

Pastor Beth: Dear friends, today we welcome Kristina who has been appointed to serve as our Director of Christian Education. We believe that she is well qualified and has been prayerfully appointed by Bishop Ward. Kristina, you are to represent the ministry of servanthood, to proclaim God's word, and to equip all Christians to be in ministries of compassion and justice in service to the community.

*Pastor Kristina: Today I affirm this commitment  
in the presence of this congregation.*

Pastor Beth: Brothers and sisters in Christ, as a people committed to participate in the ministries of the Church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness, will you who celebrate this new beginning support and uphold Kristina in these ministries?

**All: We reaffirm our commitment to support you with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.**

Pastor Beth: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger

**All: who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation.**

Pastor Beth: Let us pray. Eternal God, strengthen and sustain us in our ministries together, with Kristina as our DCE. Give her and us patience, courage, and wisdom so to care for one another and challenge one another that together we may follow Jesus Christ, living together in love, and offering our gifts and talents in your service. Almighty God, you still call us to go into your service and spread the message of the salvation of your Son. Bless richly, we pray, your servant Kristina's entrance into our fellowship. Fill her with the power of your Holy Spirit and let her find with us an open door for the Word. We also pray for your church on earth. Equip us all with a spirit of willingness that we with courage can witness about you by the profession of our mouths and through our way of living. Grant us all to partake in your strength and joy, so that we can enter into the anxiety and suffering of the world, to be radiating and make alive that hope which Christ gives. All this we dare to pray of you; for you are to us the Father of

mercy and the God of all grace; you are the Son, the Savior and the Redeemer; you are the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Helper and the Giver of life. Blessed be you. Amen.

Youth: Pastor Kristina, accept this Bible, and be among us as one who proclaims the Word... take this water, and baptize new Christians in this place... take this bread and cup, and keep us in communion with Christ and his Church... take this towel and basin, and lead us to be servants of all.. take this plumbline, and faithfully call us toward ministries of compassion and justice... use this hymnal and book of worship to guide us in our prayer and praise... receive this Book of Discipline, and help us keep the covenant that strengthens our connections as United Methodists... receive this globe, and lead us in our mission to this community and all the world... receive this stole signifying your ordination, and equip us for our ministries in the world.

*Pastor Kristina: This yoke has been laid upon me,  
and I willingly take it upon myself.*

Pastor Beth: Let us pray.

**All: Lord God, bless the ministries of your Church. We thank you for the variety of gifts you have bestowed upon us. Draw us together in one Spirit, that each of us may use our differing gifts as members of one body. May your Word be proclaimed with faithfulness, and may we be doers of your Word and not hearers only. As we who have died and risen with Christ in baptism gather at his table and then scatter into the world, may we be one in service to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor Beth: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

Pastor Beth: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor Beth: Let us turn and share Christ's peace with one another!

