

## **An Order for the Celebration of an Appointment**

**Leader to congregation:** Dear friends, today we welcome *Amanda Bunce* who has been appointed to serve as our pastor. We believe that she is well qualified and has been prayerfully appointed by our bishop, Rev. Connie Shelton.

**Leader to pastor:** Amanda, you have been sent to live among us as a bearer of the Word of God; a minister of the Sacraments; and a sustainer of the love, order, service and discipleship of the people of God.

**Pastor:** Today I reaffirm this commitment in the presence of this congregation.

**Leader to congregation:** Brothers and sisters in Christ, as a people committed to participate in the ministries of the Church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service, will you who celebrate this new beginning support and uphold Amanda in these ministries?

**Congregation:** **We reaffirm our commitment to support you with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.**

**Leader:** How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger

**Congregation:** **who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation.**

**Leader:** *Let us pray.*

Eternal God, strengthen and sustain us in our ministries together, with Amanda as our pastor; Give her and us patience, courage, and wisdom so to care for one another and challenge one another that together we may follow Jesus Christ, living together in love, and offering our gifts and talents in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Presenter to pastor:**

Amanda, accept this Bible, and be among us as one who proclaims the Word. **Amen.**

Amanda, take this water, and baptize new Christians in this place. **Amen.**

Amanda, take this bread and cup, and keep us in communion with Christ and his Church. **Amen.**

**Presenter to pastor:**

Amanda, use this hymnal and book of worship to guide us in our prayer and praise. **Amen.**

Amanda, receive this *Book of Discipline*, and help us keep the covenant that strengthens our connections as United Methodists. **Amen.**

Amanda, receive this globe, and lead us in our mission to this community and all the world. **Amen.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

**Congregation:** **Lord God, bless the ministries of your Church. We thank you for the variety of gifts you have bestowed upon us. Draw us together in one Spirit, that each of us may use our differing gifts as members of one body. May your Word be proclaimed with faithfulness, and may we be doers of your Word and not hearers only. As we who have died and risen with Christ in baptism gather at his table and then scatter into the world, may we be one in service to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**