

## Commissioning for Ministry in Paid Employment

M: There are diverse gifts:

**P: but it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

M: There are different ways of serving God:

**P: but it is the same Lord who is served.**

M: God works through people in different ways:

**P: but it is the same God whose purpose is achieved through them all.**

M: Each one of us is given a gift by the Spirit:

**P: and there is no gift without its corresponding service.**

M: There is one ministry of Christ:

**P: and in this one ministry we all share.**

M: Together we are the body of Christ:

**P: and individually members of it.**

M: The Uniting Church affirms the exercise by men and women of the gifts God bestows upon them for the building up of God's kingdom of healing, justice and reconciliation. Believing God calls people to this service in their paid employment, we are now to commission those who have been called to this ministry in their work.

Please come forward if you seek commissioning to the ministry of healing, justice and reconciliation in your work.

*(Those to be commissioned come forward and stand together.)*

Sisters and brothers, this congregation affirms your call to ministry in your paid work. We believe it is Jesus Christ who calls us to God's purposes. Therefore let me ask you:

Do you confess anew Jesus Christ as Lord?

**I do.**

Do you believe that Christ calls you to God's ministry in your work?

**I do.**

We believe the responsibilities of this ministry include:

- To perform your work to the best of your God-given abilities.
- To provide pastoral care for those with whom you work.
- To uphold a Christian ethic in work decisions.
- To work for the common good.
- To offer the hospitality of acceptance to all people.
- To struggle for healing, justice and reconciliation in work relationships, and in the goals of your work organisation.
- To pray for those with whom you work.
- To ensure your worship of God maintains your balance between work, rest, and re-creation.

Relying on God's grace, do you promise to carry out the responsibilities of this ministry in your work?

**I do.**

*(The congregation stands)*

Will you, the members of this congregation, accept these brothers and sisters as our representatives in their workplaces as the front-line of our mission to work?

**We will.**

Will you encourage them in love and support them in their ministry, serving with them the one Lord Jesus Christ?

**We will.**

May God give you strength to fulfil these vows.

**Amen.**

*Those being commissioned may kneel.*

Prayer of Commissioning

Sisters and brothers, receive the Holy Spirit for your ministry in your work.

**Amen.**

Declaration

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare you to be representatives of Christ in the (name of commissioning body) and the church's mission to work.

*All stand. The congregation greets the newly commissioned members with an appropriate acclamation.*

The service may continue, or conclude with a blessing.