



## GREATER PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Reverend Fred Gibson, D. Min., Pastor

### ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE CALLED TO SERVE



**2021 Church Theme: "Answering God's Call" – Micah 6:8 (NIV)**

#### **The GPBC Mission Statement**

Affirming the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, in the Church and Community through preaching, teaching, worship, fellowship, and service.

**10:00 A.M. Worship Service**

**Sunday, July 18, 2021**

**ORDER OF SACRED WORSHIP**

**Color: Green**

The Musical Selection

The LED Announcements

The Musical Selection

**THE INVOCATION**

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Be glad in our GOD and rejoice, O righteous ones. Shout for joy, all you upright in heart. Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Therefore, we worship our God, and rejoice. Amen.

Opening Hymn

**The Holy Scripture**

**1 Timothy 3:8-11, 13**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Confession

The Prayer Response

**THE STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE**

As we come before our God with our tithes and offerings, let us remember the words of Micah: What does the Lord require of us? To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We bring our money, gifts, and whole lives as an offering to you, Lord.

**THE STEWARDSHIP PRAYER**

**The Introduction of Speaker**

The Musical Selection

**THE SPOKEN WORD**

*Dr. John H. Walker, Pastor  
Macedonia Baptist Church of Charlotte*

The Invitation

**\*The Ordination Litany of Deacons**

The Musical Selection

The Closing Remarks and Benediction

**Pastoral Reflections: Celebrating 40 years – July 25<sup>th</sup>  
Pastor Fred & Leading Lady Bronwen Gibson**



# THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS

## INTRODUCTION

**Deacon Michael Whitehead, Vice Chairman**

The Greater Providence Baptist Church believes that the ministry is a gift of God through Christ to His Church, which He has given for the perfecting of the life and services of all its members.

The ordained ministry of the Church of Greater Providence consists of Ministers and Deacons. In accepting this ministry, the church desires to maintain continuity with the historic ministry of the church as it has come down to us from early times through the uniting churches.

An ordination service is the rite by which one of these ministries is conferred. It is an act of God in His Church. The Greater Providence Baptist Church believes that in all ordinations and consecrations, the true Ordainer and Consecrator is God, who, in response to the prayers of His Church, and through the words and acts of its representatives, commissions and empowers for the office and work, to which they are called the persons whom it has selected.

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

**Deacon Jimmy Exum, Chairman**  
I present to you these candidates to be ordained as Deacons.

**Deacons:** Cheleta Caulton Carol Howie

**Dr. John Walker:** Let the authority for their ordination and installation be read.

**Deacon Sharon Exum:** *(I Timothy 3:1-10)*

**Dr. John Walker:** Greater Providence, do you accept these Candidates to serve as Deacons in the ministry of your church? I therefore ask you to declare your approval by standing.

**People:** We trust that these Candidates are worthy to be ordained as Deacons to serve within the ministry of our church. To God be the glory.

**Dr. John Walker:** The essential ministry of Deacons is one of service. In Greater Providence church, they will assist the church in leading the worship of the people, and

especially in the ministration of the Lord's Supper. Deacons shall also help the church in the ministration of baptism and in teaching the Word of God.

**Dr. John Walker:** Will you now accept the office of Deacon out of a love for God, a desire to serve this church, and a commitment to promote the gospel and the glory of Christ?

**Candidates:** I do so accept this commitment before God and this congregation.

**Dr. John Walker:** Do you accept the Holy Scriptures as containing all things necessary for salvation, and as the supreme and decisive standard of faith?

**Candidates:** I do so accept them.

**Dr. John Walker:** Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading the holy Scriptures, and in all studies that will deepen your faith and fit you to uphold the truth of the Gospel?

**Candidates:** I will, the Lord being my helper.

**Dr. John Walker:** Will you endeavor to lead a prayerful and disciplined life according to the way of Christ and so to guide your family, that both you and your family may be wholesome examples to the flock of Christ?

**Candidates:** I will, the Lord being my helper.

**Dr. John Walker:** Will you then, in the strength of the Holy Spirit, continually stir up the gift of God that is in you, to make Christ known to all people?

**Candidates:** I will, the Lord being my helper.

**Dr. John Walker:** Will you promote unity, peace, and love among all people of God, and especially among those whom you serve?

**Candidates:** I will, the Lord being my helper.

**Dr. John Walker:** Will you faithfully support this church and accept its discipline and submit yourselves as Christians in the Gospel to those whom this church shall appoint to have rule over you?

**Candidates:** I will, the Lord being my helper.

*ALL KNEEL, THOSE TO BE ORDAINED*

### **THE ORDINATION PRAYER/LAYING OF HANDS**

The practice of “*laying on hands*” is an ancient practice representing a congregation’s affirmation of one set apart for ministry. Laying of hands was done for four reasons. It was done for blessings – *Genesis 48:14*. A priest’s hands were laid on a sacrificial animal – *Leviticus 4:4*. The Levites were inducted into office when the people of Israel laid hands on them – *Numbers 8:10*. Finally, Joshua was commissioned to leadership when Moses laid hands on him – *Numbers 27:23*. *Let us pray.*

### **THE GIVING OF THE BIBLES, ORDINATION**

**CERTIFICATES AND DECLARATION:** Deacon Jimmy Exum, Chairman

### **THE DECLARATION**

Based on the authority entrusted to me, I declare that you are ordained Deacons within Greater Providence with all the rights and privileges that pertain to your office.

Amen.

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Reverend Fred Gibson, D. Min., Pastor

Sunday, July 18, 2021

# The Ordination Litany of Deacons

