

The Litany for Ordinations

words from

The Book of Common Prayer 1979

music by

Christopher Smith

written for

Karen Pizarz Boyd

on the occasion of her ordination to the diaconate at
The Church of the Heavenly Rest, Abilene, Texas, on
January 30, 2018

This setting of the Litany was composed as a more engaging alternative to the conventional monotone, adding texture to the service without calling disproportionate attention to itself. All of the petitions resolve to the identical musical conclusion typically used for the litanies, and this setting may be used as a "drop-in" replacement when the congregation is already familiar with the traditional responses without any changes in printed materials.

The music is intended to be approachable for an ordinary singer, and as usual the petitions may be assigned to different cantors. The division in the petitions between prayers for the Church, the ordinand, and the world is marked in the score and by musical transitions and may be a convenient grouping for that purpose.

This score uses the two-line staff notation from The Hymnal 1982, and the organ accompaniment is notated with the reciting tone at B \flat (mode 2 on D), but as with any modal chant it is appropriate to transpose as may be convenient for the cantor. Note that the organ line descends to a D, so that transposition of more than a whole step down may reach the end of some ranks. One interval in petition 10 may be difficult at some transpositions, and an alternate is provided.

Tempo markings are recommendations. Lines that are not otherwise marked should be sung according to ordinary chant practice; in a handful of cases where the emphasis within a line is difficult to see at a glance, it has been noted with a tenuto mark. Certain petitions (and the last half of the final petition) are marked as *in time* and should be sung to a strict tempo, even where phrases may have an unequal number of beats.

The organ registration suggested is a starting point and should be adapted as suitable to the instrument, the room, and the cantor. The final line of each petition but the last is unaccompanied.

I would like to thank Michael for introducing me to the tradition of plainchant, David and Eric for making the sung liturgy the normal manner of Heavenly Rest and for initiating me into the Hymnal Apocrypha, Priscilla and Josiah for their feedback in the development of this setting, and of course Karen for giving me free rein and not asking inconvenient questions.

Christopher Smith
Abilene, Texas
January 2018

to Karen

The Litany for Ordinations

Book of Common Prayer 1979

Christopher Smith

People

God the Fa - ther, Have mer - cy on us.

People

God the Son, Have mer - cy on us.

People

God the Holy Spi - rit, Have mer - cy on us.

People

Holy Trinity, one God, Have mer - cy on us.

People

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

$\text{♩} = 132$

1. For the ho-ly Church of God, that it may be fil - led with truth and love,

Bourdon 8', Flute 4'

and be found without fault at the Day of your Coming,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

(♩ = 132)

2. For all members of your Church in their vo - cation and min - istry,

that they may serve you in a true and god-ly life,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

(♩ = 132)

3. For N., our Pre-si-ding Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons,

that they may be fil - led with your love,

may hunger for truth, and may thirst af-ter righteousness,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 96)

*4. For N, chosen bishop in your Church,
priest
deacon

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 96)

*5. That *he* may faithful-ly ful-fill the du-ties of this min-i-stry,

build up your Church, and glo-ri-fy your Name,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 96)

*6. That by the in-dwell-ing of the Ho-ly Spi-rit

he may be sus-tain-ed and en-cour-aged to per-se-vere to the end,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 96)

*7. For *his* family, that
the members of *his* household,
the members of *his* community,

they may be a - dorn - ed with all Christian vir-tues,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 96)

8. For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our di-visions may cease

+ Flute 8'

and that all may be one as you and the Father are one,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

$\text{♩} = 132$

9. For the mission of the Church, that in faith-ful witness

it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time ($\text{♩} = 66$)

10. For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith,

- Flute 8'

that they may receive the light of the Gos-pel,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time ($\text{♩} = 66$)

11. For the peace of the world, that a spi-rit of respect and forbearance

may grow among na-tions and peoples,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 66)

12. For those in pos - i - tions of pub - lic trust [especially _],

that they may serve just - ice

and pro - mote the dig - ni - ty and free dom of e - v'ry per - son,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 66)

* 13. For a bless - ing up - on all hu - man la - bor, and for the right use of the

rich - es of cre - a - tion, that the world may be freed from pov - er - ty, fam - ine, and dis - as - ter,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 66)

14. For the poor, the per-se-cuted, the sick, and all who suffer;

for re-fugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be re-lieved and pro-ected,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 84)

* 15. For our-selves; for the for-give-ness of our sins,

and for the grace of the Ho - ly Spi - rit to a - mend our lives,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

in time (♩ = 84)

16. For all who have died in the communion of your Church,

and 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,

People

we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

(♩ = 76)

17. Re-joicing in the fellowship of [the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed N., and] all the saints,

in time

let us commend ourselves and one another

+ *Prestant 4'*

People

and all our life to Christ our God. To you, O Lord our God.

cresc. - - - - - *mf*

People *Cantor and People*

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.