

The Preamble of the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):

As members of the Christian Church,
we confess that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God,
and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world.
In Christ's name and by his grace
we accept our mission of witness
and service to all people.
We rejoice in God,
maker of heaven and earth,
and in God's covenant of love
which binds us to God and to one another.
Through baptism into Christ
we enter into newness of life
and are made one with the whole people of God.
In the communion of the Holy Spirit
we are joined together in discipleship
and in obedience to Christ.
At the Table of the Lord
we celebrate with thanksgiving
the saving acts and presence of Christ.
Within the universal church
we receive the gift of ministry
and the light of scripture.
In the bonds of Christian faith
we yield ourselves to God
that we may serve the One
whose kingdom has no end.
Blessing, glory, and honor
be to God forever. Amen.

The Vision of the Christian Church in Kansas (Disciples of Christ):

As we live together into the future, the Christian Church in Kansas (Disciples of Christ) is a vibrant, diverse, and growing, manifestation of God's realm at work in the here and now of people's lives.

As followers of the way of Jesus, the Christian Church in Kansas (Disciples of Christ) will connect and equip congregations, lay leaders, and pastors to make and grow disciples of Jesus Christ.



CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN KANSAS

DISCIPLES of CHRIST

Together, We Connect and Equip

Installation Service of Rev. Tom Stanley

April 29, 2023

First Christian Church McPherson, Kansas

Prelude:

Greetings and Thank you:

Ruby Brower
CCK Moderator

Call to Worship:

(Adapted from Lamentations 3: 22-23)

Ruby Brower

Leader: The steadfast love of God never ends.

People: **Your mercies never end!**

Leader: They are new every morning.

People: **Good is Your faithfulness God.**

Opening Hymn "Gather Us In"

Chalice Hymn #284

Statement of Purpose

Rev. Dr. Nadine Barton
Regional Minister,
Great River Region

Search Committee Report

Stephanie Switzky
Chair, Topeka FCC

Opening Prayer

Rev. Travis Smith McKee
Interim Pastor, Galva CC

Scripture Reading Philippians 1:1-11

Rev. Terri Hord-Owens
General Minister and President

Sermon "A Pastor's Heart, A People's Love"

Rev. Terri Hord-Owens

Music Solo "You Have Called Me"

Rev. John Malget
Chalice Hymnal #455

*Celebration of Covenant of Call

Rev. Terri Hord Owens

*The Declaration

Rev. Terri Hord Owens

Prayer of Installation and Blessing

Rev. Terri Hord Owens

Presentation of the Signs of Office

Presentations of the Regional Stole

Presentation of the Regional Pin

Rev. Dr. Nadine Barton

Rev. Pam Holt

Regional Minister,
Oklahoma Region

Communion Hymn: "Let Us Break Bread Together" Chalice Hymn #425

Call to Communion

Rev. Tom Stanley

Prayer for Bread and Cup

Rev. Ken Marston
Co-Regional Minister,
Kansas Region

Appreciation

Rev. Tom Stanley

Benediction

Rev. Tom Stanley

Postlude

Thank You!

*A special thank you to Pastor Lynn Scott, McPherson First Christian Church,
and Galva Christian Church as well as everyone else
who has made this day possible.*

Everyone is invited to a reception immediately following the service

**See insert for details*

CELEBRATION OF COVENANT OF CALL

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: We now come to this moment in which Rev. Tom Stanley, having been called with due seriousness to minister within this region, is to be officially received into this office.

Tom, you have responded to God's call, as your journey has brought you to serve this region as Regional Minister. Are you ready to accept the call of the Christian Church in the Kansas region and to minister with them in God's world?

Rev. Tom Stanley: Trusting in God, I am ready and willing.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: Will you seek to be diligent in prayer as you perform the ministry before you, committing yourself to be a faithful witness of the gospel, leading the region in its mission and ministry as it seeks to foster God's reconciliation in a broken world?

Rev. Tom Stanley: Following the example of Christ, I will.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: Will you endeavor to listen to the members of the regional church, committing to love them and be loved by them, challenge them, and be challenged by them, so as to be a model of peacemaking and justice in the world?

Rev. Tom Stanley: Through the grace of God, I will.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: And will you also now commit yourself to the stewardship of the church, in the planning, execution, and evaluation of its ministry and resources so that it might be part of the in-breaking of the kingdom of God? Will you speak, as clearly as you are able, the visions God places on your heart to encourage, challenge and lead this people?

Rev. Tom Stanley: With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I will.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: Will you maintain your own health through time with family and friends, exercise, and opportunities of rest that your gifts may come to us through abundant living?

Rev. Tom Stanley: With the help of God and my family and friends, I will.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: Tom, you come into this new chapter of your ministry with a firm foundation of family and friends. Will the family of Rev. Tom Stanley please stand?

Each of you has played an important part in the growing and nurturing of Tom's life. Will you promise to continue your love and support for her/him in this new call in ministry? If so, will you please answer, through the love of God, we will.

Family: Through the love of God, we will.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: Family, you may be seated. Tom, you have many partners in the ministry ahead. Some of those partners are the ministers of this region and God's whole church. Will the pastors present please stand?

Will you offer support and counsel to Tom in your shared ministry? Will you pray for him regularly and seek his wellbeing as a spiritual leader? Will you share your gifts in the ministry of this region, that God might be praised in your work together? If so, will you please answer, with God's help, we will.

Pastors: With God's help we will.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: Pastors, you may be seated. Tom, you have partners in the elders among us who offer guidance and prayer in our congregations. Will the elders please stand.

Will you pray for the regional church in Kansas that we may be an instrument of God's compassion in this region and beyond? Will you support the regional ministry of the church as it seeks to equip the congregations for the ministries in the years ahead? If so, will you please answer, with God's help, we will.

Elders: With God's help, we will.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: Elders, you may be seated. Tom, the people gathered here on this day pray with you and for you and for one another. Will all the people stand and prepare to speak to their commitment?

Will you pray for the Kansas region in the days ahead to be faithful to its calling to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ? Will you offer your gifts of ministry to God's purposes, as you are able, that the church may grow in love and unity? Will you support the ministry of the region with your good words, hopes and resources that lives may be touched in this place and around the world with God's saving grace? If so will you please answer, with God's help, we will.

All: With God's help, we will.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens: Congregation, you may be seated. Having heard the promises shared this day we rejoice that God has given us one another for the days ahead and the ministry before us. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, and by the grace of God, as General Minister and President, I hereby install you, Rev. Tom Stanley as Co-Regional Minister and President of the Kansas region. I pray God's blessing be upon you and God's ministry be done through you and through this community of faith as you bear witness to the Gospel.

THE DECLARATION

In the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church, we celebrate the covenant formed between Rev. Tom Stanley and the Kansas Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); and we commend you to the grace of God in the discharge of all your duties as minister of the Gospel. May God, count you worthy of your calling, and bring to fulfillment in you every good purpose and every act inspired by faith.

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Rev. Terri Hord Owens: (to all gathered) Will you pray for the Kansas in the days ahead to be faithful to its calling to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ? Will you offer your gifts of ministry to God's purposes, as you are able, that the church may grow in love and unity? Will you support the ministry of the region with your good words, hopes and resources that lives may be touched in this place and around the world with God's saving grace? If so will you please answer, with God's help, we will.

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