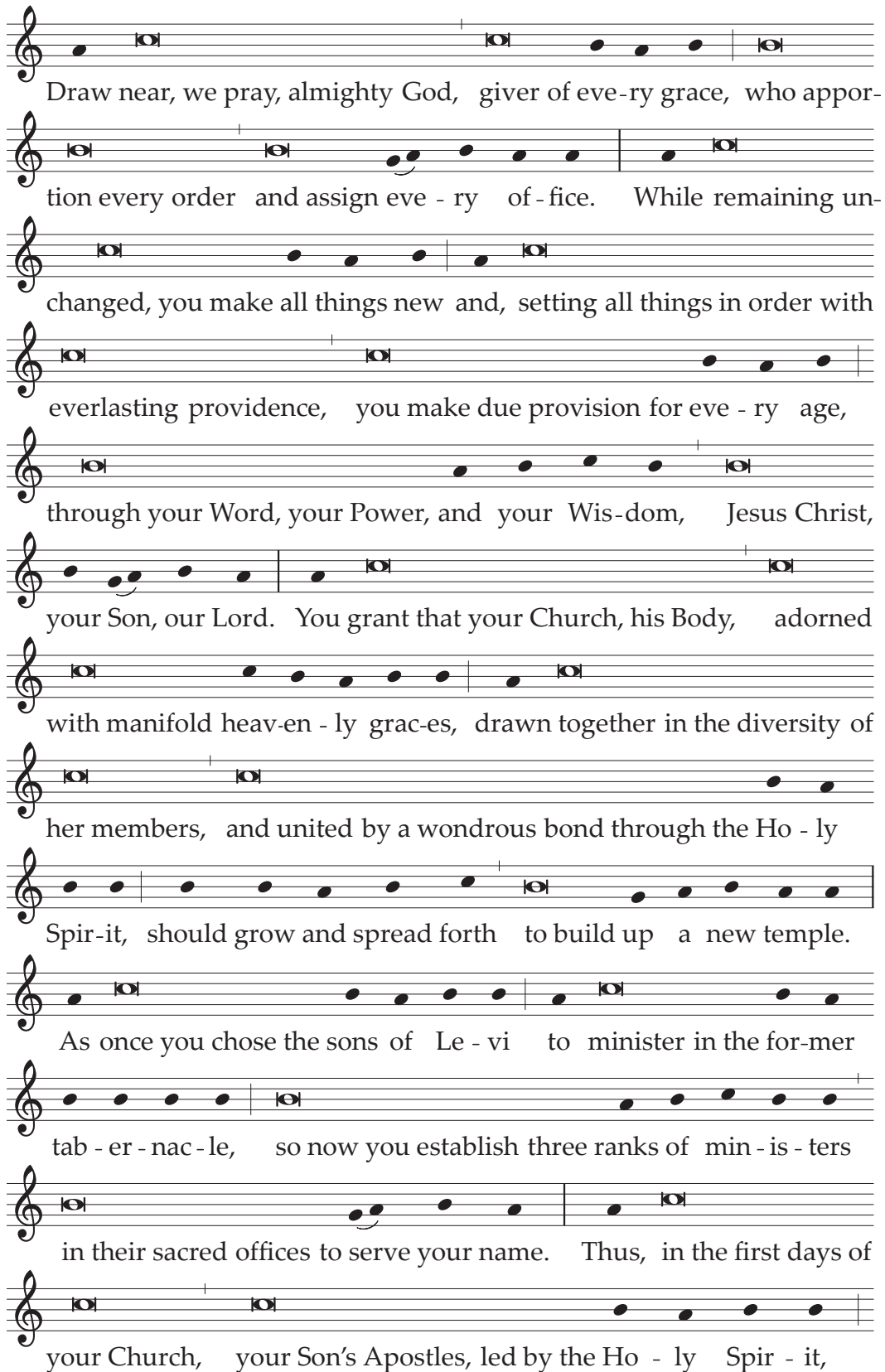


THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS

Prayer of Ordination of One Deacon

(Chapter III, no. 235)



Draw near, we pray, almighty God, giver of eve-ry grace, who appor-
tion every order and assign eve - ry of - fice. While remaining un-
changed, you make all things new and, setting all things in order with
everlasting providence, you make due provision for eve - ry age,
through your Word, your Power, and your Wis-dom, Jesus Christ,
your Son, our Lord. You grant that your Church, his Body, adorned
with manifold heav-en - ly grac-es, drawn together in the diversity of
her members, and united by a wondrous bond through the Ho - ly
Spir-it, should grow and spread forth to build up a new temple.
As once you chose the sons of Le - vi to minister in the for-mer
tab - er - nac - le, so now you establish three ranks of min - is - ters
in their sacred offices to serve your name. Thus, in the first days of
your Church, your Son's Apostles, led by the Ho - ly Spir - it,

ap-pointed seven men of good repute to help them in the dai - ly
 min - is - try, so that they might de - vote themselves more fully to
 prayer and the preaching of the word. By prayer and the laying
 on of hands they entrusted to these cho - sen men the ministry of
 serving at ta - ble. Look favorably also on this your servant, we pray,
 O Lord, whom we humbly dedicate to serve at your ho - ly al - tars
 in the office of the Di - ac - onate.
 Send forth the Holy Spirit upon him, O Lord, we pray, that he may
 be strengthened by the gift of your sev - en - fold grace to carry out
 faithfully the work of the min - is - try.
 May every evangelical virtue abound in him: unfeigned love, con -
 cern for the sick and the poor, un - assuming authority, the puri - ty
 of in - nocence, and the ob - servance of spir - it - ual dis - ci - pline.

May your precepts shine forth in his conduct, that by the example of
his man-ner of life he may inspire the im - i - ta-tion of your ho - ly
peo-ple. In offering the witness of a good conscience, may he
remain firm and stead-fast in Christ, so that, imitating your Son
on earth, who came not to be served but to serve, he may be found
wor-thy to reign with him in heaven. Who lives and reigns with
you in the unity of the Ho - ly Spir-it, God, for ev - er and ev - er.
All:
A - men.

The English translation and chants of *Ordination of a Bishop, of Priests, and of Deacons*
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