

I. Introduction

A. What does the greek word translated *deacon* mean?

B. Why are faithful deacons essential to the mission, ministry of the Church?

II. Main Argument

A. **The Defining Characteristic of the Christian Life (v. 1)**

1. Known: How does Jesus say Christians will be distinguished from the world?

2. What is Brotherly Love?

B. **The Difficulty of Brotherly Love (v. 1)**

1. Maintenance: Why does brotherly love require work and maintenance?

2. Essential: How are deacons vital to the expression of brotherly love?

C. **Examples of Brotherly Love (vv. 2-3)**

1. Hospitality (v. 2)

a. What sort of hospitality were the Christians showing and receiving as the Apostle wrote to them?

b. What is the role of the deacon in hospitality and cultivating a culture of hospitality in the church?

2. Compassion for the Afflicted (v. 3)

a. What prisoners are specifically in view here?

b. How do the deacons help us to fulfill our Christian duty in this area?

c. Does this mean we may be indifferent to the situation of those in prison for other reasons?

d. How has the Lord Jesus Christ modeled concern for the imprisoned?

III. Conclusion:

ORDINATION VOWS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as originally given, to be the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the *Confession of Faith* and the *Catechisms* of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and do you further promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with any of the fundamentals of this system of doctrine, you will, on your own initiative, make known to your Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow?
3. Do you approve of the form of government and discipline of the PCA, in conformity with the general principles of biblical polity?
4. Do you accept the office of ruling elder (or deacon, as the case may be) in this church, and promise faithfully to perform all the duties thereof, and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your life, and to set a worthy example before the Church of which God has made you an officer?
5. Do you promise subjection to your brethren in the Lord and do you promise to strive for the purity, peace, unity and edification of the Church?

THE DEACON IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

It is the duty of the deacons to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress. It is their duty also to develop the grace of liberality in the members of the church, to devise effective methods of collecting the gifts of the people, and to distribute these gifts among the objects to which they are contributed. They shall have the care of the property of the congregation, both real and personal, and shall keep in proper repair the church edifice and other buildings belonging to the congregation.

To the office of deacon, which is spiritual in nature, shall be chosen men of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly spirit, warm sympathies, and sound judgment.

133A

Behold How Very Good It Is

*The glory which You have given Me I have given to them,
that they may be one, just as We are one. —John 17:22*



1. ¹ Be - hold how ver - y good it is, A
2. ² Yes, it is like the pre - cious oil Poured
3. ³ It is as though Mount Her - mon's dew On



pleas - ant thing to see; When broth - ers join to
out up - on the head, Which, run - ning down from
Zi - on's hills de - scends; For there the LORD be -



live as one In peace and u - ni - ty!
Aar - on's beard, Up - on his gar - ments spread.
stowed the gift Of life that nev - er ends.



THE LORD'S DAY EVENING
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OCTOBER 17, 2021 | 6:00 p.m.

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 457“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*THE INVOCATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGIsaiah 4:2-6

THE EVENING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND ADORATION

THE HYMN REQUEST

THE SCRIPTURE READINGHebrews 13:1-3

THE SERMONRyan Biese

*THE PSALM OF COMMITMENT NO. 133“Behold How Very Good It Is”

THE ORDER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

THE INTRODUCTION

THE VOWS OF ORDINATION

THE VOW OF THE CONGREGATION

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

THE ORDINATION PRAYER.....Elder Wil Davis

THE RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

THE CHARGE TO THE DEACON

THE CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

THE HYMN OF THANKSGIVING NO. 460“Amazing Grace”

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE RESPONSEPsalm 72:18-19

Now blessed be the Lord our God, the God of Israel.
For He alone does wondrous works in glory that excel.
And blessed be His glorious Name to all eternity.
The whole Earth let His glory fill; amen, so let it be.