

## Goodbye Liturgy:

### **Leader:**

Our church family is ever changing.  
Loved ones are born into the family  
and loved ones come to the end of their lives.  
Individuals come and go in our church life.  
It is important and right  
that we recognize these times of passage,  
of endings and beginnings.  
Today we celebrate the gifts  
you have brought to us through our pastor.  
Hear Paul's words written to the Ephesians:

Each of us was given grace  
according to the measure of Christ's gift.  
The gifts the Spirit gave were  
that some would be apostles, some prophets,  
some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,  
to equip the saints for the work of ministry,  
for building up the body of Christ,  
until all of us come to the unity of the faith  
and of the knowledge of the Son of God,  
to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Today we share in a liturgy of farewell with Dayna who arrived as our pastor at Woody Nook in January of 2014 and was ordained on March 22, 2015 and today her time as our pastor comes to an end.

At your installation as the minister of Word and sacrament of this congregation, we heard this Scripture and we made vows to one another.  
You were charged  
to proclaim the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,  
to instruct us from the Word of God,  
to admonish us, to comfort us, to reprove us.  
You promised to administer the sacraments,  
to share responsibility for our mutual Christian growth,  
and to exercise Christian love and discipline.  
You were charged to be a loyal witness here in Woodynook CRC and to further the mission of God's church in the world.

### **People:**

**We, in turn, promised  
to receive the Word of truth you proclaimed  
and to accept the pastoral care you provided.  
We promised to encourage you and pray for you,  
to participate and work with you, and to financially care for you.**

Leader:

Paul's words remind us today, even as he reminded the Ephesians:  
to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,  
with all humility and gentleness,  
with patience, bearing with one another in love,  
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit,  
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,  
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
one God and Father of all,  
who is above all and through all and in all.

Dayna:

I thank you, my sisters and brothers,  
for the love, kindness, and support shown me these past 7 and a half years.  
I am grateful for the ministry we have shared together.  
With joy I recall what we accomplished with God's help,  
And I ask your forgiveness for mistakes I made  
and for times I have fallen short.

**People:**

**We offer our forgiveness  
and celebrate all that God has accomplished among us.  
We are grateful for your ministry  
and for your influence on our lives.  
We ask your forgiveness for mistakes made  
and for times that we too have fallen short.**

Dayna:

I receive your gratitude  
and forgive your shortcomings.  
And I release you  
from the vows and promises made at my installation.  
I offer you my blessing as you  
continue to follow God's calling here.

**People:**

**We release you from your promises to us,  
and we offer you our blessing as you  
leave to follow God's calling elsewhere.**

Leader:

O God, you have bound us together for a time  
as pastor and people to work for your church in this place.  
We give you thanks for the ministry we have shared.

We give you thanks for your patience with us  
despite our slowness of heart.  
We thank you for your forgiveness and mercy when we have failed.

We especially thank you  
for your never-failing presence with us through these years,  
and for the deepened knowledge of you and of each other.

We give you thanks  
for those who have been joined  
to this part of Christ's family through baptism.  
We thank you for opening our hearts and minds  
again and again to your Word,  
and for feeding us abundantly at your table.  
We remember those who have gone before  
and we look with hope toward those who will come.

Now, we pray, be with this congregation as we continue forward, and with Dayna  
as she begins a new path.

Grant that all of us, by drawing closer to you,  
may always be close to each other in the communion of saints.  
All this we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

**People:**

**May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you  
wherever he may send you;  
may he guide you through the wilderness  
protect you through the storm;  
may he bring you home rejoicing  
at the wonders he has shown you;  
may he bring you home rejoicing  
once again into our doors.**