

**Service of Installation for
Rachel Ringenberg Miller, Pastor
Shalom Mennonite Church – September 20, 2015**

Conference Minister: There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. The gifts God gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:4-7, 11-12)

Congregation: We are the Body of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit. We worship, care for each other, offer hospitality, nurture faith, and proclaim the good news of Jesus in word and deed. We call our pastors to guide us in becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus in the world.

Congregational Chair: Today we celebrate that God has led us to call Rachel Ringenberg Miller to exercise her gifts in ministry as Pastor at Shalom Mennonite Church. Rachel, we pray that in the giving of your gifts to us, and the giving of our gifts to you, our work and service will fulfill God's purposes in our congregation, community and world.

Conference Minister: Rachel, seeing that the grace of God has called you into pastoral leadership in this church I now ask you: Do you hold to the promises you made at your baptism and ordination? And do you believe that this calling and your acceptance of it are in response to the leading of the Holy Spirit?

Rachel: I do.

Conference Minister: Will you seek to be faithful in prayer and spiritual growth, in setting forth the Scriptures, and in seeking the good of this congregation? And will you seek to live honestly, openly, and justly with your brothers and sisters in this congregation, and to work harmoniously with other staff and congregational leaders?

Rachel: I will.

Conference Minister (*to Associate Pastor Sara Dick*): Sara, do you affirm Rachel's leadership and offer yourself as a partner in ministry with her?

Sara: I do.

Conference Minister (*to congregation*): Sisters and brothers, you have heard the commitment Rachel has made in accepting the call to pastoral ministry in this church. Do you receive Rachel as your Pastor, to help guide you in the life and work of Christ?

Congregation (*stand, as able*): As God's Spirit calls and the church commissions, we affirm Rachel Ringenberg Miller as our Pastor. Rachel, we will seek to live honestly, openly and justly with you. We pledge our support to you, as you in turn, support our ministries.

Conference Minister: Based on this covenant between the congregation and you, Rachel, I now install you as Pastor at Shalom Mennonite Church. May the God of peace make you holy and whole – spirit, soul, and body – to keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful, and will do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).

Prayer of Installation