

The Ordination of
Lainie Acridge Allen
To the Sacred Order of Priests In
Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church



Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth
St. Luke's in the Meadow Episcopal Church
Thursday, June 11, 2020
3 P.M.

About the cover art:

The photo on the cover of your bulletin is *Le Sacerdoce de la Vierge* (The Priesthood of the Virgin), c. 1438. Each year from the mid-fifteenth century through 1666, the Brotherhood of Our Lady of Amiens (the “Puy D’Amiens”) commissioned, through its Master of Ceremonies, a painting in honor of the Virgin and Child for the Cathedral of Amiens. In this particular painting, the M. C. of the Puy D’Amiens, Jean du Bos, is depicted presenting a banner to Mary which reads: “vestment worthy of the sovereign priest.” The painting reflects the Church’s ancient understanding that Mary gave Christ his humanity. This gift – Mary’s humanity – is the “vestment” worn by Christ, our “sovereign priest.”

Le Sacerdoce de la Vierge is the oldest remaining work of art from the "Puy D’Amiens." It is owned by the Musée du Louvre in Paris.

Preface to the Ordination Rites

The Holy Scriptures and ancient Christian writers make it clear that from the apostles' time, there have been different ministries within the Church. In particular, since the time of the New Testament, three distinct orders of ordained ministers have been characteristic of Christ's holy Catholic Church. First, there is the order of bishops who carry on the apostolic work of leading, supervising, and uniting the Church. Secondly, associated with them are the presbyters, or ordained elders, in subsequent times generally known as priests. Together with the bishops, they take part in the governance of the Church, in the carrying out of its missionary and pastoral work, and in the preaching of the Word of God and administering his holy Sacraments. Thirdly, there are deacons who assist bishops and priests in all of this work. It is also a special responsibility of deacons to minister in Christ's name to the poor, the sick, the suffering, and the helpless.

The persons who are chosen and recognized by the Church as being called by God to the ordained ministry are admitted to these sacred orders by solemn prayer and the laying on of episcopal hands. It has been, and is, the intention and purpose of this Church to maintain and continue these three orders; and for this purpose these services of ordination and consecration are appointed. No persons are allowed to exercise the offices of bishop, priest, or deacon in this Church unless they are so ordained, or have already received such ordination with the laying on of hands by bishops who are themselves duly qualified to confer Holy Orders.

It is also recognized and affirmed that the threefold ministry is not the exclusive property of this portion of Christ's catholic Church, but is a gift from God for the nurture of his people and the proclamation of his Gospel everywhere. Accordingly, the manner of ordaining in this Church is to be such as has been, and is, most generally recognized by Christian people as suitable for the conferring of the sacred orders of bishop, priest, and deacon.

Prelude

Trio on St. Columba by Joyce Jones

Please stand as you are able for the Processional and remain standing until the Presentation

Processional Hymn

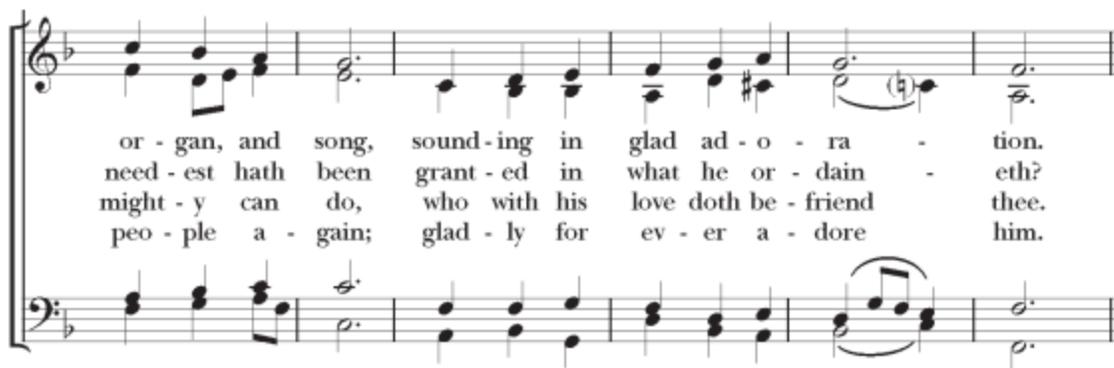
Praise to the Lord

Hymn 390

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his



The People standing,

Bishop Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen.**

Bishop Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PRESENTATION

The Bishop and People sit. The Clergy and Lay presenters, standing before the Bishop, present the Ordinand, saying:
 Scott, Bishop in the Church of God, on behalf of the clergy and people of the Diocese of Ft Worth, we present to you Lainie Acridge Allen to be ordained a priest in Christ's holy catholic Church.

Bishop Has she been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church? And do you believe her manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Presenters We certify to you that she has satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we believe her to be qualified for this order.

The Bishop then says to the Ordinand

Will you be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church has received them? And will you, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey your bishop and other ministers who may have authority over you and your work?

Answer I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.

The Ordinand then signs the above Declaration in the sight of all present.

All stand. The Bishop says to the People:

Dear friends in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting Rebecca for ordination to the sacred priesthood. Therefore if any of you know any impediment or crime because of which we should not proceed, come forward now, and make it known.

If no objection is made, the Bishop continues:

Is it your will that Lainie be ordained a priest?

People: It is.

Bishop: Will you uphold her in this ministry?

People: We will.

Bishop: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

All kneel.

THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS

God the Father,
Have mercy on us.

God the Son,
Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

We pray to you, Lord Christ.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the Day of your Coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all members of your Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve you in a true and godly life, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Scott, our Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, that they may be filled with your love, may hunger for truth, and may thirst after righteousness, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For Lainie, chosen priest in your Church, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

That she may faithfully fulfill the duties of this ministry, build up your Church, and glorify your Name, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit she may be sustained and encouraged to persevere to the end, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For her family and community, that they may be adorned with all Christian virtues, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those in positions of public trust, especially Donald, our President, the US Congress, and all judges, that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and ^[1]_{SEP} those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Luke, Saint Alban, Saint Elizabeth, Saint Brigit, Saint Julian of Norwich, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another
To you, O Lord our God.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were being cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

All sit for the lessons.

THE LESSONS

Old Testament: Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 43

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against an ungodly people;
from those who are deceitful and unjust
deliver me!
For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
Why have you cast me off?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because of the oppression of the enemy?
O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.
Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.
Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

Epistle: Ephesians 4: 7, 11-16

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

Sequence Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is Hymnal 645



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Gospel: Matthew 9: 35-38

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Elaine Heath

THE NICENE CREED *(standing)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE EXAMINATION

All are seated except the Ordinand, who stands before the Bishop.

The Bishop addresses the Ordinand as follows:

My sister, the Church is the family of God, the body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit. All baptized people are called to make Christ known as Savior and Lord, and to share in the renewing of his world. Now you are called to work as pastor, priest, and teacher, together with your bishop and fellow presbyters, and to take your share in the councils of the Church.

As a priest, it will be your task to proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. You are to preach, to declare God's forgiveness to penitent sinners, to pronounce God's blessing, to share in the administration of Holy Baptism and in the celebration of the mysteries of Christ's Body and Blood, and to perform the other ministrations entrusted to you.

In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ's people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

My sister, do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to this priesthood?

Answer I believe I am so called.

Bishop Do you now in the presence of the Church commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

Answer I do.

Bishop Will you respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your bishop?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make you a stronger and more able minister of Christ?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you endeavor so to minister the Word of God and the sacraments of the New Covenant, that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom you are called to serve, laboring together with them and with your fellow ministers to build up the family of God?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you do you best to pattern your life and that of your family in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to your people?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you persevere in prayer, both in public and in private, asking God's grace, both for yourself and for others, offering all your labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ, and in the sanctification of the Holy Spirit?

Answer I will.

Bishop May the Lord, who has given you the will to do these things, give you the grace and power to perform them.

Answer Amen.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE PRIEST

All now stand except the Ordinand, who kneels facing the Bishop, and the Priests who stand to the right and left of the Bishop.

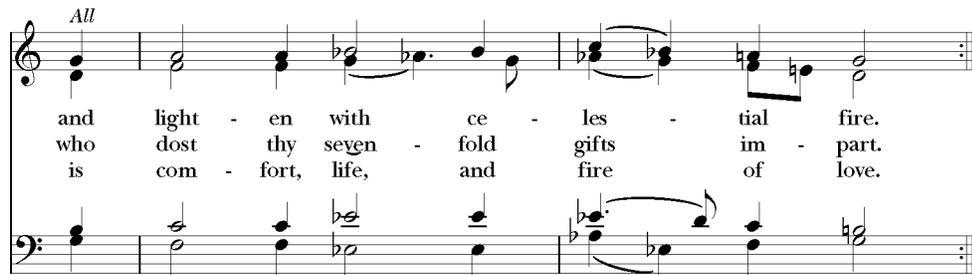
Consecration Hymn

Veni Creator Spiritus

Hymnal 504



1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, our souls in - spire,
2 Thou the a - noint - ing Spi - rit art,
3 Thy bless - ed unc - tion from a - bove

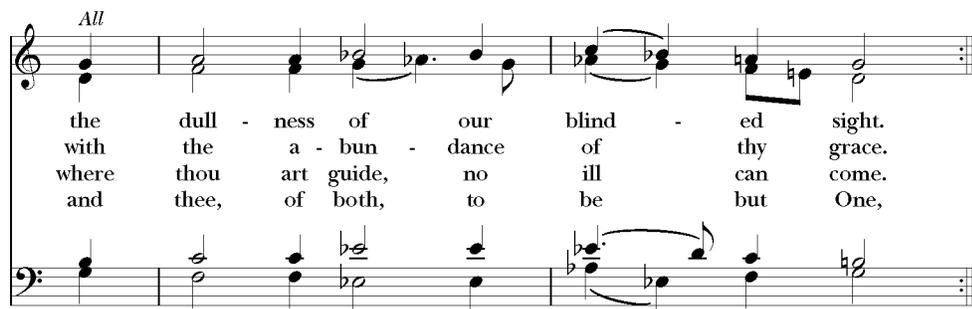


Musical notation for the All part of the second line of the hymn, featuring a treble and bass clef with a piano accompaniment.

and light - en with ce - les - tial fire.
who dost thy seven - fold gifts im - part.
is com - fort, life, and fire of love.



4 En - a - ble with per - pet - ual light
5 A - noint and cheer our soil - ed face
6 Keep far our foes, give peace at home:
7 Teach us to know the Fa - ther, Son,



Musical notation for the All part of the fourth line of the hymn, featuring a treble and bass clef with a piano accompaniment.

the dull - ness of our blind - ed sight.
with the a - bun - dance of thy grace.
where thou art guide, no ill can come.
and thee, of both, to be but One,

Cantor

8 that through the a - ges all a - long,

All

this may be our end - less song:

Cantor

9 praise to thy e - ter - nal mer - it,

All

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

A period of silent prayer follows, the People still standing.

The Bishop then says this Prayer of Consecration:

God and Father of all, we praise you for your infinite love in calling us to be a holy people in the kingdom of your Son Jesus our Lord, who is the image of your eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn among many brethren, and the head of the Church. We thank you that by his death he has overcome death, and, having ascended into heaven, has poured his gifts abundantly upon your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry and the building up of his body.

Here, the Bishop lays hands upon the head of the Ordinand, the Priests who are present also laying on their hands.

At the same time the Bishop prays:

Therefore, Father, through Jesus Christ your Son, give your Holy Spirit to Lainie; fill her with grace and power, and make her a priest in your Church.

The Bishop then continues:

May she exalt you, O Lord, in the midst of your people; offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; boldly proclaim the gospel of salvation; and rightly administer the sacraments of the New Covenant.

Make her a faithful pastor, a patient teacher, and a wise councilor. Grant that in all things she may serve without reproach, so that your people may be strengthened and your Name glorified in all the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

*The People in a **loud** voice respond:*

Amen.

THE VESTING

The new Priest is now vested according to the order of priests.

The Bishop then gives a Bible to the newly-ordained Priest, saying:

Receive this Bible as a sign of the authority given you to preach the Word of God and to administer his holy Sacraments. Do not forget the trust committed to you as a priest of the Church of God.

The Bishop greets the newly-ordained.

THE PEACE

The new Priest then says to the People:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

The Priests greet the newly-ordained; who then greets family members and others. The Clergy and People stand and greet one another.

Closing Prayer - The Bishop

The Bishop invites the people to join in the Lord's Prayer:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Bishop then asks the new Priest to bless the People.

The new Priest says:

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Dismissal: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People

Thanks be to God!

Organ Postlude:

Here I Am Lord

Dan Schutte



Participants

Ordaining Bishop

The Right Reverend J. Scott Mayer

Litanists

Ms. Michelle Williams
Dr. Daniel Allen

Lectors

Ms. Brittany Allen Hannon, Hillsboro, OR
Ms. Jillian Allen, Portland, OR
Ms. Sharma Cummings, Denver, CO
The Reverend Dr. Elizabeth Emrey, Charlottesville, VA

Gospeler

The Reverend Sandra Michels, Ft Worth, TX

Preacher

The Reverend Dr. Elaine A. Heath, Hillsborough, NC

Presenters

The Reverend Kevin Johnson
The Reverend Karen Calafat
The Reverend Rebecca Tankersley
Mr. Scott Tankersley

Assisting with Vesting

The Reverend Karen Calafat
The Reverend Rebecca Tankersley

Organists

Mr. Tony Kroll, Ft Worth, TX

Dr. Jonathan Jung, Cleveland, TN

Soloist

Dr. Andrea Dismukes, Cleveland, TN

Technical Support

Ms Katie Sherrod and Mr Steve Grenzow

Special Thanks:

Where do I begin? Thanks to my family, especially Daniel, who have been on this 14-year, circuitous journey and have championed me every step of the way. Thank you, Liz. For 14 years, God has gifted you as spiritual director and friend to discern the Spirit's voice. Thank you, Elaine, for your book, *The Mystic Way* that **changed my life**, connected me to you and Perkins. Your voice has been a strong guide in my heart. Thank you to my BFF, Julie, and my seminary soul sisters, Rebecca, Michelle, Ginger, Nancy, and Leslie for fun and "food" to stay the course. Karen, God connected us in S. Cal, then moved us both to St Luke's in the Meadow to find such amazing people who love so well. I am grateful for your leadership and friendship. Thank you, Kevin and the beautiful people of St Albans, for loving me and allowing me to "practice" in your midst. Thank you, Sandi, and the courageous people of St Elizabeth-Christ the King, for opening your generous arms to me. And thank you to my larger community in the Diocese of Ft Worth and across the US who have discerned with me, prayed for, and encouraged me day by day, step by step. What a gift! THANK YOU All. To God be the Glory!