

**Ordination Service for (Name)
(Date)**

Introduction

Ordination is a confirmation that an individual has been called of God to become a vocational minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is a divine call that involves hearing God Himself, us responding in obedience, and God's people affirming the individual.

You as a congregation have invited the Associated Gospel Churches to conduct this public service because you believe (Name) is ordained of God as a Pastor/Teacher. We mutually agree that his life, gifts and calling confirm that he is called of God to be a Pastor.

The AGC Doctrine & Credentials committee has examined (Name) and reported that his Bible knowledge, doctrine, call to ministry, lifestyle and understanding of Christ's Church qualify him for ordination to the Christian ministry. However, should anyone in this congregation know of a valid reason why (name) should not be ordained, let that person speak now. (Pause)

Candidate Invited To Join AGC Representative

Now listen to God's Word as it relates to Conversion and Call To The Ministry

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men." (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:7-13)

Jesus said:

"I tell you the truth, unless a man is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. Unless a man is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

(name), do you believe in your heart that you are genuinely born again, and called to the Christian ministry according to God's will for your life?

(The candidate responds _____.)

Now listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the Scriptures:

All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. (II Timothy 3:16-17; 2:15, NIV)

(name), are you convinced in your mind and heart that the Scriptures are verbally inspired and sufficient for all doctrine within the Church and for the believer's spiritual growth and service, and are you determined to instruct out of the Bible the people committed to your charge, and to teach only that which is revealed in the Scriptures to be sound doctrine and in accordance with the Articles of Faith and Doctrine found in the By-Laws of the AGC?

(The candidate responds _____.)

Now listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to false doctrine:

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. (II Timothy 4:1-4, NIV)

(name), are you ready and willing to expose and refute all false teaching that is contrary to God's Word, and to publicly and privately exhort in this matter as the need arises?

(The candidate responds _____.)

Now listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the Pastor's devotional life:

I urge, then first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, Who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. (I Timothy 2:1-4; James 1:21-22, NIV)

(name), will you be faithful in prayer and in the reading of the Bible and in the diligent study of the Scriptures, seeking to walk in spiritual victory, by removing all that is in conformity to this sinful world and the old nature, and applying your total being to that which is in conformity to the will of God for your life?

(The candidate responds _____.)

Now listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the Pastor's personal and family life:

Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to much wine, not violent, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. (I Timothy 3:1-4, NIV)

(name), will you be careful to conduct yourself and to lead your family in accordance with the teaching of Scripture and to commit yourself and to encourage your family, as far as you are able, to be worthy examples to the flock of Christ.

(The candidate responds _____.)

Now listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the unity of the Spirit among believers:

Make every effort to live in peace with all men. Make every effort to keep unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Live in peace with each other. (Hebrews 12:14a; Ephesians 4:3; I Thessalonians 5:13b, NIV)

(name), will you maintain, as far as you are able, harmony, love, and peace among all believers and all Christian groups, and especially among those who are or shall be committed to your charge?

(The candidate responds _____.)

Now listen carefully to God's Word as it relates to the two ordinances:

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood: do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." (Matthew 28:18-19; I Corinthians 11:23-25, NIV)

It is both a great privilege and serious responsibility for the pastor to exhort his people to adhere faithfully and obediently to the two ordinances of the Christian Church which the Bible prescribes, and to officiate in administering the ordinances of Believer's Baptism and The Lord's Supper as proof of the participant's genuine faith in Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Saviour.

(name), will you faithfully minister in the proper observance of these two ordinances, and encourage those in your charge to faithfully observe them as vital proofs and valid expressions of their Christian commitment?

(The candidate responds _____.)

Are you prepared to place your signature in support of and agreement with the Articles of Faith and Doctrine, Policies and By-Laws as set forth in the By-Laws of the AGC?

(The candidate responds _____.)

(The candidate will then publicly sign his name to the Articles of Faith and Doctrine in the presence of the congregation and the AGC officials.)

The Dedicatory Prayer

(The candidate is asked to kneel while the congregation is asked to stand. The presiding official(s) and other pastors present, along with the elders of the church will lay hands on the candidate and pray for him.)

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, on behalf of the Associated Gospel Churches, and upon the request of this congregation, I declare you to be duly ordained to the ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to minister to this congregation or to wherever you are appointed later on.

"May the Lord preserve your going out and your coming in from this time forth and even for evermore."