The Ordination of
Lainie Acridge Allen
To the Sacred Order of Priests In
Christ’s One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church

Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth
St. Luke’s in the Meadow Episcopal Church
Thursday, June 11, 2020
3 P.M.
About the cover art:

The photo on the cover of your bulletin is *Le Sacerdoce de la Vierge* (The Priesthood of the Virgin), c. 1438. Each year from the mid-fifteenth century through 1666, the Brotherhood of Our Lady of Amiens (the “Puy D’Amiens”) commissioned, through its Master of Ceremonies, a painting in honor of the Virgin and Child for the Cathedral of Amiens. In this particular painting, the M. C. of the Puy D’Amiens, Jean du Bos, is depicted presenting a banner to Mary which reads: “vestment worthy of the sovereign priest.” The painting reflects the Church’s ancient understanding that Mary gave Christ his humanity. This gift – Mary’s humanity – is the “vestment” worn by Christ, our “sovereign priest.”

*Le Sacerdoce de la Vierge* is the oldest remaining work of art from the "Puy D’Amiens." It is owned by the Musée du Louvre in Paris.
Preface to the Ordination Rites

The Holy Scriptures and ancient Christian writers make it clear that from the apostles’ time, there have been different ministries within the Church. In particular, since the time of the New Testament, three distinct orders of ordained ministers have been characteristic of Christ’s holy Catholic Church. First, there is the order of bishops who carry on the apostolic work of leading, supervising, and uniting the Church. Secondly, associated with them are the presbyters, or ordained elders, in subsequent times generally known as priests. Together with the bishops, they take part in the governance of the Church, in the carrying out of its missionary and pastoral work, and in the preaching of the Word of God and administering his holy Sacraments. Thirdly, there are deacons who assist bishops and priests in all of this work. It is also a special responsibility of deacons to minister in Christ’s name to the poor, the sick, the suffering, and the helpless.

The persons who are chosen and recognized by the Church as being called by God to the ordained ministry are admitted to these sacred orders by solemn prayer and the laying on of episcopal hands. It has been, and is, the intention and purpose of this Church to maintain and continue these three orders; and for this purpose these services of ordination and consecration are appointed. No persons are allowed to exercise the offices of bishop, priest, or deacon in this Church unless they are so ordained, or have already received such ordination with the laying on of hands by bishops who are themselves duly qualified to confer Holy Orders.

It is also recognized and affirmed that the threefold ministry is not the exclusive property of this portion of Christ’s catholic Church, but is a gift from God for the nurture of his people and the proclamation of his Gospel everywhere. Accordingly, the manner of ordaining in this Church is to be such as has been, and is, most generally recognized by Christian people as suitable for the conferring of the sacred orders of bishop, priest, and deacon.

*The Book of Common Prayer (1979), p. 510*
Prelude

Trio on St. Columba by Joyce Jones

Please stand as you are able for the Processional and remain standing until the Presentation

Processional Hymn

Praise to the Lord

Hymn 390

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
   O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation;
   join the great throng, psalter-y,
   saints he sustains, eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou

2 Praise to the Lord; over all things he glorious
   borne as on eagle-wings, safely his ever attend thee; ponder a new what the Almighty

3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy way and deeds
   surely his goodness and mercy shall dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his
The Bishop and People sit. The Clergy and Lay presenters, standing before the Bishop, present the Ordinand, saying:

Scott, Bishop in the Church of God, on behalf of the clergy and people of the Diocese of Ft Worth, we present to you Lainie Acridge Allen to be ordained a priest in Christ's holy catholic Church.

Bishop Has she been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church? And do you believe her manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Presenters We certify to you that she has satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we believe her to be qualified for this order.

The Bishop then says to the Ordinand

Will you be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church has received them? And will you, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey your bishop and other ministers who may have authority over you and your work?

Answer I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.

The Ordinand then signs the above Declaration in the sight of all present.

All stand. The Bishop says to the People:
Dear friends in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting Rebecca for ordination to the sacred priesthood. Therefore if any of you know any impediment or crime because of which we should not proceed, come forward now, and make it known.

*If no objection is made, the Bishop continues:*

Is it your will that Lainie be ordained a priest?
*People: It is.*

*Bishop: Will you uphold her in this ministry?*
*People: We will.*

*Bishop* In peace let us pray to the Lord.

*All kneel.*

**THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS**

God the Father,
*Have mercy on us.*

God the Son,
*Have mercy on us.*

God the Holy Spirit,
*Have mercy on us.*

Holy Trinity, one God,
*Have mercy on us.*

We pray to you, Lord Christ.
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the Day of your Coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all members of your Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve you in a true and godly life, we pray to you, O Lord.
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Scott, our Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, that they may be filled with your love, may hunger for truth, and may thirst after righteousness, we pray to you, O Lord.
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For Lainie, chosen priest in your Church, we pray to you, O Lord.
*Lord, hear our prayer.*
That she may faithfully fulfill the duties of this ministry, build up your Church, and glorify your Name, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit she may be sustained and encouraged to persevere to the end, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For her family and community, that they may be adorned with all Christian virtues, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those in positions of public trust, especially Donald, our President, the US Congress, and all judges, that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.
For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

_Lord, hear our prayer._

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Luke, Saint Alban, Saint Elizabeth, Saint Brigit, Saint Julian of Norwich, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another

_To you, O Lord our God._

Lord, have mercy.

_Christ, have mercy._

Lord, have mercy.

_Bishop_ The Lord be with you.

_People_ And also with you.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were being cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

_Amen._

_All sit for the lessons._

**The Lessons**

**Old Testament:** Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; 
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

_Lector_ The Word of the Lord

_People_ Thanks be to God.
Psalm 43
Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
   against an ungodly people;
from those who are deceitful and unjust
   deliver me!
For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
   Why have you cast me off?
Why must I walk about mournfully
   because of the oppression of the enemy?
O send out your light and your truth;
   let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
   and to your dwelling.
Then I will go to the altar of God,
   to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
   O God, my God.
Why are you cast down, O my soul,
   and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
   my help and my God.

Epistle: Ephesians 4: 7, 11-16
But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift.
The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors
and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all
of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the
measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown
about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But
speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from
whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each
part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.
The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Gospel: Matthew 9: 35-38

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Elaine Heath
**The Nicene Creed (standing)**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The Examination**

*All are seated except the Ordinand, who stands before the Bishop.*

The Bishop addresses the Ordinand as follows:

My sister, the Church is the family of God, the body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit. All baptized people are called to make Christ known as Savior and Lord, and to share in the renewing of his world. Now you are called to work as pastor, priest, and teacher, together with your bishop and fellow presbyters, and to take your share in the councils of the Church.

As a priest, it will be your task to proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. You are to preach, to declare God’s forgiveness to penitent sinners, to pronounce God’s blessing, to share in the administration of Holy Baptism and in the celebration of the mysteries of Christ’s Body and Blood, and to perform the other ministries entrusted to you.

In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ’s people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

My sister, do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to this priesthood?

*Answer* I believe I am so called.

*Bishop* Do you now in the presence of the Church commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

*Answer* I do.

*Bishop* Will you respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your bishop?

*Answer* I will.
Bishop  Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make you a stronger and more able minister of Christ?

Answer  I will.

Bishop  Will you endeavor so to minister the Word of God and the sacraments of the New Covenant, that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

Answer  I will.

Bishop  Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom you are called to serve, laboring together with them and with your fellow ministers to build up the family of God?

Answer  I will.

Bishop  Will you do you best to pattern your life and that of your family in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to your people?

Answer  I will.

Bishop  Will you persevere in prayer, both in public and in private, asking God’s grace, both for yourself and for others, offering all your labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ, and in the sanctification of the Holy Spirit?

Answer  I will.

Bishop  May the Lord, who has given you the will to do these things, give you the grace and power to perform them.

Answer  Amen.
THE CONSECRATION OF THE PRIEST

All now stand except the Ordinand, who kneels facing the Bishop, and the Priests who stand to the right and left of the Bishop.

Consecration Hymn  

Veni Creator Spiritus

Hymnal 504

1 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
2 Thou the anointing Spirit impart,
3 Thy blessed unsion from above

All

and light en with celestial fire.
who dost thy seven-fold gifts impart.
is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Cantor

4 Ennable with perpetual light
5 Anoint and cheer our soil ed face
6 Keep far our foes, give peace at home:
7 Teach us to know the Father, Son,

All

the dullness of our blinded sight.
with the abundance of thy grace.
where thou art guide, no ill can come.
and thee, of both, to be but One,
A period of silent prayer follows, the People still standing.

The Bishop then says this Prayer of Consecration:
God and Father of all, we praise you for your infinite love in calling us to be a holy people in the kingdom of your Son Jesus our Lord, who is the image of your eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn among many brethren, and the head of the Church. We thank you that by his death he has overcome death, and, having ascended into heaven, has poured his gifts abundantly upon your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry and the building up of his body.

Here, the Bishop lays hands upon the head of the Ordinand, the Priests who are present also laying on their hands.

At the same time the Bishop prays:
Therefore, Father, through Jesus Christ your Son, give your Holy Spirit to Lainie; fill her with grace and power, and make her a priest in your Church.

The Bishop then continues:
May she exalt you, O Lord, in the midst of your people; offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; boldly proclaim the gospel of salvation; and rightly administer the sacraments of the New Covenant.
Make her a faithful pastor, a patient teacher, and a wise councilor. Grant that in all things she may serve without reproach, so that your people may be strengthened and your Name glorified in all the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

_The People in a loud voice respond:_

_Amen._

**THE VESTING**

_The new Priest is now vested according to the order of priests._

_The Bishop then gives a Bible to the newly-ordained Priest, saying:_

Receive this Bible as a sign of the authority given you to preach the Word of God and to administer his holy Sacraments. Do not forget the trust committed to you as a priest of the Church of God.

_The Bishop greets the newly-ordained._

**THE PEACE**

_The new Priest then says to the People:_

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

_People_ And also with you.

_The Priests greet the newly-ordained; who then greets family members and others. The Clergy and People stand and greet one another._

**Closing Prayer - The Bishop**

_The Bishop invites the people to join in the Lord’s Prayer:_

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

_The Bishop then asks the new Priest to bless the People._

_The new Priest says:_

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

_People_ Amen.

_Dismissal:_ Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

_People_ Thanks be to God!

**Organ Postlude:** _Here I Am Lord_ Dan Schutte
Participants

Ordaining Bishop
The Right Reverend J. Scott Mayer

Litanists
Ms. Michelle Williams
Dr. Daniel Allen

Lectors
Ms. Brittany Allen Hannon, Hillsboro, OR
Ms. Jillian Allen, Portland, OR
Ms. Sharma Cummings, Denver, CO
The Reverend Dr. Elizabeth Emrey, Charlottesville, VA

Gospeler
The Reverend Sandra Michels, Ft Worth, TX

Preacher
The Reverend Dr. Elaine A. Heath, Hillsborough, NC

Presenters
The Reverend Kevin Johnson
The Reverend Karen Calafat
The Reverend Rebecca Tankersley
Mr. Scott Tankersley

Assisting with Vesting
The Reverend Karen Calafat
The Reverend Rebecca Tankersley

Organists
Mr. Tony Kroll, Ft Worth, TX
Dr. Jonathan Jung, Cleveland, TN

Soloist
Dr. Andrea Dismukes, Cleveland, TN

Technical Support
Ms Katie Sherrod and Mr Steve Grenzow

Special Thanks:
Where do I begin? Thanks to my family, especially Daniel, who have been on this 14-year, circuitous journey and have championed me every step of the way. Thank you, Liz. For 14 years, God has gifted you as spiritual director and friend to discern the Spirit’s voice. Thank you, Elaine, for your book, The Mystic Way that changed my life, connected me to you and Perkins. Your voice has been a strong guide in my heart. Thank you to my BFF, Julie, and my seminary soul sisters, Rebecca, Michelle, Ginger, Nancy, and Leslie for fun and “food” to stay the course. Karen, God connected us in S. Cal, then moved us both to St Luke’s in the Meadow to find such amazing people who love so well. I am grateful for your leadership and friendship. Thank you, Kevin and the beautiful people of St Albans, for loving me and allowing me to “practice” in your midst. Thank you, Sandi, and the courageous people of St Elizabeth-Christ the King, for opening your generous arms to me. And thank you to my larger community in the Diocese of Ft Worth and across the US who have discerned with me, prayed for, and encouraged me day by day, step by step. What a gift! THANK YOU All. To God be the Glory!