

Installation Service of Pastor Connor Cabalka

January 16, 2022

Call to worship	Pastor Ty
Welcome and Special Introductions	Pastor Ty
Connor's Parents ~ Jeff and Allison Cabalka	
Connor's brother ~ Colin and Sarah (Wylder and Goldie)	
Renee's Parents ~ Pastor Larry and Diane Orth	
Renee's sister ~ Macai and Luke (Judah, Theo, Cedar, Josie)	
Praise & Worship	<i>"In Christ Alone"</i> <i>"He Will Hold Me Fast"</i>
Testimony of Search Team & Presentation of Pastor Wilson	Nick Elias
Testimony of God's Leading	Pastor Connor
Prayer of Thanksgiving for God's Leading and Provision	Nick Elias
Song of Praise	<i>"How Firm a Foundation"</i> (Kids, age 3-K are dismissed to children's church)
Scripture Reading ~ 1 Peter 5:1-11	Rev. Larry Orth
Charge to the Associate Pastor	Pastor Ty

Pastor Connor, it is an honor and a joy for me to bring this charge of installation to you this morning. It was through First Peter 5 that the Lord called you to ministry and so from this text I would like to offer you 7 brief exhortations:

1) **Shepherd God's people in the selfless spirit of Christ** (1Pet 5:1-3).

[2-3] Connor, God has called you to be a servant-leader. And here Peter gives us 3 examples (along with their negative counterpart) as to what that selfless, servant-leadership looks like as we follow Christ. First, your ministry is to be...

- **Voluntarily** (with willing desire). This is the opposite of serving under compulsion or with reluctance. That's not to say that there aren't times when we should serve because it's

the right thing to do, even though we may not feel like it in the moment. Serving from the heart means that we will often have to lead our heart by setting our desire on pursuing God's will rather than our own. Second, you are to serve...

- **Eagerly**, not for personal gain. Our passion (and our calling) is to advance the kingdom of Christ for the glory of God, by turning people's attention, not to ourselves, but to see and savor the all-supreme worth of Jesus. Furthermore, you are to lead...
- **By example**, not lording it over those entrusted to our care. Domineering leadership is worldly, abusive, and stifling, but Christlike leadership is servant-leadership. In Mt 20 Jesus said, *"The rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them and their great men exercise authority over them. It is not so among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant. Even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and give His life a ransom for many."*

We must never forget that we are under-shepherds with a delegated authority through the Scriptures that is to be manifested from a servant's heart. *Connor, as you abide in Jesus, he will shape in you His own selfless heart from which you are to lead others to follow Christ.*

2) **Set your affections on Jesus as your Chief Shepherd and reward** (1Pet 5:4).

[4] We can easily fall to the temptation to set our eyes on earthly horizons—like the accolades of men or earthly monuments. Our future goals can easily become defined by what we think we are building on this earth—a significant ministry marked by earthly success. And while we are called to build the kingdom of God here, our affections must always be set on Jesus Himself, who when He returns will be the only reward that satisfies our souls. The glory we seek is not from men, but to see Christ formed in us and in those we lead for the day of Christ's return. *Connor, as you abide in Christ and set your affections on Him, you will not only have an eternal perspective, but you will also have the satisfaction of Jesus as Your reward both now and forever.*

3) **Embrace humility as the pathway to God’s gracious favor** (1Pet 5:5-6).

[5-6] We never have to worry about being honored. If there is any exalting to be done, God will take care of that. Our job is to simply humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God. And oh, how you must anchor your confidence in the reality that God’s hand is indeed mighty—greater than your circumstances or suffering, greater than people, greater than your own inadequacies. And as you walk humbly with your God, His mighty hand will give you the grace you need to walk humbly with others and exalt Christ in all things. *Connor, as you abide in Christ, He will shape in you the humble heart of Jesus that invokes the grace and favor of God.*

4) **Enter the yoke of Jesus, your Burden-bearer** (1Pet 5:7).

[7] Ministry is weighty. Leadership is demanding. We must often bear not only our own burdens, but also the burdens of others. We shoulder the concern for the spiritual well-being of those entrusted to us. The spiritual battle that we fight for ourselves and others demands constant vigilance. Our human weakness is continually exposed. Yet no amount or depth of anxiety can weary Jesus’ arms or exhaust His care for you. *Connor, only as you abide in Christ, does He lift the yoke of anxiety from your shoulders. Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you!*

5) **Be vigilant to walk by faith** (1Pet 5:8-9).

[8-9] While Satan is often sneaky and deceptive, he also loves to roar, to intimidate us with fear. He loves to isolate us, to get us alone in our thoughts where we can lose sight, not only of Jesus, but also our fellow brothers and sisters who walk this road with us. But we are called to resist him. How? By being firm in our faith. That is, actively engaging our faith by anchoring our hope in the presence, character, and promises of God. Connor, the risen Christ is your Victor! You are seated with Him in the heavenlies, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion (Eph 1:21). In Christ, you fight the enemy from above! *Connor, as you abide in Christ, He will strengthen your faith to resist the evil one.*

6) **Rest in the promise that the God of all grace will fulfill His sanctifying purposes in you** (1Pet 5:10).

[10] You are entering a season that will stretch you as you grow through this transition. Yet be encouraged, “God is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure” (Phil 2:12). He’s working to mature, confirm, strengthen, and establish you with the very work of sanctification that He will perfect when you see Jesus face to face. *Connor, as you abide in Christ, He will be your increasing stability in every season.* “Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass” (1Thess5:24).

7) **Make God-centered, Christ-exalting worship the aim of your life and ministry in the Spirit** (1Pet 5:11).

[11] Your ministry, all ministry, and all of life exists to produce worship. The climactic purpose of creation and history is captured in Rev 4 & 5: “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing. And every created thing...[cries out], “To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever” (Rev 5:12-13). *Connor, abide in Christ and so lead a life of worship that serves others in centering their lives on Jesus Christ as supreme and all-satisfying!*

DECLARATION OF INTENT (Invite Connor and Renee forward)

Pastor Connor, do you conscientiously believe and declare, as far as you know your own heart, that in taking upon you this charge, you are influenced by a sincere desire to promote the gospel of Jesus Christ for the glory of God? [I do]

Will you faithfully give yourself to the study of the Holy Scriptures, to the ministry of prayer, and to personal growth in godliness? [I will]

Do you affirm the call of God and this congregation to serve as Associate Pastor of Discipleship and solemnly promise, by the grace of God, to fulfill the duties thereunto as you live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ? [I do]

Pastor Connor, with gratitude it is my joy to install you as Associate Pastor of Discipleship in the name of Jesus, and for His renown.

May the Lord grant you the strength, wisdom, courage, and grace to humbly fulfill your ministry and to hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant..." We are confident you will.

"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed" (2Cor 9:8).

Encouragement for a Minister's Spouse Pauline Spenst

Song of Consecration *"Be Thou My Vision"*

Charge to the Congregation Pastor Ty

Trinity family, Pastor Connor and Renee are a gift to us from God's hand, and we are called to hold them in high honor.

I Timothy 5:17-19 ~ *"Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing," and "The laborer is worthy of his wages." Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses."*

So how do we bestow honor upon this couple that God has entrusted to us?

1. Take care of them

We must allow ourselves to be generously used of God in meeting their physical, spiritual, emotional, and relational needs.

We must provide opportunities for them to grow and times of rest. And we must be large-hearted in freely sharing our love and friendship with them.

2. Love & encourage them

Rejoice when they rejoice and weep when they weep.

Just as Aaron and Hur held up Moses' arms in the battle, we too must help bear their burdens.

When we sense that they are discouraged, we are to remind them of God's goodness, faithfulness, grace, and power.

3. Partner with them in ministry

Every one of us is responsible to be supportive of their ministry. That will mean different things for different people, but we should all be "on their team."

As we partner with them in a new season of ministry, we must be ready to embrace change. Pray that God will give *you* a servant's heart, a God-size vision, and a passion to impact our world for Christ.

4. Pray for them

God has called this precious couple to a work that is much greater than they can accomplish in their own strength. They are vulnerable to weariness and spiritual attacks. They will face challenges and opportunities that require supernatural intervention.

Pray for God to bless them, protect them, and to grant them favor with both God and men. Pray for them to persevere with joy and faith, pray for God's Spirit to work mightily through them.

5. Protect them

Speak honestly to them and honorably about them.

Give them the benefit of the doubt and do not tolerate a critical spirit toward them. Speaking the truth in love is the Trinity way—but not a critical spirit.

If you have a difference of perspective, go to Pastor Connor with a gracious and humble spirit, seeking his good and God's glory.

In as much as Pastors are held to a higher standard for their life and teaching, so churches will give an account for how they treat their leaders.

Hebrews 13:17 ~ *Obey your leaders, and submit to them; for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.*

6. Treasure Jesus—together

There is no greater blessing for a pastor than to see God’s people walking in the truth, growing in grace, delighting in Jesus, and sharing His gospel.

Response of the Congregation [bulletin insert & screen]

We receive with joy, Pastor Connor, whom we have called to be our Associate Pastor of Discipleship.

We commit ourselves to encourage you by rejoicing when you rejoice, helping to bear your burdens, and reminding you of God’s goodness, faithfulness, and grace during times of hardship.

We promise to be supportive of your ministry by speaking respectfully of you, allowing room for you to grow, and honoring your God-given leadership. We will not tolerate a critical spirit toward you and in differences of opinion, we will seek to fully understand the issue by speaking personally, respectfully, and lovingly with you.

We promise to pray for you to be under the mercy of God’s protection, to be faithful in your calling, and to be empowered by God to do His will as you exalt Christ.

We promise to also minister to you, Renee, and your children according to your needs and our abilities as God supplies. We will do all these things to the honor of Christ, who is the Head of the church.

Prayer of Installation **Elders, Search Team, Youth Team, Pauline**

Response of the Associate Pastor
Closing Song

Pastor Connor
“*By Faith*”
Pastor Ty

Benediction

“Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.” (Hebrews 13:20-21)

**This morning’s service will be followed by a fellowship meal for all in attendance.*