### PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE COMMISSIONING SERVICE

***Prelude***

 ***Opening Song:*** *“The Church’s One Foundation” (Baptist Hymnal, 1991, p. 350)*

***Welcome and Explanation of Service:[[1]](#footnote-1)\**** (Transitional Interim Pastor orChairman of Deacons) ***Responsive Reading***

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| ***Church Spokesperson:***  | *God has saved us and called us with a holy calling according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began. (II Tim. 1:9)*  |
| ***Search Committee:***  | *And all things are of God, who has reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation. (II Cor. 5:18)* |
| ***Congregation:***  | *For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son so that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*  *(John 3:16)*  |
| ***Church Spokesperson:***  | *Jesus said, “I will build My church and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” (Mt.* *16:18b)* |
| ***Search Committee:***  | *For we are “members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ, Himself being the chief cornerstone”. (Eph. 2:19b-20)* |
| ***Congregation:*** | *And may “the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. (Eph. 1:17)*  |

***Church Spokesperson:*** *“In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and**Saul for the work to which I have called them.” So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 13:1-4)*

***Congregation:*** *This service is our endorsement and commissioning of the members of this committee. We send them out with our blessings, and we covenant to pray for them and with them as they seek God’s leader for our church.*

***Search Committee:*** *We accept our assignment, under God, and understand that we are representatives both of Christ and this church.*

 ***Congregation:*** *We thank God for these who will represent us on our Pastor Committee.*

***Search Committee:*** *We confess our feelings of inadequacy to meet the challenge before us. Church family, please pray for us, that we may be led by the Holy Spirit as we seek to fulfill the task of finding God’s man to be our next pastor.*

**“Lord, Be Glorified”**

*In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, In my life, Lord, be glorified today In my work, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, In my work, Lord, be glorified today.*

*In Your Church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, In Your Church, Lord, be glorified, today.*

**The Sacrament of Encouragement**

***Church Spokesperson:*** *God tells us that it is our responsibility to be faithful in our service to Him and His Church. Being a faithful member of our Pastor Search Committee involves:*

1. *Daily communication with God*
2. *Dedication to the task that God has called you to*
3. *Dependence upon the leadership of the Holy Spirit*
4. *Diligence in your work*
5. *Determination to find God’s man to shepherd our flock*

***Church Spokesperson:*** *God is the basis for your spiritual strength. Will you communicate with Him daily through Bible reading and prayer?*

 ***Pastor Search Committee:*** *We will, with God’s help.*

***Church Spokesperson:*** *During the fulfillment of your assignment, will you have respect for one another, lay personal agendas aside, disagree in love, and support one another as brothers and sisters in Christ?*

***Pastor Search Committee:*** *We will, with God’s help.*

***Church Spokesperson:*** *Will you try to give expression to the spirit of Christ in all your relations with others; will you permit His influence to be felt in your work; and will you search for His will and let it be done throughout this process?*

***Pastor Search Committee*** *We will, with God’s help.*

 ***Church Spokesperson:*** *Colossians 4:2-4*

*This is God’s command to those of us who stay behind and serve. We must be faithful in under girding these with our interest and prayer support, asking continually that God will provide witnessing opportunities for them.*

*(To the congregation): If you will join me in this commitment of support, will you stand?*

***Church Spokesperson and Congregation:*** *(To the Pastor Search Committee):*

*We the members of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, pledge to you our continuing interest and prayer support. When we pray, we will ask God to lead and bless you. We will ask Him to give you guidance, wisdom, and patience to be effective. We will also ask Him to bless those men of God with whom you make contact.*

 ***Church Spokesperson:*** *Prayer for the Pastor Search Committee*

 ***Closing Song:*** *“We Are God’s People” (Baptist Hymnal, 1991, p. 383)*

 ***Closing Prayer***

 ***Postlude***

1. \* The Church at Antioch, led by the Spirit of God, understood the importance of taking the gospel to the Gentiles. In response to God’s leadership, the congregation selected Paul and Barnabas and commissioned them to go out from the church to serve God’s purpose. Paul and Barnabas had a special assignment and the church blessed both them and the assignment by sending them out as their representatives. Our Search Committee has been given a special assignment. Our congregation, led by the Spirit of God, has selected them for the purpose of seeking God’s will in the calling of our next pastor. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)