

Installation Service for Presbytery Moderator, Yellowstone Presbytery 2026

Moderator: Christ calls His Church into being, equips and empowers His Church for its life, ministry and mission. Christ brings us together from all parts of Yellowstone Presbytery to encourage and equip one another and to journey with one another in mutual discipleship for spiritual growth and transformation; to serve and love each other and the world; to share the Good News of Christ in word and deed; to pursue justice and peace. And in this era of divisiveness and alienation, to keep the main thing, the main thing, namely Christ and his mission, to the glory of God, summarized well in the Great Ends of the Church.

You, *Dave*, as Moderator, are called by God through the voice of this presbytery to be our leader during the year ahead. Thank you on behalf of us all for your willingness to answer this important calling for such a time as this.

As you embrace the call, role and work under Christ and unto Christ, please answer the questions of installation from our *Constitution*:

Questions for Installation

- a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
- b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?
- c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable exposition of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?
- d. Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
- e. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
- f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?
- g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
- h. Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

For the Moderator:

Will you be a faithful Moderator, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, embodying and teaching faith, praying and caring for people? Will you be active and creative in leadership, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

For the Members of Yellowstone Presbytery:

Do we, the Members of Yellowstone Presbytery, receive and accept Dave Thompson as our Moderator for this one-year term of service? Will we respect their judgments, support their leadership, and pray for them in their service to this body, Christ and *with* us? We will

The Presbytery raises hands for the prayer as a symbolic laying on of hands:

Prayer Loving and Holy God, by Your Holy Spirit, you have called Dave to special service as moderator [and vice moderator] of this, Your Presbytery. He has accepted Your call and pledged to serve You faithfully, relying on your Holy Spirit. And so we pray for him:

Give Dave a fresh out-pouring of Your Holy Spirit that he may be rooted in and share your love. May he, together with this body of Christ, listen and discern *Your way* clearly unfolding before him and us in our changing contexts. May he listen humbly and well to you first and then us and encourage and lead us to follow and join *you* in our common life, ministry and mission in Christ. Give him godly wisdom beyond his own; strength beyond his own resources; courage like Joshua to discern and speak, to take new opportunities. Give him patience, kindness, and chances to play, as well as a surrendered will to follow *You* should you lead us in difficult paths for Your work and glory. With a growing church and family, among other roles, may he pause, seeking your will and priorities first when too many voices and needs clamor. Grant him a sense of Your reward, love, joy and pleasure on the completion of your work, in the Name of Him who obeyed and lived for You in all things, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Declaration of Ministry: Dave, you are now installed as Moderator [and Vice Moderator] of Yellowstone Presbytery. May you serve with faithful joy and holy love to the glory of God and the strengthening of the saints in this presbytery. Please be assured of our prayers, love gratitude and support as unto Christ. *Amen!*

Welcome to this ministry!