

THE WELCOME OF MINISTERS

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

1 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

2 Hymn StF 409 Let us build a house

3 Let us pray.

God of truth, you are worthy of higher praise than we can offer, and of purer worship than we can imagine.

By your Holy Spirit, assist us in our prayers and draw us to yourself, so that what is lacking in our thoughts and actions and in our words and music, may be supplied by your overflowing love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

5 God of all grace,
you call your Church to be a holy people to the praise of your name.
In the power of your Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and our lives with your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Interview with Merry (Phil)

6 Hymn StF 36 There's a quiet understanding

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Romans 12:1-13

Matthew 10:40-42

THE PRESENTATION, PROMISES AND WELCOME

The presiding minister says to the people:

Sisters and brothers, I present to you *Deacon Merry Evans*, whom the Conference has appointed to serve in this Circuit.

17 The presiding minister says to the newly-appointed *deacon*:

Merry will you hold before us the story of God's love and mercy,
above all, the Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and will you be among us as one who makes known the Good News,
by deeds of loving service?

Answer: I will.

I ask God to help me, and I invite you all to join with me
in proclaiming the Gospel of life and hope.

Through Christ, we have Good News to share.

Will you hold before us God's call to serve the needs of others
and be among us as one who ministers Christ's love and compassion?

Answer: I will.

I ask God to help me, and I invite you all to join with me
in commitment to the way of Christ.

May we reveal Christ's way through our words and example.

Will you hold before us God's commitment to human community, to our neighbourhoods and all who live within them, and to the world that God has made?

Answer: I will.

I ask God to help me, and I invite you all to join with me in sharing God's all-embracing love.

May we respond to Christ in all we meet.

18A Circuit Steward says to the people:

Sisters and brothers, will you welcome *Merry* and will you offer him your friendship, support and prayers as we join together in the work to which God has called us?

With God's help, we will.

19 Welcomes may then be given by circuit and ecumenical representatives, civic leaders, and other appropriate persons. (Rev Caroline Andrews)

Each newly-appointed presbyter, deacon or probationer may reply briefly in her/his own words and/or as follows:

I thank you for your welcome. I will work with you and pray for you.

20 Hymn StF 231 The silent stars shine down on us

Prayers of intercession & The Lord's Prayer

23 The Peace

We are the Body of Christ. **In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us therefore keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**

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

Gracious God, we thank you that in every generation you reveal your love for the world, and set before your people your word of life and hope.

We thank you for Jesus Christ your Son, in whom you have made known your way of perfect love, and in whose dying and rising we see your final purpose.

We thank you for your Holy Spirit, who leads your people into all truth; for the service and witness of your Church; and for the preaching of the word and the celebration of the sacraments, through which you renew and strengthen us.

All honour and glory be yours, in the Church and in the world, in time and in eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

27 Hymn StF 660 Called by Christ to be disciples

28 The presiding minister says:

May the God of love stir up in us the gifts of his grace and sustain each of us in our discipleship and service; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, remain with us for ever. **Amen.**