

Hudson River Presbytery



Service of Ordination

Courtney Melville Steining

as Minister of Word and Sacrament

Saturday, July 22, 2023 at 2pm
The Ordination of Courtney Melville Steininger

Gathering

Prelude

Praeludium in G Major

Nikolaus Bruhns

Welcome and *Call to Worship

Rev. Dorinda Violante, Moderator

Leader: As many of you were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

People: There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.

***Hymn (GTG 401)**

GATHERING

Here in This Place
Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er; gath-er us in and
 blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,
 we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Prayer of Confession

Ruling Elder Michelle Gosh

Mighty and merciful God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling. We have been timid and frightened disciples, forgetful of your powerful presence and the strength of your Spirit among us.

Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

(Silent Confession)

O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. As you have chosen us and claimed us in our baptisms, strengthen us anew to choose Christ's way in this world. Give us your Holy Spirit that each one in ministry may be provided with all the gifts of grace needed to fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Rev. Carol Howard

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of

mercy, who forgives all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

***Response (PH 577)**

SERVICE MUSIC

577

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Richard K. Avery and Donald S. Marsh, 1967

Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther, and the Son, and the Ho-ly Ghost;

As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with-out end. A - men. As it was in the be-gin-ning, is

now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men.

A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men.

A - men. A - men. A - men.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes. Chord markings (F, Bb, C7, Gm, Dm, Am) are placed above the notes. The piece concludes with a final chord of Bb and F.

***The Peace**

Leader: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

The Word

Unison Prayer for Illumination

Ruling Elder Scott Steininger

Overwhelm us with your Spirit, O God, that the words we hear will speak to our hearts as your Word, made known to us in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

First Reading

Exodus 3:1-12

Ruling Elder Scott Steininger

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

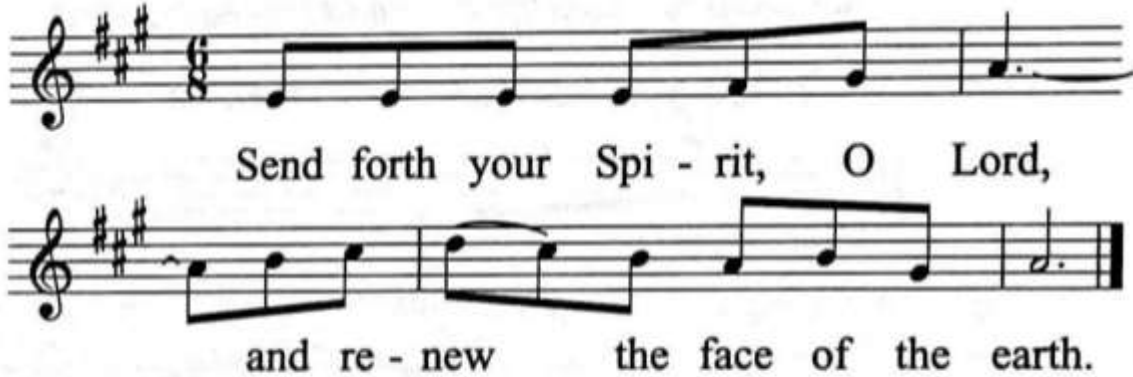
Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

Psalm

Psalm 104:25-35

*In the beginning, choir will sing the refrain once,
followed by the congregation and choir.*

Following the verses, all sing where the refrain is indicated.



From The Portland Psalter © 2002, Robert A. Hawthorne. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- 25 O Lord, how manifold are your works!
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
- 26 Yonder is the great and wise sea
with its living things too many to number,
creatures both small and great.
- 27 There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan,
which you have made for the sport of it.
Refrain
- 28 All of them look to you
to give them their food in due season.
- 29 You give it to them; they gather it;
you open your hand, and they are
filled with good things. *Refrain*
- 30 You hide your face, and they are terrified;
you take away their breath,
and they die and return to their dust.
- 31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.
Refrain

32 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
33 He looks at the earth and it trembles;
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
Refrain

34 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.
35 May these words of mine please him;
I will rejoice in the Lord. *Refrain*

Second Reading *Galatians 5: 22-26* Ruling Elder Michelle Gosh

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 9:35-38* Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Sermon Rev. Carol Howard

THE CHURCH

298 Lord, You Give the Great Commission

1 Lord, you give the great com-mis-sion: "Heal the sick and
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser-vice: "In my name bap-
 3 Lord, you make the com-mon ho-ly: "This, my bod-y;
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa-ther, what they
 5 Lord, you bless with words as-sur-ing: "I am with you

preach the word." Lest the church ne-glect its mis-sion, and the
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom-ise, life a-
 this, my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo-ry, dai-ly
 do, for-give." Yet we hoard as pri-va-te trea-sure all that
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re-stor-ing, may we

gos-pel go un-heard, help us wit-ness to your
 bun-dant meant for each, give us all new fer-vor,
 lift life heav-en-ward, ask-ing that the world a-
 you so free-ly give. May your care and mer-cy
 serve as you in-tend, and, a-mid the cares that



pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:
 draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:
 round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty: with the Spir - it's
 lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:
 claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:
 gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.

Ordination

Sentences of Scripture

Ruling Elder Kathy Dean

1 Corinthians 12:4–7, 27

Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Statement on Ordination

Ruling Elder Michelle Gosh

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 teaching elders, as ruling elders, and as deacons. Recognizing the importance of each office, the church ordains in order to assure fulfillment of the primary responsibilities of preaching the Word and administering the sacraments, ordering the governance of the church, and providing for ministries of care and compassion in the world.

Representing the one holy catholic and apostolic church, the Hudson River Presbytery, by means of this commission, now ordains Courtney Melville Steininger to the ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

Unison Profession of Faith from "A Brief Statement of Faith"

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
Fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,**

**forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community. We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

Constitutional Questions

Rev. Dorinda Violante, Moderator

Do you trust in the Lord 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?

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?

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?

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

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?

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

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

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Will you be a faithful minister of Word and Sacrament, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Prayer of Ordination

Rev. Dorinda Violante, Moderator

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Gracious and eternal God, with joy we give you all thanks and praise. Throughout the ages you have been faithful to your covenant people whom you have called out of bondage and redeemed to be your own. In every time and place you have chosen servants from among your people to point the way to salvation. We are grateful for ancestors in the faith who followed without fear, placing their trust in you alone. We give

you thanks for judges and monarchs who ruled in righteousness and peace. We praise you for prophets and apostles who spoke your bold words of mercy and of truth. We thank you for pastors and teachers who have nurtured your people in faith and faithfulness. Above all we praise you for Jesus Christ, who came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life to set others free. Anointed by your Holy Spirit, he proclaimed your reign on earth, revealing your saving love in all he said and did.

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit upon your servant Courtney, whom you called by baptism as your own. Grant her the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. Give her a spirit of truthfulness that she may proclaim your Word in Christ from pulpit, table, and font, and in the words and actions of daily living. By the gifts of your Holy Spirit, empower her to build up the church, to strengthen the common life of your people, and to lead with compassion and vision. In the walk of faith and for the work of ministry, give to all your servants gladness and strength, discipline and hope, humility, humor, and courage, and an abiding sense of your presence.

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit of power and truth upon the whole church, that we may be for you a holy people baptized to serve you in the world. Sustain your church in ministry. Ground us in the gospel, secure our hope in Christ, strengthen our service to the outcast, and increase our love for one another. Show us the transforming power of your grace in our life together, that we may be effective servants of the gospel, offering a compelling witness in the world to the good news of Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Declaration of Ordination

Rev. Dorinda Violante, Moderator

Courtney Steining, you are now a minister of Word and Sacrament in the church of Jesus Christ. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ.

Charge to the Newly Ordained

Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

The Eucharist

Invitation to the Table

Offering *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* Harold Friedell

*The offering will support the scholarship fund of the committee on
preparation for ministry of Hudson River Presbytery.*

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: We lift up our hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

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

Breaking of the Bread

***Communion**

Offertoire, Op. 12

J. Donjon

***Communion Hymn (PH 513)**

Let Us Break Bread Together

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
 Let us break bread together on our knees.
 When I fall on my knees,
 With my face to the rising sun,
 O Lord, have mercy on me.

- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
 Let us drink wine together on our knees.
 When I fall on my knees,
 With my face to the rising sun,
 O Lord, have mercy on me.

- 3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Prayer after Communion and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever. Amen.

Sending

***Blessing and Charge**

Rev. Courtney Melville Steininger

Benediction Response

Go Now in Love and Peace

Patrick Liebergen

Recessional Hymn (PH280) *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

- 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.
- 2 Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

- 4 The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Postlude

"Finale" from Symphonie No. 2, Op. 13

Charles-Marie Widor

The Administrative Commission

Rev. Dorinda Violante, Moderator Hudson River Presbytery
Rev. Anna Grace Claunch, Associate Pastor of Larchmont Avenue Church
Ruling Elder Michelle Gosh, Bedford Presbyterian Church
Ruling Elder Kathy Dean, Yorktown Presbyterian Church

Worship Leaders

Rev. Carol Howard, Pastor of Bedford Presbyterian Church
Ruling Elder Scott Steininger
Victoria Shields, Organ & Choir Director
Kimberly Steininger, Flute
Lisa Flanagan, Soprano
Kaycee Logsdon, Alto
Ian Shearson, Tenor
Patrick Lombardo, Bass
Jonathan Henken, Bagpipes

**Sincere gratitude and appreciation for your overwhelming support during
this ordination service.**