

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The territory served by the Lower Susquehanna Synod, and the place we worship today, are unceded Indigenous land including the traditional homelands of the Susquehannock/Conestoga, Seneca and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, Leni Lenape, and Shawnee Nations, and the connections of Indigenous Peoples to this land continue today. We have a responsibility to honor these connections and, as these words of acknowledgement are spoken and heard, we strive to understand our place within the past, present, and future of this land by reflecting on our relationships with the human and other-than-human relatives with whom it is shared.

MOVING FORWARD IN MISSION

The Lower Susquehanna Synod 2026–2027 Generosity Appeal, Moving Forward in Mission, supports congregational vitality, collaboration, partnership, and innovative mission across our synod. Through this appeal, we invest in ministries that strengthen leaders, connect congregations, and help us respond faithfully and creatively to the needs of our communities.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

In the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA, we feed the hungry as we have been fed by Christ. We welcome with full participation and inclusion all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, imprisonment, physical or mental health, socio-economic circumstances or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Jesus Christ



Lower Susquehanna Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
1959 Market Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011
www.lss-elca.org

Holy Communion with the Rite of Ordination of John Casey Evans to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament



Shells Lutheran Church
Grantville, Pennsylvania
July 18, 2026
11:00 AM

WORSHIP LEADERS

- Presiding Minister..... The Rev. Stephen R. Herr
Bishop, Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA
- Assisting Minister..... Deacon Kristen M. Barnes
- Lectors..... Rick Pelc and Samantha Evans
- Presenter for Ordination..... Jennifer R. Lau
Vice President, Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA
- Sponsor..... The Rev. Ryan R. Heycock
- Assisting in the Address The Rev. Albert J. Domines Jr., the Rev. Godfred Effisah,
and the Rev. Ryan R. Heycock
- Pastor Loci..... The Rev. Wicky L. Barnes III
- Communion Servers The Rev. Wicky L. Barnes III
and the Rev. Ryan R. Heycock
- Crucifer Sherry Ulsh
- Torch-bearers..... Karen Gussler and Darby Sims
- Thurifer..... Karlene Jaggan
- Director of Music Barbara Dupler
- Cantor and Instrumentalist Erica Strang

All are welcome at a reception following the service.
Please see address and directions on the insert.



and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth he has no e - qual.
from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle Word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king-dom is for - ev - er.

DISMISSAL
The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Lift High the Cross* arr., Paul Manz

Rostered Ministers are requested to remain following the service for a photograph.

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of word and sacrament, grant that we, with John, may joyfully serve you all our days and finally rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The bishop proclaims God's blessing.

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1. A might - y for - tress is_ our God, a bul - wark ne - ver
2. Did we in our_ own strength con - fide our striv - ing would be
3. And though this world, with de - vils filled, should threat - en to un -
4. That Word a - bove_ all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them, a -



fail - ling; our Help - er he_ a - mid the flood of
los - ing; were not the right Man on_ our side, the
do_ us.; we will not fear, for God hath willed his
bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours through



mor - tal ills pre - vail_ ing. For still our an - cient foe
Man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be?
truth to tri - umph through us; The prince of dark - ness grim,
him who with us sid - eth: Let goods and kind - dred go,



doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great
Christ Je - sus, it is he! Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill

GATHERING

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Thy Strong Word

arr., Paul Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

The assembly stands.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

ELW #883

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the bishop begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, have mercy on us.

We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin.

We are truly sorry and humbly repent. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The bishop announces God's forgiveness.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, who has the world be -
 2 O Fa - ther, for your lord - ship true we give you praise and
 3 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
 4 O Ho - ly Spir - it, per - fect gift, who brings us con - so -



friend - ed; to us no harm shall now come nigh, the
 hon - or; we wor - ship you; we trust in you; we
 au - thor, re - deem - er of your wan - d'ring ones, and
 la - tion: to men and wom - en saved by Christ as -



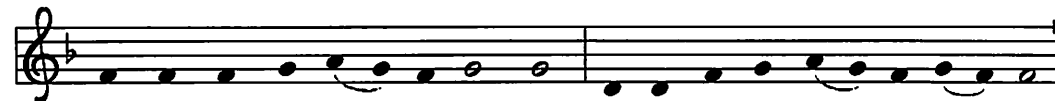
strife at last is end - ed. God shows good-will to
 give you thanks for - ev - er. Your will is per - fect,
 source of all true plea - sure; O Lamb of God, O
 sure your in - spi - ra - tion. Through sick - ness, need, and



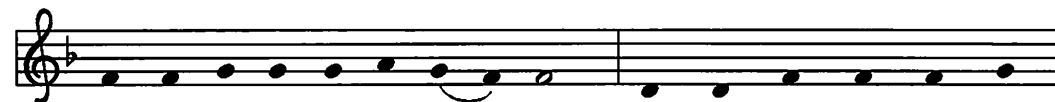
one and all, and peace when trou - bled sin - ners call. Thank
 and your might re - lent - less - ly con - firms the right; your
 Lord di - vine, con - form our lives to your de - sign, and
 bit - ter death, grant us your warm, life - giv - ing breath; our



God for grace and mer - cy!
 lord - ship is our bless - ing.
 on us all have mer - cy.
 lives are in your keep - ing. A - men.



for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

COMMUNION

The bishop proclaims while breaking the bread:

The Good Shepherd has prepared a table before you, and awaits you with goodness and mercy. The bread is broken, and the cup is brimmed for pouring.

We hear the Shepherd's voice and follow!

SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION

O Christ, Lamb of God

ELW #196

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW #310

Now We Join in Celebration

ELW #462

Come, Let Us Eat (led by cantor)

ELW #491

O Lord, We Praise You

ELW #499

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands.

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The bishop pronounces a table blessing.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

The assisting minister leads the assembly in prayer.

Let us pray.

We thank you, almighty and gracious God, that you have fed us with heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son, uniting us through him in the communion of the Holy Spirit. As you have again raised up among us a faithful servant for the ministry

nations, and led them like a shepherd out of slavery and exile. You set kings and prophets, judges and poets among them to protect and guide them with your Word.

And when the time had fully come, you sent your Son, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, to lay down his life and give up his Spirit for the flock.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this meal, then, we remember his birth and baptism, his struggle against temptation, his teaching, feeding, and healing, and his welcome of those excluded. We remember his assurance that he came not to be served but to serve, and his command that we follow him in loving service. We call to mind his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, his commissioning of the apostles and his promise to be present in their ministry of proclamation and reconciliation.

Send your Spirit to us and all who share this meal. Empower us all to serve as your priests, proclaiming your Word to the world, bringing its hopes and needs to you in prayer. Heal our lives and fit our hands for your work.

In your Spirit, through your Son, with your church, we pray: all honor, glory, and praise be yours now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,

your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.

Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The bishop leads the prayer of the day.

Almighty and merciful God, you built your church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, and you instituted the office of the ministry of word and sacrament so that the apostolic and prophetic work might continue throughout the ages. Grant that John Casey, now to be ordained, may carry out this ministry faithfully in the power of your Spirit; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

Exodus 3:1-12

A reading from Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 122



- L I was glad when they | said to me,
 "Let us go to the house | of the LORD."
 C **Now our | feet are standing**
within your gates, | O Jerusalem.
- L Jerusalem is built | as a city
 that is at unity | with itself;
 to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the LORD,
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the LORD.
- C **For there are the | thrones of judgment,**
the thrones of the | house of David.
- L Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem:
 "May they pros- | per who love you.
- C **Peace be with- | in your walls**
and quietness with- | in your towers.
- L For the sake of my kindred | and companions,
 I pray for | your prosperity.
- C **Because of the house of the | LORD our God,**
I will seek to | do you good."

SECOND READING

1 Peter 5:1-4

A reading from First Peter.

Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



high be-hold, whose splen-did train was wide out-spread un - til its stream-ing



glo-ry did the tem-ple fill. A - bove God's throne the shin-ing ser - a-phim



with six-fold wings did rev-'rence un - to him. With two each ser-aph hid his



glo-rious face, and two a - bout his feet did in - ter-lace, and with the



oth-er two he soared on high, and one un - to an-oth-er thus did cry:



"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly



is the Lord of hosts! His glo - ry fill-eth all the earth!" The beams and lin-tels



at their cry-ing shook, and all the house was filled with bil-lowing smoke.

The bishop continues.

We give you thanks, O God, for your mighty acts. At the dawn of creation, you spoke and by your Word brought forth light, order, and life. You chose Israel out of all the

OFFERTORY PRAYER

The assisting minister leads the assembly in prayer.

Let us pray.

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The bishop greets and assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age. And so, with the glorious company of the apostles, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in adoring song:

I - sa - iah in a vi - sion did of old the Lord of hosts en - throned on

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel. The first two stanzas of this hymn are sung before the Gospel reading, the last two stanzas following it.

GRADUAL HYMN

1 Now to the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray
2 O sweet - est Love, your grace on us be - stow;
3 Tran - scen - dent com - fort in our ev - 'ry need,
4 Shine in our hearts, O Spir - it, pre - cious light,

for true faith, most need - ed on our way:
set our hearts with sa - cred fire a - glow,
help us nei - ther scorn nor death to heed,
that we Je - sus Christ may know a - right,

Guide us and de - fend us when life is end - ing
that with hearts u - nit - ed we love each oth - er,
that we may not fal - ter, nor cour - age fail us
cling - ing to our Sav - ior, whose blood has bought us,

and our jour - ney home - ward is tend - ing. Lord, have mer - cy!
ev - 'ry strang - er, sis - ter, and broth - er. Lord, have mer - cy!
when the foe shall taunt and as - sail us. Lord, have mer - cy!
who to our true home - land has brought us. Lord, have mer - cy!

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-28

The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And

I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.
SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song. During this hymn the ordinand, presenter, sponsors, and ministers participating in the address gather before the assembly.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Soli Deo Gloria* *ELW #878*

God and administer the sacraments, serving God’s people as together we bear God’s creative and redeeming love to all the world.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

PEACE
The bishop and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace and may say “Peace be with you” or similar words. All return to their places. The assembly is seated.

MEAL

An offering is gathered. Today’s offering supports the synod’s 2026-2027 Generosity Appeal, Moving Forward in Mission, which fosters congregational vitality and innovative ministry across our synod. More information about this appeal is found at the end of this folder.



OFFERING *Nicaea* arr., John Purifoy

The assembly stands to sing this song as the offering and elements are brought forward.
OFFERTORY

Musical notation for the offertory song, featuring three staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Holy Spirit living in us. Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy. 1:6, 13-14; 2:1)

And again: Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. (Acts 20:28)

And again: Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not under compulsion but willingly, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (1 Peter 5:2-4)

The bishop addresses the ordinand:

John, care for God's people, bear their burdens, and do not betray their confidence. So discipline yourself in life and teaching that you preserve the truth, giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope. Witness faithfully in word and deed to all people. Give and receive comfort as you serve within the church. And be of good courage, for God has called you, and your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

BLESSING

The bishop continues.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

The assembly stands.

ACCLAMATION BY THE ASSEMBLY

The ministers and the ordinand face the assembly. The bishop addresses the assembly.

Will you, assembled as the people of God and speaking for the whole church, receive John as a messenger of Jesus Christ, sent by God to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard him as a servant of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

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

We will, and we ask God to help us.

The bishop presents the newly ordained to the assembly.

Let it be acclaimed that John Casey Evans is a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ. He has Christ's authority to preach the word of

RITE OF ORDINATION

PRESENTATION

The ordinand is presented to the bishop and to the assembly.

I present for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament John Casey Evans, who has been prepared, examined, and approved for this ministry and who has been called by the church to this ministry through St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Stoverstown, Pennsylvania.

Thanks be to God.

The presenter moves aside, and the assembly is seated.

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

The bishop addresses the ordinand.

All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation. According to apostolic usage you are now to be entrusted with the office of word and sacrament in the one holy catholic church by the laying on of hands and by prayer.

A reading from John: Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20)

A reading from Matthew: Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28)

A reading from First Corinthians: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11)

Before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this assembly, I ask: Will you assume this office, believing that the church's call is God's call to the ministry of word and sacrament?

The ordinand responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The church in which you are to be ordained confesses that the holy scriptures are the word of God and are the norm of its faith and life. We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds. We also acknowledge the Lutheran confessions as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the holy scriptures. Will you therefore preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures and these creeds and confessions?

The ordinand responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace? Will you pray for God's people, nourish them with the word and sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

The ordinand responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do?

The ordinand responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assembly stands for the prayers of intercession, led by the assisting minister.

...God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The bishop concludes the prayers.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The ordinand kneels.

HYMN OF INVOCATION (sung by all) *Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove* ELW #578

THANKSGIVING

The bishop leads the assembly in giving thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, we bless you for your infinite love in Christ our Lord, in whom we have redemption and forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace. We thank you that by his death your Son overcame death, and

that, raised by your mighty power, he gives us new life. We praise you that, having ascended into heaven, Christ pours out his gifts abundantly on the church, making some apostles, some prophets, some pastors and teachers, to equip your people for their work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.

The bishop lays both hands on the head of the ordinand. Other ordained pastors who are participating in the laying on of hands place one hand on the ordinand.

Following a time of silent prayer, the bishop continues.

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit upon John Casey and fill him with the gifts of grace for the ministry of word and sacrament. Bless his proclamation of your word and administration of your sacraments, so that your church may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service.* Make him a faithful pastor, patient teacher, and wise counselor. Grant that in all things he may serve without reproach, that your people may be renewed and your name be glorified in the church; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

GIVING OF A STOLE

The ordinand remains kneeling. A stole is placed on as the bishop says:

Receive this stole as a sign of your work, and live in obedience to the Lord Jesus, serving his people and remembering his promise: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (*Matthew 11:28-30*)

CHARGE

The ordinand stands as the bishop continues.

Hear the words of the apostles: Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called. (*1 Timothy 6:11-12*)

And again: Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. (*1 Corinthians 4:1-2*)

And again: Rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of hands. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the

* During these words the bishop anoints the ordinand's lips and hands with oil.



Father John Evans is the newly elected pastor of Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Stoverstown, Pennsylvania. A self-described confessional Lutheran and liturgical evangelical catholic, he is committed fully to the office of Word and Sacrament and joyfully loves to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Together with his wife Samantha Evans and their newborn daughter Mary, they embody Christ's ever present life-giving spirit at work in the

church and the community at large. Having lost his eyesight at age 5, Father Evans champions accessibility as well as tradition, bridging our historic faith with the needs of all seeking Christ in the Word and at God's table. Father Evans has a Masters degree in medieval studies at Fordham University, a Masters of Divinity from United Lutheran Seminary, is the host of the Book & Spade podcast dedicated to defending the authority and complete inspiration of the scriptures, and is also a lover of history. Father Evans also supports his wife Samantha in her ongoing pursuit of the rostered diaconate in the ELCA.

Following the service, there will be a reception at
Manada Gap Family Center
8010 Appleby Rd.
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Directions: Take Shells Church Rd. to Jonestown Rd. and turn right. Then turn right onto Manada Bottom Rd. (across from Tall Cedars) and continue to T intersection and turn left onto Rt 443. Appleby Rd. is left of Manada Full Mission Church. The Family Center is on the right side at the top of the hill. There is a large sign.

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