

## RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RECEPTION INTO A LOCAL CONGREGATION

### INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism

we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation

and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through confirmation,

and through the reaffirmation of our faith,

we renew the covenant declared at our baptism,

acknowledge what God is doing for us,

and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

### PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

I present Mike Diehl, Breanna Lubrano

who come seeking professing membership.

### RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,

reject the evil powers of this world,

and repent of your sin?

**I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you

to resist evil, injustice, and oppression

in whatever forms they present themselves?

**I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,

put your whole trust in his grace,

and promise to serve him as your Lord,

in union with the Church which Christ has opened

to people of all ages, nations, and races?

According to the grace given to you,

will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church

and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

**I will.**

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church,

reaffirm both your rejection of sin

and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life

and include these persons now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news  
and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround these persons**

**with a community of love and forgiveness,**

**that they may grow in their trust of God,**

**and be found faithful in their service to others.**

**We will pray for them,**

**that they may be true disciples**

**who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith

as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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,**

**is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**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.]**

#### **REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

#### **RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

As members of Christ's universal Church,  
will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist  
Church,  
and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

**I will.**

#### **RECEPTION INTO THE LOCAL CONGREGATION**

As members of this congregation,  
will you faithfully participate in its ministries  
by your prayers, your presence,  
your gifts, your service  
and your witness?

**I will.**

#### **COMMENDATION AND WELCOME**

Members of the household of God,  
I commend these persons to your love and care.  
Do all in your power to increase their faith,  
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you  
and we welcome you in Christian love.**

**As members together with you  
in the body of Christ  
and in this congregation  
of The United Methodist Church,  
we renew our covenant  
faithfully to participate  
in the ministries of the Church  
by our prayers, our presence,  
our gifts, our service, and our witness  
that in everything God may be glorified  
through Jesus Christ.**

The God of all grace,  
who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,  
establish you and strengthen you  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
that you may live in grace and peace.