



*A Service of the
Word and Sacrament
for the Ordination
of
Katheryn Nancy Grow
May 20
1984*

**THE ORDINATION OF
NANCY GROW
AT GOOD NEWS COMMUNITY CHURCH
May 20, 1984**

I. Entrance and Praise

GATHERING MUSIC

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice, people of God! Celebrate the life among us—Christ's presence in our midst.

¡Regocijémonos, pueblo de Dios! Inclínemos nuestras cabezas ante Aquel quien es nuestra sabiduría y fuerza.

Our eyes shall be opened! We are gathered to recognize anew the power of God to call out our leadership.

¡Nuestros ojos serán abiertos! Nos reunimos para reafirmar nuestra fe en el poder de Dios para establecer su Iglesia.

Rejoice, people of God! In this moment of worship may the mystery of God's Spirit be with us.

¡Regocijémonos, pueblos de Dios! En esta hora compartamos unos con otros las bendiciones de la nueva vida.

PSALM FOR THE DAY Psalm 34

HYMN OF PRAISE (by all, standing)

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

*1. All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with silver gleam,*

CHORUS:

*O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise God, Alleluia!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening find a voice,*

CHORUS

*3. Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest all both warmth and light,*

CHORUS

4. Dear mother earth, who day by day,
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise God, Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them God's glory also show.

CHORUS:

O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

5. And thou most kind and gentle death,
Waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise God, Alleluia!
Thou leadest home the child of God,
And Christ our Lord thy way has trod.

CHORUS

6. And all ye folk of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, Alleluia!
Praise, praise Creator, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.

CHORUS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison, all seated)

Most merciful God, we have done little to forward
Your Kingdom in this world. We have allowed self
to blind us, and pains to embitter us. We have
forgotten that whatsoever is done to the least of
Your children is done unto You. Pardon our
shortcomings, forgive our neglect and give us a
pure heart. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF GRACE

CHOIR SELECTION The Vision

(Tune: "Sounds of Silence")

We heard the cry from the past, we heard the cry set forth at last;
Our ancestors plead to live our time,
The crimson line their only awesome sign.
Now all the earth cries out within our hearts: agony.
Comes the dawn of silence.

Beyond the wanderings of time, beyond the race of humankind;
I see living bodies torn and crushed,
Life emerging from the arid dust.
Now the face I see is dark beyond all hope: mystery.
Comes the dawn of silence.

Pain and joy and hope unfold, pain and joy and hope untold;
We cannot contain ascending life,
Nor escape the chaos and the strife.
Now the wonder of our God is struggle and love: eternally.
Comes the dawn of silence.

Lightning moment, blazing spark; lightning moment in our dark;
The birth and death of every star and tree,
The dread assault of spirit within me.
Then God confronts me with terror and with love: ecstasy.
Comes the dawn of silence.

Burning flame and life is born, burning flame and all is gone;
Trembling and afraid above the abyss,
Grasping now that only nothing exists.
Then I plumb the abyss, my life becomes new birth: ceaselessly.
Comes the dawn of silence.

II. Proclamation and Praise

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

OLD TESTAMENT *Isaiah 61:1-6*

NEW TESTAMENT *II Corinthians 6:3-10*

SERMON

Kaye Hayes

HYMN *(by all, standing)*

"Amazing Grace!"

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me,
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

*La gracia me enseñó a temar;
Del miedo libre fui.
¡Cuan bella esa gracia fue en mi ser,
La hora en que creí!*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come.
Tis grace hath brought us safe thus far,
And grace will lead us home.*

*Despues de mil años de estar alli,
En luz como la del sol:
Podremos cantar por tiempo sin fin
Las glorias del Señor.*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(in unison):*

I believe in one God, Creator Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, who came to us and shared our common lot, humbly walking the path of obedience all the way to death—his death on the cross. On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, revealing God's plan to bring all creation together with Christ as the head.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, our helper and Advocate in life, who as God is worshipped and glorified; who fills the faithful with understanding and power to live as Christ requires in a world of sin and injustice; who relieves our fears and grants us peace; who creates and nurtures the church of Jesus Christ.

I believe in one universal church, the body of Christ, chosen to proclaim the wonderful acts of God and to bring people into God's presence as mature individuals in Christ. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting. Amen.

III. Responses and Offerings

CHOIR SELECTION *The Journey's End*

(Tune: "Play Me")

*Sent forth to journey, Sent forth to service,
Sent forth in caring for this one planet,
this suffering world.
I give my all. This is my call.*

*Wonder of service, And strength of vision,
A hope is surging beyond all hopes
of this temporal frame.
The quest is o'er. I want no more.*

Refrain:

*Dark is the night,
Glorious the fight,
Long is the march,
Fullness my plight,
Mystery!*

*Future it beckons, An endless pathway,
The world now leads me to total giving;
the burden bear.*

It's a new day. I've seen the Way.

*Faith is renewed, My journey empowered.
Darkness illumined by ceaseless serving
of humankind.*

The journey's end. My care is friend.

Refrain

*Trusting the final One, Loving the journey,
Obey the Election and love the All
with your heart and soul.*

The silence knows. The stillness grows.

Final Refrain:

*Dark is the night,
Glorious the fight,
Long is the march,
Fullness my plight.
Adoring the Mystery!
The Mystery!*

READING "Choruses from The Rock" by T.S. Eliot

A. GREETING AND PRESENTATION

Association Representative: Grace to you and peace from God who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness and the sovereign of the rulers of earth. The Chicago Metropolitan Association of the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ greets you in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church.

People: To God, who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Local Church Representative (to the Association Representative): Brother in Christ, Good News Community Church, after carefully considering the call to the ordained ministry of Nancy Grow, respectfully requests that the Chicago Metropolitan Association ordain Nancy to the ministry of the church of Christ, according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

Association Representative: The Chicago Metropolitan Association has reviewed the request of Good News Community Church. We have prayerfully examined Nancy concerning her fitness for ministry in Christ's church. We are pleased, on behalf the United Church of Christ, to authorize the ordination of Nancy Grow into the Christian ministry. Nancy Grow, servant of God, we invite you and your family to come forward as a sign of your consent to receive ordination into the Christian ministry.

The United Church of Christ acknowledges as its sole head Jesus Christ, Son of God and Savior. It acknowledges as kindred in Christ all who share this confession. It looks to the word of God in the scriptures and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to prosper its creative and redemptive work in the world. It claims as its own the faith of the historic church expressed in its ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of the Protestant Reformers.

It affirms the responsibility of the church in each generation to make this faith its own in reality of worship, in honesty of thought and expression, and in purity of heart before God.

In accordance with the teachings of our Lord and the practice prevailing among evangelical Christians, it recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion.

The privilege and responsibility of witnessing to the gospel belong to every member of the church. The United Church of Christ diligently seeks, therefore, to provide opportunities for its members to exercise such gifts of teaching, evangelizing, healing, preaching, and administration as God has bestowed them.

Ordination is the rite whereby the United Church of Christ, through an Association, in cooperation with the local church, sets apart by prayer and the laying on of hands those of its members God has called to the Christian ministry. By this rite ministerial standing is conferred and authorization given to perform all the duties and to exercise all the prerogatives of the ministry.

B. EXHORTATION AND EXAMINATION

Association Representative: Hear these words from the prophet Isaiah: "'Whom shall I send and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! Send me!'"

"How wonderful it is to see a messenger coming across the mountains bringing good news, the news of peace. The messenger announces victory and says to Zion: 'Your God reigns.'"

"The Spirit of God is upon me, because the Holy One has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, heal the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and freedom to those who are bound."

Nancy Grow, before God and this congregation we ask you: Are you persuaded that God has called you to be ordained a minister in the church of Jesus Christ, and are you ready to enter this ministry and faithfully serve in it?

Ordinand: I am.

Association Representative: Do you, with the church throughout the world, hear the word of God in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and do you accept the word of God as a rule of Christian faith and practice?

Ordinand: I do.

Association Representative: Do you promise to be diligent in your private prayers and reading of the scriptures, as well as in the public duties of your office?

Ordinand: I do.

Association Representative: Will you be zealous in maintaining both the truth of the gospel and the peace of the church, speaking the truth in love?

Ordinand: I will, relying on God's grace.

Association Representative: Will you be faithful in preaching and teaching the gospel, in administering the sacraments and rites of the church, and in exercising pastoral care and leadership?

Ordinand: I will, relying on God's grace.

Association Representative: Do you accept the faith and order of the United Church of Christ; and will you, as a minister in this communion, show ecumenical affection toward all who are in Christ, and Christian love to persons of other faiths and persons of no faith?

Ordinand: I do and I will.

C. ACCLAMATION AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

Association Representative: People of God, you have heard the promises Nancy has made. What is your will?

People: By the grace of God she is called. Let us ordain her. Come, Holy Spirit.

Association Representative: Nancy's family, will you support Nancy in the ministry of Christ?

Grow Family: We will.

CHOIR SELECTION *Veni Creator Spiritus*

*Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire
And lighten with celestial fire;
Thou the anointing spirit art,
Who dost thy sev'n-fold gifts impart.*

*Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love;
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.*

*Anointed and cheer our soil-ed face
With the abundance of Thy grace;
Keep far our foes; give peace at home:
Where Thou art Guide no ill can come.*

*Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And Thee of both to be but One,
That through the ages all along
This may be our endless song,*

*Praise to Thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

The ordinand kneels.

Association Representative: The laying on of hands is the symbolic act whereby the church in every age recognizes God's call to ministry in the lives of faithful women and men, and asks the Holy Spirit to confer on them the gifts of the ministry.

Let us pray. Eternal God, in wisdom you govern all things, and from the beginning you have chosen faithful persons to serve you in ministry, calling some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip all your people for the work of the ministry and for building up the body of Christ; now bless and sanctify by your Holy Spirit your servant Nancy, whom we, in your name and in obedience to your will, by prayer and with the laying on of hands, ordain to the ministry of the church, committing to her the authority to preach your word, administer the sacraments, and exercise the responsibilities of pastor and teacher. Bestow upon Nancy the power of your Holy Spirit, confirming what we do. Let the same mind be in her that was also in Christ Jesus. Enable her to nourish your people in the faith of the gospel. Fill her speech with truth and her life with purity. Increase Nancy's faith in you, strengthen her in the day of trouble, prosper her words and works, that your name may be glorified and your truth exalted; through Jesus Christ our Sovereign and Savior.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

The ordinand stands.

Association Representative: In the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church, and by the authority of the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ, I now declare you to be ordained into the ministry of Jesus Christ.

D. THE RECEIVING OF THE SYMBOLS

Representatives of the Ecumenical Institute and the Good News Church come forward.

Representatives of the Ecumenical Institute:

As representatives of the calling community, we present you with this robe.

The presentation of this robe symbolizes our recognition of the role of the cleric which has been conferred upon you. We recognize you as the shepherd of the sheep. We expect you to be the caretaker of the sacraments. We see you as the servant of the servants.

Putting on this robe signifies the decision to take on the responsibility of keeping in history the Word of Life revealed in Jesus Christ. It is a symbol of accepting the responsibility to care for the local church, to call it continuously to live before the truth, to call it to live unswervingly as the servant to society.

Nancy, will you receive and put on this robe, assuming responsibility for this role on behalf of our community of the Ecumenical Institute?

Ordinand: I will.

The Ordinand receives and puts on the robe.

Representative of Good News Community Church: Receive at our hands this Bible, of which you are appointed an interpreter; be diligent in the study of its message, that you may speak with the authority of truth and be a faithful minister of the word and sacraments.

The Ordinand receives the Bible.

Association Representative: You are granted ordained ministerial standing in the United Church of Christ, and in behalf of its people we offer you the hand of Christian love.

OFFERING FOR MINISTERIAL TRAINING

CHOIR SELECTION *The World is Always Waiting*

(Tune: "I Don't Know How to Love Him")

*The world is always waiting
For a new inspiration
To believe, really believe
That each brand new birth, upon the earth
Has one great life to live
And death to give.*

*The world is always waiting
For a new demonstration
That it can, it really can
Forge a brand new path, straight through the ash
Of what has died and gone,
And carry on.*

*It doesn't matter now
How you came to know
But if you're the one
You have to let it show
So take this task to be your own,
Prepare to stand alone.*

*The world is always waiting
For a new invitation
To decide, fin'ly decide
To hear the call, to give it all
Though broken, tired and torn,
And be reborn.*

THE DOXOLOGY *(by all, standing)*

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PASSING THE PEACE *(standing)*

"The peace of God is yours this day."

*Pastors pass it to the ends of the center rows, and then
it is passed on throughout the congregation.*

IV. The Holy Meal

A. THE PREPARATION

(All standing)

Pastor: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Pastor: Let us give our thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and the gift of life, and for your abiding love that brings us close to you, the source of all blessing.

We thank you for revealing your will for us in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets.

We thank you especially that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, share in our suffering, and accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom he loved.

We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave, you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm.

We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church, by which your work may be done in the world, and through which we share the gift of eternal life.

With the faithful in every place and time we praise with joy your holy name.

All: Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of Your glory, O God Most High.

(The Congregation may be seated.)

Pastor: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave You thanks, broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, Jesus also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Bless therefore, by Your Holy Spirit, both us and these gifts of bread and wine, that as we receive them at this table, where we offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and continue faithful to the tasks for which Christ has chosen us.

All: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, dear God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

B. SHARING THE BREAD AND THE WINE

Pastor (*breaking the bread*): Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. (*Taking the cup and pouring the wine*) Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

People, standing: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your Kingdom come; Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: Come, for all things are ready.

Pastor: Eat this, for it is the body of Christ, broken for you.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Drink this, for it is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

People: Amen.

Pastor (*when all have received*): We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have received Christ and all Christ's gifts. Send us forth with strength and new commitment to show forth Your praise not only with our lips but in our lives, by offering ourselves in service to You and all people; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

V. The Sending Forth

HYMN (by all, standing)

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing;
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.*

*Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing;
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.*

*And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us;
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us;
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure,
one little word shall fell him.*

*That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The Body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.*

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING (All seated)

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good
courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to
no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;
support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all
people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power
of the Holy Spirit.

The blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Christ and
Holy Spirit, be with you all.

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES

SCATTERING MUSIC

PROCESSION THROUGH THE NEIGHBORHOOD

THE RECEPTION

Denominations participating in this service include

**The Southern Baptist Convention
The Ethiopian Orthodox Church
The United Methodist Church
The United Presbyterian Church
The United Church of Canada
The Uniting Church of Australia
and The United Church of Christ**

This ordination is authorized and performed by the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the United Church of Christ.

Officiating clergy are the Rev. Robert Tschannen-Moran, Pastor of Good News Community Church, and the Rev. William Voelkel, Associate Conference Minister of the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the Illinois Conference, The United Church of Christ.

The Ecumenical Institute is the calling community.

GOOD NEWS COMMUNITY CHURCH

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Of all that was done in the past, you eat the
fruit, either rotten or ripe.

And the Church must be forever building,
and always decaying, and always being
restored.

For every ill deed in the past we suffer the
consequence:

For sloth, for avarice, gluttony, neglect of the
Word of God.

For pride, for lechery, treachery, for every
act of sin.

And of all that was done that was good, you
have the inheritance.

For good and ill deeds belong to a man
alone, when he stands alone on the other
side of death, but here upon earth you have
the reward of the good and ill that was done
by those who have gone before you.

And all that is ill you may repair if you walk
together in humble repentance, expiating
the sins of the fathers;

And all that was good you must fight to keep
with hearts as devoted as those of your
fathers who fought to gain it.

The Church must be forever building, for it
is forever decaying within and attacked from
without;

For this is the law of life; and you must
remember that while there is time of
prosperity

The people will neglect the Temple, and in
time of adversity they will decry it.

What life have you if you have not life
together?

There is no life that is not in community,
And no community not lived in praise of
God.

Even the anchorite who meditates alone,
For whom the days and nights repeat the
praise of God,

Prays for the Church, the Body of Christ
incarnate.

And now you live dispersed on ribbon roads,
And no man knows or cares who is his
neighbor

Unless his neighbor makes too much
disturbance,

But all dash to and fro in motor cars,
Familiar with the roads and settled nowhere.

Nor does the family even move about
together,

But every son would have his motor cycle,
And daughters ride away on casual pillions.

Much to cast down, much to build, much to
restore;

Let the work not delay, time and the arm not
waste;

Let the clay be dug from the pit, let the saw
cut the stone,

Let the fire not be quenched in the forge.

T.S. Eliot
"Choruses from the Rock"
Collected Poems