**A Prayer and Service for the Commissioning of Christian Leaders into New Ministries (Missionary Work, Chaplaincy, Para-Church Ministries, etc.)**

The Holy Spirit calls all of us into the places where our gifts and abilities will be used to declare Jesus is King! Like Daniel, we respond in obedience and prayer to God as his kingdom people. The life of faith is at work when we discover our individual callings in the midst of our daily life.

Paul encouraged his pastor friend Timothy with these words: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." (2 Tim 2:15)

The vision of the Free Methodist Church in Canada is *to see a healthy church within the reach of all people in Canada and beyond*. Occasionally, that may even mean that we loan out one of our own to another organization or denomination. We want to affirm the gifts and abilities God has blessed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with and send him/her with our love on this new journey.

So let’s do that using the words you see on the screen (each part is labelled on the slides), congregation, you begin:

Congregation:

**As members of the Free Methodist Church in Canada we are called to share the Good News of Jesus in word and in deed with our families, our co-workers, and our neighbors, both nearby and far away. This responsibility is for all of us in whatever life situation we find ourselves.**

Leader:

As God’s kingdom people assembled here this morning we agree that God has used \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ‘s gifts to bless us as a congregation. We thank you Lord, for his/her wisdom, his/her prayers and his/her love for the people of this church.

Congregation:

**As we live and work in the world, we know God’s Spirit goes ahead of us, preparing the way. Holy Spirit, we pray you would reveal to our sister the good works you have planned in advance for him/her to do. Give him/her patience, wisdom, and love for the people he/she will encounter.**

To show that you accept this office, you are requested to stand in the presence of God and His church to answer the following questions:

Do you believe that God Himself calls you to this holy ministry?

Do you believe that the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and life?

Do you promise to do the work of your office faithfully, in a way worthy of your calling and in submission to the oversight and discipline of the church?

*Candidate*: With the Lord’s help and the Spirit’s leading, I will model the Kingdom of Jesus in my life and teaching.

**Commissioning and Laying on of Hands**

I’m going to ask our Official Board members and any close friends of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to come up and lay hands on him/her as we pray for his/her ministry.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , we commission you to take the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ “into all the world, make disciples, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that He has commanded."

“The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you” (Deuteronomy 31:8a).

**Extemporaneous Prayer:** [*the leader or designates will pray extempore*]

Now as a congregation will you join in this prayer for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ :

Congregation:

**We commend our brother/sister \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to your constant love and guidance. Lord, fill him/her with grace and grant him/her the strength and peace of your Spirit. In the name of Jesus, our Master, Servant, and Friend. Amen.**

Leader:

Brothers and Sisters, we would ask you to be in continuing fellowship with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Sustain him/her with your prayers. Give him/her a call or send a card to encourage him/her. Have him/her over for dinner. Remind him/her he/she will always be a part of this family!