

**Ordination of
Tracey Lynn Harris
to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament
of the United Church of Christ**



**First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ
February 27, 2022, at 3:00PM**

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. David Denoon

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*

No. 173
New Century Hymnal

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive – Leader; **People**)

Keagan Moeller
Rev. Mike Roth

Co-Chair, Committee on Ministry: Preparation

(Written by Rev Laura Cadmus; edited by Tracey Harris)

We gather this afternoon because God appeared to Moses in the burning bush and said, “I am sending you.”

Because Isaiah heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?”

Because Jesus said, “Follow me,” and the fishermen left their nets and followed him. We gather now because there is one among us whom God has called, and she has answered, “Yes,” to that call.

God is surely with her and with us this day!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please turn to those around you and share with them a sign of peace – a wave or a smile rather than a handshake or hug, because we want each other to stay healthy in this time of pandemic.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Jane Porchey

Holy One, we lift up our voices, our hearts, our lives to you in praise. Uphold the weary, for whom praise may be difficult. Humble the strong and encourage them to reach out to the stranger among us. We gather with you as we are, called to be saints and seekers of justice. Remind us of the saints whom you sent before us as teachers and mentors. In your great wisdom may our lives be a blessing to the many who do your work. Creator and Ruler of all, continue to form us into your new creation, that we might welcome you more fully into our hearts and minds. Through the one who came as a servant, Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMNCanticle of the Turning*

R. Cooney

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
 And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
 So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain.

My heart shall sing of the day your bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
 Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, And the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
 And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
 You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. *Refrain.*

From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r, not a stone will be left on stone.
 Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
 The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
 There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. *Refrain.*

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
 God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
 This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
 Till the spear and rod can be crushed by God who is turning the world around. *Refrain.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Tracey Harris

SCRIPTURE READINGS*From the Prophets*

Isaiah 43:1-7 & 18-19

Rev. Denoon

From the Epistles

Hebrews 12:1-2

Rev. Dr. Kevin Gregory

*Pastor, St. John UCC, Manchester***SERMON**

Rev. Miranda Moeller and Rev. Eric Moeller

HYMN*You Are Mine*

David Haas

I will come to you in the silence; I will lift you from all your fear.
 You will hear my voice; I claim you as my choice.
 Be still, and know I am near.

I am hope for all who are hopeless; I am eyes for all who long to see.
 In the shadows of the night, I will be your light;
 Come and rest in me.

Refrain.

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name:
 Come and follow me; I will bring you home.
 I love you and you are mine.

I am strength for all the despairing
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free
And all will know My name. *Refrain.*

I am the Word that leads all to freedom. I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, embracing all your pain:
Stand up, now, walk, and live. *Refrain (twice).*

READING *Beatitudes for Kids* Thom M. Shuman
Read by Elyse von Weise, and Payton, Aiden, Ryan, Alex, and Paris White-Lenard

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Merrimon Boyd
Prayer of Our Savior (Unison)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

RITE OF ORDINATION

Reading *Living Eulogy* Maryanne Radmacher-Hershey
Read by Rev. Linda Smith

Hymn *I Will Sing of Your Love, Love, Love* C. Grundy
**UCC Statement of Faith* No. 885, *New Century Hymnal* Rev. Dr. Carol Barner
Co-Chair, Comm. on Ministry: Preparation

Greeting (Responsive) Rev. Damien Lake
Associate Conference Minister
Missouri Mid-South Conference

Grace to you and peace from God, who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness and the sovereign of the rulers on earth. The Saint Louis Association of the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ greets you in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church.

To God, who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Presentation of the Ordinand

Exhortation

Examination

Acclamation (Responsive)

People of God, you have heard the promises Tracey has made. What is your will?

By the grace of God, she is worthy! Let us ordain her. Come, Holy Spirit.

Will you support Tracey in the ministry of Christ?

We will.

**Conferring the Holy Spirit*

Following the direction of the designated representative, the Congregation following health precautions ritually indicates the ordination of the candidate by the Holy Spirit, as the representative prays.

When the prayer concludes, the Congregation responds:

Amen. Thanks be to God!

**Declaration of Ordination*

**Presentation of Gifts*

***HYMN**

Let Us Break Bread Together

Traditional

Let us break bread together on our knees...

Refrain.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us share the cup together on our knees...

Let us praise God together on our knees...

SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE

**Expressions of Joy and Concern*

**Invitation*

**Communion Prayer (Responsive)*

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God most high. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Sanctus (Unison)*

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God most high. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

Fraction

Acclamation (Unison)

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Consecration

Communion

Communion is served in the pews, first the bread and then the cup.

The bread is gluten-free. Wine is white; grape juice is red.

Each is consumed at the indication of the Minister,

unless this presents a hardship for the individual.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Tracey Harris

RECESSIONAL

Rev. Eric Moeller

Rev. Eric Moeller is the son of Tracey Harris and Rev. Bruce Moeller, and brother to Rev. Miranda Moeller. He is a 2017 graduate of Eden Theological Seminary. Since October of 2019, he has served as the Associate Pastor of St. Peter's UCC in Washington, Missouri. Washington has been his home since 2012, where he lives with his wife Jorey and their three children. Previously, he served at St. Lucas UCC (Sunset Hills), Catawissa Union Church, and he worked for many years at Camp Moval. In addition to being a pastor, Eric has been a rock-and-roll musician for 20 years, which has afforded him the opportunity to release several recordings, and to perform all over the United States and Europe. In 2015, Eric launched the All-In Music Project, a non-profit aimed at using music to inspire active solidarity with marginalized people, build community, and educate and mobilize for social transformation.

Rev. Miranda Moeller

Rev. Miranda Moeller is the pastor of the Millburn (IL) Congregational Church, where she has served since November 2020. Born in Illinois and raised in the St. Louis area, Miranda spent the previous 10 years in Connecticut before reconnecting with her Midwestern roots. She is a graduate of Drury University, with a BA in Philosophy and Religion, a BA in Psychology, and minors in Women's Studies, Global Studies, and Political Science. She has two Master's degrees: a MA in Pastoral Studies from Eden Theological Seminary and a MA in Divinity from Andover Newton Theological School. Before pastoring at Millburn, Miranda worked as a youth minister, a Director of Christian Education, and a part-time librarian. When she isn't at church, Pastor Miranda enjoys crafting of any type, painting by number with her cousin, and being creative. She and her wife Courtney have two dogs and a cat they enjoy cuddling and spoiling. But Pastor Miranda's favorite pastime is spending time with Courtney, talking, laughing, and adventuring through life together.

In addition to Dr. Barner and Rev. Lake, representatives of the St. Louis Association and the Missouri Mid-South Conference who are participating today include:

Rev. Mike Krewson, *Chair, Association Council*
Carol Cobb, *Representative, Committee on Ministry: Preparation*



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