

(One) Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

(All) I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

(One) Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

(All) I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Recognition of Membership

Renunciations for Ordination

(One) Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? Do you?

(Elder) I do.

(One) Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? Do you?

(Elder) I do.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? Will you?

(Elder) I will, with God's help.

Anointing for Ordination

(One) Marcia/Tom, child of the covenant, I anoint you with the mark of the cross that you may remember your baptism and be thankful.

(Elder after her/his anointing) Thanks be to God.

Constitutional Questions for Installation

(One) Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? Do you?

(Elders) I do.

(One) Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you? Do you?

(Elders) I do.

(One) Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions

of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? Do you and will you?

(Elders) I do and I will.

(One) Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions? Will you?

(Elders) I will.

(One) Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? Will you?

(Elders) I will.

(One) Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? Will you?

(Elders) I will.

(One) Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? Do you?

(Elders) I do.

(One) Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? Will you?

(Elders) I will.

(One) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? Will you?

(Elders) I will.

Congregational Questions

(Clerk of Session) Do we, the members of the church, accept Tom Arnold and Marcia Connell as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voices of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? Do we?

(All) We do.

(Clerk of Session) Do we promise to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who is Head of the Church? Do we?

(All) We do.

Pastoral Prayer

God of costly grace, pour out your Holy Spirit on Marcia and Tom that they may be your faithful elders in the church. Give them prudence and sound judgment, wisdom and courage to order the life of the church in obedience to your Word. Nourish them in the life of the Holy Spirit, that they may exercise the ministry of discipline with humility and compassion. Guide them in governance, on this session and in every court of the church, that they may be servant leaders following Christ who came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life to set others free. Give them joy in their walk of faith and a sure sense of your abiding presence for their work of ministry.

Statement of Declaration

(Clerk of Session) Representing the one, holy, universal and apostolic church, the session of Community Presbyterian Church now ordains and installs Tom Arnold and Marcia Connell to retroactive and active service on the Session for a three-year term, ending in 2027.

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Communion

Eat This Bread

Eat this bread, Drink this cup.
Come to him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, Drink this cup.
Trust in him and you will not thirst.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(return to the Order of Worship bulletin)

Ruling Elder Ordination and Installation

Call to Service

(One) As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

(All) There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.

(One) In baptism, Marcia Connell and Tom Arnold were clothed with Christ, and are now called by God through the voice of the church to enter and continue in ministries of service and governance, announcing in word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ.

(All) We remember with joy our common calling to serve God's Kingdom, and we celebrate God's particular call to our siblings in Christ.

(One) We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling—to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as deacons, as elders, and as ministers of the Word and Sacrament. Ordination is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us, providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the governance of the church, and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

Baptismal Reaffirmation

(One) Ordination calls the whole church to renewed commitment, and reminds us all to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of baptism. Let us, therefore, reaffirm our baptismal vows, with Tom and Marcia as they renounce all that opposes God and God's rule and affirming the faith of the holy, universal church. With one invisible body, let us confess our faith.

(One) Do you believe in God the Father?

(All) I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.