

RECOGNITION OF AN INTERIM PASTOR

Rubrics:

1. *When set within the liturgy for Holy Communion, this order is used following the Sermon.*
2. *The Congregation Council will designate a representative from the congregation to conduct the recognition rite.*

SIT

3. *The representative addressed the pastor being recognized.*

L – Scriptures: John 20: 21-23; 1 Timothy 4: 12-16

4. *The representative questions the pastor.*

L – Pastor _____, in the presence of this congregation will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, and promise to discharge your duties in harmony with the constitutions of the Church?

R – I will, and I ask God to help me.

L – Will you love, serve, and pray for these people of God, nourishing them with the Word and Holy Sacraments, and lead them in the use of the means of grace?

R – I will, and I ask God to help me.

L – Will you lead this people of God in giving faithful witness to the world, and making known the love of God through loving service in this community?

R – I will, and I ask God to help me.

L – Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, gives you the power of his Spirit so that you may perform them with strength and compassion.

C – Amen

5. *The representative addresses the congregation.*

P – And you, people of God, will you receive this messenger of Jesus Christ, who continues the work of bringing the Gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard him/her as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God?

C – We will.

P – Will you pray for him/her, and honor him/her for his/her work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

C – We will.

6. *The representative addresses the pastor being recognized.*

P – By your statements of commitment and the affirmation of this congregation, we welcome you as interim pastor of this congregation, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

7. *The newly recognized interim pastor continues as presiding minister, leading the congregation in the Creed or prayers.*