

Church Membership – an order of service

Today **(name)** here at **(name of church)** Church will become a member.

To be a church member means being a part of the most wonderful society on earth. Jesus founded the church to be the Body which his Spirit would inspire and direct to carry on His work

To belong to the church of Jesus Christ involves belonging to a local church. **(name of church)** Church shares a wonderful heritage of faith with all local churches and in particular with those churches of the Congregational Federation.

Congregationalists are bound to their local church by belief in the living God revealed in Jesus Christ. We trust in Christ's promise to be with his people who meet in his name and we worship, work and serve with all who love our Lord to promote his kingdom of justice and peace and to help people everywhere to know the joy of His love.

We give thanks today that **(name)** is able to make that profession of faith and be a member of this Congregational Church and it is with the full support of the church meeting we welcome her into membership of this church. **(Everyone stands)**

(name) 'Do you confess with us your faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord? and do you promise, relying on God's grace, to follow Christ and serve Him in the fellowship of the Church?' **I do**

"Do you promise to share with us in the duties of membership in this Church through worship and through the Church Meeting." **I do**

On behalf of **(Church)** I extend the right hand of fellowship and welcome you as a member of God's church. May God bless you in your ministry here and the life you share together.

Let us pray

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your church and for the privilege of being a part of your church. We thank you today that **(name)** has professed her faith in you and has become a member of your church. Help **(name)** and us each to play our part in the work of your church

We thank you, loving God, that you bring us all together as a church fellowship to meet and share, to support one another, and to grow in fellowship with you and each other. You know us, and you call us by name to be your people at this particular time in this particular place.

Strengthen us to walk your Way, seeking justice, showing mercy. Help us to be a people of love and light, kind and compassionate, seeking new ways forward, responding to the challenges of changing circumstances. May we always be able to point to the one we follow, knowing it is in Christ's name we come, and in Christ's name we proclaim your healing love. Amen