

*I am the vine, you are the branches.* John 15:5 NRSV



**Ordination and Installation Service**

**December 18, 2022**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Pastor David Alan Reedstrom**

**Calvary Lutheran Church**

**Rapidan, Minnesota**

# ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR DAVID ALAN REEDSTROM

## Prelude

### Call to Worship

"Blessed Assurance"

Liz Zaruba

### Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Krista Strum

## ~ GATHERING ~

### Thanksgiving For Baptism

Pastor Krista Strum

*(Please stand as you are able)*

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

**C: Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.**

L: At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

**C: By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.**

L: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

**C: Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

L: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Processional Hymn

ELW #641

"All Are Welcome"

*(Please remain standing as you are able and face the Processional Cross)*

**1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end division:**

*Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.*

**2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain***

**3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain***

**4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and love the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: Refrain**

**5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: Refrain**

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## **Greeting**

Pastor Krista Strum

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Pastor Krista Strum

**L: Almighty and merciful God, you built your church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, and you instituted the office of ministry of the word and sacrament so that the apostolic and prophetic work might continue throughout the ages. Grant that David, now to be ordained, may carry out this ministry faithfully in the power of your Spirit; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

~ **WORD** ~

## **Old Testament Reading**

**Isaiah 27:2-6**

Pastor Trish Reedstrom

On that day:

A pleasant vineyard—sing about it! I, the LORD, am its keeper; every moment I water it. I guard it night and day so that no one can harm it; I have no wrath. If it gives me thorns and briers, I will march to battle against it. I will burn it up. Or else let it cling to me for protection; let it make peace with me; let it make peace with me. In days to come Jacob shall take root; Israel shall blossom and put forth shoots and fill the whole world with fruit. (NRSV)

## **The Psalm**

**Psalm 80:8-16**

Pastor Trish Reedstrom

*(We will read responsively)*

L: You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

**C: You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.**

L: The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.

**C: it sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.**

L: Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

**C: The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.**

L: Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see; have regard for this vine,

**C: the stock that your right hand planted.**

L: It has been burned with fire; it has been cut down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance. (NRSV)

**New Testament Reading Luke 13:6-9**

Pastor Trish Reedstrom

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the man working the vineyard, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still, I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.'" (NRSV)

*(Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation)*

**Gospel Acclamation "Evening Thanksgiving" Holden Evening Prayer**

Tim Howland

L: May God be with you all,

**C: and also with you.**

L: Let us sing our thanks to God,

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

L: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe—from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

**C: Amen.**

**Gospel**

**John 15:1-8**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

B: The Holy Gospel according to John, the Fifteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Jesus the True Vine**

**John 15:1-8**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become<sup>s</sup> my disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(You may be seated)*

**Sermon**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**Hymn of the Day: ELW#857 "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"**

**Signer ~ Vicki Reedstrom**

*Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.*

*I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.*

*You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from earth to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky: Lord, I lift your name on high. (Sing Twice)*

**Apostles' Creed**

Pastor Megan Reedstrom

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**~ RITE OF ORDINATION ~**

*(Please remain standing as you are able)*

**Presentation of the Ordinand**

Carol, Vicki, Drew, & Kyle Reedstrom

We present for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament David Alan Reedstrom, who has been prepared, examined, and approved for this ministry and who has been called by the church to this ministry through Calvary Lutheran Church, in Rapidan, Minnesota.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(You may be seated)*

**Address and Questions**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

B: All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation. According to apostolic usage you are now to be entrusted with the office of word and sacrament in the holy catholic church by laying on of the hands and by prayer.

*A reading from John:* Jesus said to his disciples, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of

any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” (John 20:21-23)

A reading from Matthew: Jesus said to his disciples, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)

A reading from First Corinthians: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

### ~ Ordination Vows ~

Bishop Regina Hassanally

B: Before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this congregation, I will ask: Will you assume this office, believing that the Church’s call is God’s call to the ministry of Word and Sacrament?

David: *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

B: The church in which you are to be ordained confesses that the Holy Scriptures are the word of God and are the norm of its faith and life. We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles’, the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds. We also acknowledge the Lutheran Confessions as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the Holy Scriptures. Will you therefore preach and teach in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and these creeds and confessions?

David: *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

B: Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace? Will you pray for God’s people, nourish them with the Word and Sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

David: *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God’s love may be known in all that you do?

David: *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

B: Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please stand as you are able for the Prayers of Intercession)*

## Prayers of Intercession

Mike Aherns

*(The response to each petition will be sung.)*

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. God of mercy,

**C: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. O God, I call to you, come see me now, oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.**

L: For all members of the church, that they may serve you in true and godly lives, God of mercy,

**C: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. O God, I call to you, come see me now, oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.**

L: For David, called to be a pastor in the church, that, sustained by your Holy Spirit, he may carry out this ministry with joy and a spirit of bold trust, serve your people, build up your church, and glorify your name, God of mercy,

**C: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. O God, I call to you, come see me now, oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.**

L: For all pastors; for all deaconesses, diaconal ministers, and associates in ministry; for ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth, Bishop Regina, that, together with all those responsible for the care and nurture of your people, they may support one another in serving Christ, God of mercy,

**C: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. O God, I call to you, come see me now, oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.**

L: For the peace of the church, that our divisions may be overcome, so that, united in Christ, we may serve the world and bear witness to the good news, God of mercy,

**C: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. O God, I call to you, come see me now, oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.**

L: For the nations of the world and their leaders, that they may work for justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, God of mercy,

**C: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. O God, I call to you, come see me now, oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.**

L: For the whole creation, that everything you have made may fulfill your purpose and that we may exercise care for your diverse gifts, God of mercy,

**C: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. O God, I call to you, come see me now, oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.**

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

**Hymn of Invocation      ELW #267      "Joy to the World"**

- 1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.**
- 2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**
- 3. No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found far as, far as far as the curse is found.**
- 4. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonder, wonders of his love.**

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**Thanksgiving**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

B: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

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

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

B: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, we bless you for your infinite love in Christ our Lord, in whom we have redemption and forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace. We thank you that by his death your Son overcame death, and that, raised by your mighty power, he gives us new life. We praise you that, having ascended into heaven, Christ pours out his gifts abundantly on the church, making some apostles, some prophets, some pastors and teachers, to equip your people for their work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.

**Laying on of Hands**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

*(Ordained pastors and family are invited to come forward.)*

B: Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit upon David and fill him with the gifts of grace for the ministry of word and sacrament. Bless his proclamation of your word and administration of your sacraments, so that your church may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service. Make him a faithful pastor,



patient teacher, and wise counselor. Grant that in all things he may serve without reproach, that your people may be renewed and your name be glorified in the church; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **Giving of a Stole**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

B: Receive this stole as a sign of your work, and live in obedience to the Lord Jesus, serving his people and remembering his promise: "Come to me, all who you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

## **Charge**

*Hear the words of the apostles:*

Carol Reedstrom

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called. (1 Timothy 6:11-12)

*And again:*

Pastor Gerry Giese

Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. (Acts 20:28)

*And again:*

Carol Reedstrom

Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not under compulsion but willingly, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (1 Peter 5:2-4)

*And again:*

Pastor Gerry Giese

Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. (1 Cor. 4:1-2)

Bishop Regina Hassanally

David, care for God's people, bear their burdens, and do not betray their confidence. So, discipline yourself in life and teaching that you preserve the truth, giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope. Witness faithfully in word and deed to all people. Give and receive comfort as you serve within the church. And be of good courage, for God has called you, and your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

## **Blessing**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

B: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in

everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## **Acclamation by the Assembly**

Bishop Regina Hassanally

B: Will you, assembled as the people of God and speaking for the whole church, receive David Alan Reedstrom as a messenger of Jesus Christ, sent by God to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard him as a servant of Christ?

C: **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

B: Will you pray for him, help and honor him for his work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

C: **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

B: Let it be acclaimed that David is a called and ordained minister in the church of Christ. He has Christ's authority to preach the word of God and administer the sacraments, serving God's people as together we bear God's creative and redeeming love to all the world.

C: **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

*(You may be seated)*

~ **Installation** ~

Pastor Barb Streed

L: Having been authorized by the church to install David Alan Reedstrom, our co-worker in the gospel, as Pastor, I now ask for certification of this call.

Bob Diesch

P: After prayerful deliberation, we, Calvary Lutheran Church, have called David Alan Reedstrom, as pastor. I present him and this letter certifying the call.

(The presenter gives the Assistant Bishop the letter certifying that the call has been received and accepted.)

L: Pastor David, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility?

David: I will, and I ask God to help me.

B: Will you carry out your duties in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

David: I will, and I ask God to help me.

L: Pastor David Reedstrom, the office of Pastor is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

*Pastor Barb escorts the pastor to the place of baptism. Paulette Nelson, a member of the congregation says:* **You have been called to be among us to baptize, to teach, and to forgive sins.**

*Proceed to the place of the word. Erica Kittelson, a member of the congregations says:* **You have been called to be among us to proclaim the good news.**

*Proceed to the place of the meal. Tim Howland, a member of the congregation says:* **You have been called to be among us to preside at the Lord's Supper.**

L: People of God, I present to you Pastor David Reedstrom, your pastor. Let us welcome him in the name of Christ.

### **Sharing of the Peace**

Pastor Barb Streed

B: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.** (You may now exchange the peace with each other)  
(Please be seated for the offering following the exchanging of the Peace)

### **Offering**

Offering received today will be given to the ministries of Calvary Lutheran Church.

### **Offering Response**

**ELW 574**

**"Here I Am, Lord"**

1. **"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"**

*Refrain:* **Here I am, Lord. It is I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

2. **"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away, I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"** *Refrain:*

3. **"I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them. MY had will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"**

*Refrain:*

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L: Let us pray.

Pastor Jay Dahlvang

**C: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish**

**us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

~ MEAL ~

## **Great Thanksgiving**

Pastor Jay Dahlvang

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Words of Institution**

Pastor Jay Dahlvang

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor Jay Dahlvang

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

We have an open Communion table at Calvary Lutheran Church because we believe that this meal is for all people. For this is the Lord's Table. He is the host and we are his guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed, and forgiven. All are welcome to eat and live!

## **Holy Communion**

**Special Music**      **"I Am the Bread of Life"**

Liz Zaruba

**Distribution Hymn**    **ELW #496**    **"One Bread, One Body"**

*Refrain:* **One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless, and we though many throughout the ear, we are one body in this one Lord.**

- 1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. Refrain**
- 2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. Refrain**
- 3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all.**  
*Refrain*

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*(Please stand as you are able for the Blessing)*

## **Post-Communion Blessing**

Pastor Krista Strum

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Pastor Krista Strum

We thank you, almighty and gracious God, that you have fed us with heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son, uniting us through him in the communion of the Holy Spirit. As you have again raised up among us a faithful servant for the ministry of word and sacrament, grant that we, David, may joyfully serve you all our days and finally rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

~ **SENDING** ~

## **Benediction**

Pastor Krista Strum

B: The blessing of God our Creator, the blessing of Christ, our redeemer †, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit our Guide be upon you and remain with you always.

**C: Amen**

## **Recessional Hymn ELW# 547 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"**

- 1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The supper is ended, oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**
- 2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face – our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race. With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

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## **Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Listen to the call of the Holy Spirit!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **Postlude**

**~ After worship, please join us for fellowship ~**

**~ Serving in Worship ~**

Paschal Candle Bearer	Allison Reedstrom
Cross Bearer	Evan Reedstrom
Bible Stand Bearer	Noah Reedstrom
Bible Bearer	Rory Reedstrom.
Ordaining Minister	Bishop Regina Hassanally
Presiding Minister	Rev. Krista Strum
Assisting Minister	Rev. Trish Reedstrom
Assisting Minister	Rev. Megan Reedstrom
Organist/Pianist	Deb Ireland
Vocalists	Liz Reedstrom, Tim Howland
Presenters	Carol, Vicki Drew, & Kyle Reedstrom, Bob Diesch
Charge Readers	Rev. Gerry Giese, Carol Reedstrom
Prayers of Intercession	Mike Aherns
Communion Minister	Rev. Jay Dahlvang
Communion Servers	Rev. Jay Dahlvang & Rev. Gerry Giese Rev. Krista Strum, & Rev. Megan Reedstrom
Bishop Assistant	Allison Reedstrom
Ushers	Deb & Steve Krosch
Baptismal Font Representative	Paulette Nelson
Altar Representative	Erica Kittelson
Pulpit Representative	Tim Howland
Streaming Professionals	Eric Henderson & Dennis Nelson

Photographer

Erica Kittelson

Greeter

Carolyn Marble

Hostess and Servers

Calvary Church Ladies

## Thanksgiving for my Ordination

***"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." NIV***

The other day I just happened to be looking through my dad's Bible, and this verse was earmarked and highlighted. So it occurred to me that maybe, just maybe, he was marking the verse for me. But as my beautiful daughter, Vicki, reminds me time and time again, "You never know, Dad. You never know."

My first words of thanks, and gratitude, surrounding this day will be to acknowledge the roses on the altar. Two red roses are in memory of my parents, Marlin and Charmaine Reedstrom. Two red roses are in memory of Carol's parents, Ellis and Mary Ann Norman. And the yellow rose is in memory of my daughter-in-law, Jessica Reedstrom, who passed away last spring from metastatic breast cancer. These people played a significant and unique role in where I am today. And each of them is deeply missed.

There is no better way to follow acknowledging the roses than to state my thanks publicly to God our Father Almighty for calling me into the service of spreading the good news of His saving grace. I feel profoundly blessed and truly honored to receive the great gift of becoming an ordained Pastor. And to this end, I sincerely think this day has been brewing throughout my life thanks to countless encounters with many people – whether directly or indirectly. So many of you are here with me today.

My parents instilled a deeply rooted Christian faith in my siblings and me of loving and caring for one another, which they learned from past generations. Here's a story about sitting at the kitchen table after church. I know my siblings will verify this. Dad would always ask us what the sermon was about that day. We'd all look down to avoid his gaze, pretending to eat. But in the end, no one was let off the hook, and we'd each respond accordingly. He wasn't mean; he just wanted to teach us to listen to the message of God's word.

Many Pastors crossed my pathway throughout my life, mainly because my family and I moved nine times throughout my careers with the federal government. And in each new home, we would join a new church. Okay, I couldn't recall every pastor's name, but I know each impacted my life.

As for today, I offer my gratitude to a few pastors who have guided me to this day. Pastor Krista Strum and Pastor Trish Reedstrom, my sincere thanks to each of you for providing me with your knowledge, love, and support as I open this new door of opportunity. You have blessed me with your gifts of ministry and friendship.

Thank you, Pastor Gerry Geise, for being the interim pastor at Calvary when I conceded to God's call. I have learned so much from your guidance, advice, and support. Our relationship continues. Many, many thanks to Pastor Jay Dahlvang for your wisdom, humor, and compassionate leadership while serving as my internship spiritual guide. Even though we have known each other for a few years, I am grateful for our new friendship. I also wish to thank Pastor Mary Kay Duchene, and I will never forget the patience, understanding, and grace you shared with me.

Thank you also to these wonderful people: my professors, classmates, colleagues, Via de Cristo family, and, of course, my family, who endured their kind of seminary experience and graced me with compassion and leniency along the journey.

Lastly, I would like to thank God for my beautiful and supportive wife, Carol Joy. Thank you for graciously receiving this *out-of-left-field career change* as a part of our retirement plan. You were my rock throughout this journey, even whenever I doubted myself. You continue to give me strength, love, and inspiration, making me a better person. Without you, Carol, I would not be standing here today. I sincerely appreciate your suggestions, improvements, and corrections (of which there were many). Still, more profoundly, I value your role as my sounding board through my seminary studies and work serving Calvary. So, be ready, Calvary; this is a two-for-one deal.

Thank you to Calvary Lutheran Church for believing in me. We have been on this journey together, and I hope you're looking forward to the next chapter as much as I am. Your continued support and guidance will be faithfully appreciated. It is a blessing to be called to serve Calvary Lutheran Church in Rapidan!

Again, to all of you, thank you very much for everything you have done for me. Thank you for coming today. Your presence means so much to me.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to the many men and women of Calvary for hosting today's reception following this service!

Thank You!

Pastor Dave



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