



The Ordination of Melissa Kreider

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

Sunday, October 4, 2009

hope church



open minds · open hands · open hearts

www.hopeboston.org

Ordination for Dummies

Dear Friends,

Welcome, and please don't be insulted by the heading of this section! I just wanted to share a few thoughts and explain some of the mysteries of this day in case a Christian ordination is a relatively new animal to you.

First, some of the symbols... why the preponderance of the color red, along with doves and flames? Red is traditionally the color of the Holy Spirit, which descended upon Jesus at the time of his baptism (see Mark 1) in the form of a dove, and came to be God's "fiery" presence among the people at Pentecost, after Jesus ascended into heaven (see Acts 2). At the time of ordination, Christians celebrate the mysterious gift of the Spirit of life to each person by remembering Pentecost and Jesus' baptism.

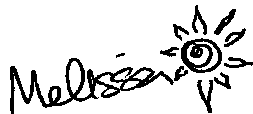
I have a particular fondness for the Holy Spirit, probably because she is described as *rushing as a powerful wind* through the people. I find God especially in the natural world, and one of the first times I remember contemplating God, I sat at the top of Mt. Olympus in Greece when I was about to turn 16 years old. As the wind rushed through my hair, I felt mysteriously connected to the ancients who had worshipped on that same spot so many centuries before. And I felt connected to all those on whom that same wind would blow that day all across creation. That mysterious inspiration and interconnection is how I envision the Holy Spirit.

In Hebrew, Greek and Latin, the words for *spirit* and *breath* share common origins. The Spirit, then, is the very life and renewal we crave and breathe. That Spirit breathes life into each of us in a different way. Ten years ago, if I heard the word "calling" in a religious context, I would roll my eyes and think of a televangelist. These days, though, I believe that we are each called into life in our own way. We are called to life by our inexplicable and quirky passions, be they for wood-working or music making or healing or teaching or mothering.

When I was a kid, I understood that Jesus and Christianity taught me ways to *be good*. They taught me to love stranger as friend, to love especially the persecuted and the forsaken. It wasn't until I was an adult that I learned that my Christian faith also told me that *I am good*, just by living into the fullness of being me. I can do the *most good*, in fact, in our hungering world, by cultivating my God-given passions.

Today's ordination focuses some special energy on lifting up my particular calling to approach healing and the mysteries of life in the language of Christian faith. But today's service celebrates *all* of our gifts, *all* of our callings to breathe in the Spirit and breathe new life into our world. Thank you, whatever language of faith, science and/or poetry is your Mother Tongue, for celebrating with me today!

With love,



GATHERING IN WORSHIP

*You are invited to light a candle at any time during worship that we might all share in the Light.
During Communion find members of our prayer team are available to pray with you.
Our prayer team will pray through the week the prayers that you offer via the prayer request form.
We hope you will let us know that you have been with us by completing the form in the bulletin.*

Prelude

Nancy Kleiman, Celtic Harp

Welcome to Hope

Bruce Baker , Alexandra Case
David Malone, Deborah Malone

*Gathering and Processional Music Come All You People

Invocation

Rev. Wendy Miller-Olapade

Confession, Assurance and Celebration

Prayer & Silence

Sung Confession

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

*Assurance of Forgiveness and God's Presence

Passing of the Peace One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Sung Celebration

Spirit of the Living God

Call To Prayer

How Could Anyone?

Jeanne Lucas (Director),
Angela Letizia (Cello) Julie Gard,
Peri Levin McKenna, MaryHelen Gunn
and Hannah Freedberg (Singers)

Prayers of the People

Melissa Kreider

*As we pray for those whom we love, for ourselves and for the world, we invite you to share your joys and concerns, highs and lows, praise and thanksgiving...
and our prayer team will include your prayers throughout the week.*

*please stand as you are able

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! (hum)

(Al - le - lu - ia)

Poem:	Wild Geese by Mary Oliver	Rev. Mark Burrows
Hebrew Scripture	Isaiah 43: 1-3a	Rev. Rachele Rosi-Kessel
Psalm	139: 1-4, 7-18	Kris Bowen
*Gospel	Mark 1: 4-13	Rev. Ron Hindelang
Sermon	Take Joy!	Rev. Megan Lynes
Hymn	Spirit	

ORDINATION TO MINISTRY

Greeting	Rev. Wendy Vander Hart
Presentation	J. Conlon, Rev. Wendy Vander Hart
Exhortation, Examination and Acclamation	
Laying on of Hands and Ordination Prayer	Rev. Ron Hindelang
Declaration	Rev. Wendy Vander Hart
Presentations	

COMMUNION

Offering	
Invitation to Joyful Stewardship	
Offertory Music:	Take O Take Me As I Am Hope Church Singers
*Sung Response (Amen), Procession of Gifts and Prayer of Dedication	
Holy Communion	
Invitation to the Feast: <i>This is an open table; everyone is welcome. You are invited forward to receive the bread and dip it into grape juice in the bowl or Melissa's ordination chalice. The glass chalice contains wine. Gluten Free "bread" is available. Should you need assistance; a server will bring you the communion elements.</i>	
Communion Prayer and Prayer of Thanksgiving	Rev. Melissa Kreider

*please stand as you are able

Prayer of our Savior (sins; sins against us)

Our Creator, 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever, amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

SENDING

***Closing Hymn and Recessional** My Life Flows on in Endless Song

***Benediction**

Rev. Melissa Kreider

Postlude



“Neither the hair shirt nor the soft berth will do.
The place God calls you to
is the place where your deep gladness
and the world’s great hunger meet.”

Frederick Buechner

CHILD CARE

Child Care is available in the parlor,
(through right hand door at the front of the sanctuary).
Our regular Child Care staff are Julie, Anne and Jessica.

***please stand as you are able**

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Musicians:

Nancy Kleiman, Celtic Harpist (and chaplain-without-words) at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Jeanne Lucas, Hope Church musician and choir director extraordinaire
Todor Stoinov, Hope Church Pianist
Neil Helme, Hope Church Bassist
Angela Letizia, Cellist, Hope Church member and dear friend
Peri Levin McKenna, Hannah Freedberg, MaryHelen Gunn and Julie Gard – nurse, cultivator, Mama, wordsmith – friends, artists and harmonizers all

Participants:

Deborah and Rev. David Malone, Bruce Baker and Alexandra Case, beloved fellow members of Hope Church
Wendy Miller-Olapade, Interim Pastor of Hope Church
Rev. Mark Burrows, Professor of the History of Christianity at Andover Newton Theological School (and fellow pilgrim to Holden Village retreat center in the North Cascades Mountains)
Rev. Rachele-Rosi, a Unitarian Universalist minister, Jewish mother and former roommate – partially to blame for introducing me to seminary
Kris Bowen, fellow seminarian, chaplain resident and soulmate
Rev. Ron Hindelang, chaplain supervisor, mentor and embodiment of "Father God"
Rev. Megan Lynes, Minister, The First Parish in Bedford Unitarian Universalist, gifted listener and creative journeyer
Rev. Wendy Vander Hart, Associate Conference Minister, MA Conference, United Church of Christ
J. Conlon, Moderator of Hope Church
Jane DuBois, Vice President of Bereavement and Spiritual Care, Beacon Hospice

Melissa Extends her Special Thanks To:

God for being the source of all of this beauty and mystery.

All of you (including those here in spirit) for being here today, and for believing in me.

Gay Harter and the Committee on Ministry of the Metropolitan Boston Association of the UCC for tirelessly challenging and supporting me through the *In Care* process.

Cathy Turrentine and Eliot Church of Newton for loaning the beautiful red banners.

The communities of Holden Village, Andover Newton Theological School, Second Church in Newton, Upham's Corner Health Center and the Chaplaincy Department of Brigham and Women's Hospital for nurturing and challenging me into personal, theological and professional transformation.

The patients, families and staffs of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Beacon Hospice, for entrusting me with your stories, prayers, sorrows, hopes and fears.

Beacon Hospice, for calling me into ministry!

Hope Church for supporting and being in community with me through the journey of seminary and ordination, and for making today's ordination happen. Special thanks to Deborah and David Malone, Pastor Wendy Miller-Olapade and former Pastors Liz and Matt Myer Boulton, to current and former Hope seminarians.

Ron Scanlon and many friends who contributed toward today's reception.

My family – my Mom, Dad, brother Ben and Aunt Suz – for loving me, for traveling to be here, and for schlepping and organizing to make it happen. Thanks especially to my Mom Kathy for being my biggest fan and greatest mentor in ministry.



LEADERSHIP

Ministers: All of us!

Interim Pastor:

Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade, pastor@hopeboston.org

Children's Church:

J.C. Mitchell, johnchristianm@yahoo.com

Administrative Manager:

Frederick Hayes, office@hopeboston.org,

Leadership Circle:

J Conlon, board@hopeboston.org (Moderator)

John Brock, Bob Drake, Christie Dustman,

Kathie Mainzer, Stacey Schamber,

Frank Stevens, Kevin Tucker, Judy Wagoner

Music Leadership:

Hope Church Singers,

Jeanne Lucas, Sara Goplin,

Bobby Hall, Neil Helme, Todor Stoinov

MINISTRIES

Hope Church is a vibrant and growing community with lots of ways to get involved. Please contact these leaders and let us know where you feel called to serve and we'll plug you in!

Casserole Care:	Kathy Bermingham
Children's Church:	Rev. Wendy
Finance:	Frank Stevens
Hospitality:	Ron Scanlon
In Care Committee	Polly Hamlen
Nominating Committee:	Laura Everett
Prayer Ministry:	Beverly Pacheco
Search Committee:	Beth Chandler
Seminarian Support:	Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade Rev. Steven Vandergrift
Social Justice:	Neeka Stanley
Stewardship:	Ellen Snoeyenbos
Welcome Baby:	Barbara McQueen
Welcome Wagon:	Jean Vandergrift
Worship, Arts and Music:	Nanette Savides/Sarah Goplin

Welcome to Hope Church...

Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe.

Welcome to new visitors and to old friends.

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, and single people.

Welcome to people of all colors, cultures, abilities, and sexual orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.

Welcome to everyone!

Tonight we are all invited to live into God's love, peace, and justice

CONTACT:

Hope Church

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hope church

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