

Induction Service Exchange of Commitments

Fellowship Representative: We are met together in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, the Head of the Church, to induct Pastor _____ (Name of Pastor) into the ministry of this church and congregation.

(The Pastor-Elect is invited to stand)

Pastor _____, it is our belief that the calling into the Christian ministry and to particular service within it is both of God and the Church. Are you persuaded that you are truly called to this particular ministry, to seek to fulfill the purposes of God among the people of _____ (Name of Church).

Pastor-Elect: I am.

Fellowship Representative: People of _____, are you persuaded that Pastor _____, is the man whom God has brought into this time and place to be a pastor among you and a leader for your ministry? Will you please indicate your affirmation of this by standing. *(Congregation stands.)*

Because you, Pastor, and you, the people of this church, are the ones who are giving yourselves to shared ministry in this place and community, we invite you to respond to each other.

People of _____ (Read by a Church Leader):

We believe that you, Pastor _____, are the man intended by God to be our pastor and leader of our ministry. It is in this belief that we have called you to our fellowship, and it is in this belief that we now affirm our invitation to you.

Pastor-Elect: I believe that you, the congregation of _____ are the people among whom I am intended by God to live, to serve as pastor and to lead into ministry. It is in this belief that I have accepted the call to your fellowship, and it is in this belief that I now affirm my acceptance of your invitation.

People of _____: We ask you to give us some assurances as you become our pastor. Will you give yourself, by the strength and grace of Jesus Christ our Lord, to be sensitive to the needs and possibilities of all our people, singly, in families, or as a congregation? Will you help us to grow toward Christian maturity, through your preaching and teaching, your offering of example and counsel? Will you stimulate us to love one another and to serve one another? Will you help us to communicate the good news of God in Jesus Christ to the people of our community and world?

Pastor-Elect: “The Lord being my helper, I will endeavour to do all of these things.” Now I would ask of you some assurances. Do you understand yourselves to be sharing Christ’s ministry with me in the fellowship of this church? Will you be sensitive to my needs and possibilities as a fellow-member of this church and seek to ministry to me as well as with me? Will you assure me of your confidence, your encouragement, your patience and your prayers? And, finally, will you commit yourselves willingly to the task, which will give shape and energy to our Ministry in this place?

People of _____: “The Lord being our helper, we will endeavour to do all of these things.” We accept you, Pastor, as a person of Christian commitments and God-given skills. We accept you as Pastor among us and a leader of our ministry.

Pastor-Elect: I accept you, the people of this Church, as persons of Christian commitment and God-given skills. I accept you as my people.

Fellowship Representative: We, who are here as church members and friends, bear testimony that we have witnessed your responses and commitments to each other as a pastor-elect and congregation. As an expression of our testimony, and to declare our joy and confidence in your coming together for Ministry, and to commit ourselves to supporting you in the mission we share, we rise to stand with you.