

## Liturgy of Thanksgiving at the Conclusion of an Interim Pastorate

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
Gathered as the body of Christ, and anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are joined in God's mission for the sake of the world. We are called to that mission in our daily lives and in the ministries we share as the church of God. Today we recognize the change we have made in the Office of Pastor. It is our privilege to give thanks for Pastor Ron's ministry as Interim Pastor within this congregation, and commend the role of Pastor of Lord of Life to our called pastor, Pastor Kirsten.

*To Pastor Ron:*

Pastor Ron, you accepted the task of serving as our Interim Pastor with faithfulness and compassion. You have proclaimed God's word, baptized, taught, announced God's forgiveness, and presided at the Lord's table. With the gospel you have comforted us in times of sickness, trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing in our joys and sorrows and walking with us through this transition, you and your family have been important to our life together here at Lord of Life. Today we give thanks for your service as Pastor in our midst, and we pray for God's blessing as we say farewell for now.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the ministry of Pastor Ron among the people of God in this place. We thank you for the ways he has enriched this congregation and shared his gifts, and for walking with us during this transition. We give you thanks for Pastor Kirsten's willingness to accept the call to serve among us. Encourage us to live with hope and gladness in the future you give to us. Bless and preserve us all in our communion as children of God, guard and guide us in our shared ministries, grant us joy in service, and peace in your presence.

**Amen.**

*Invite Evie and Bill, and Susan, to come forward (to present and receive a special gift).*