**Local Commissioning**

**of Lay Ministers**

**Commissioning of Lay Ministers following *Living Discipleship or equivalent training***

*The Minister says*

Part of the responsibility of every Christian is to explore their own calling as disciples and to encourage and nurture the journey of discipleship in others. Today we commission \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who has been exploring his/ her own discipleship and ministry and who is now ready to commit to living out their calling in a new way.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has undertaken a programme that has helped him / her to discern the area of ministry to which they feel called.

*The candidate to be commissioned describes in one or two sentences how they see their ministry.*

*[For example: I believe that I am called to offer pastoral care to those who are part of our lunch club, to help them form a caring group, to make links in the community and to share the love of God with them as a bridge between this church and the group.]*

*The Minister then asks the candidate*

Do you believe that God has called you to this ministry? To live out your discipleship in this way and to serve God in this work?

*I do.*

Will you encourage others to develop in discipleship, inspire them in vocation and encourage them in evangelism?

*With God’s help I will.*

Do you, the congregation, support \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in this new phase of ministry? Will you support them in prayer, and value their work as part of the mission and ministry of this church?

*We will*

I commission you for this new phase of ministry. May God the Creator bless you, Jesus the Redeemer enable you and the Holy Spirit empower you.

Amen.