel, facing the congregation. Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and elders stand behind the candidates.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Eternal God, we give you thanks for your steadfast faithfulness to us. In every age you have called forth leaders to serve you and equipped them with your gifts. Among your people Israel, you anointed prophets, priests, and rulers. You called pastors and teachers, bishops, elders, and deacons to build up your church. With Moses, the seventy elders bore the burdens of your people, ministering in the power of your Spirit. Alongside the apostles, deacons cared for all in need and guarded the community's peace. In the church, deacons, elders, and pastors serve together, so that your whole people might be equipped for ministry, and built up into the full unity of Christ. For your servants in every age, O God, and for the church of Jesus Christ, we give you all thanks and praise.

PRAYER FOR ELDERS

Those gathered around candidates for the office of elder lay hands on them.