GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE

RETIREMENT SERVICE & CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2021
7 P.M.

Recorded by local congregations across the Great Plains Conference
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering                                   Paul Robinson, organist

Greeting and Invocation                         Nancy Flader

Hymn                                      “And Are We Yet Alive,” Wesley

Greeting by Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.

Recognition of the Retirees                  Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.

Bishop: Brothers and sisters in Christ, you came to us from congregations where the Spirit of the Lord was upon you; and you were charged to preach to the brokenhearted, to visit the captive, to anoint those who were bruised. These things you have done.

People: We thank God for the community of the faithful in which the Word of God found response. Countless persons have depended upon you for help.

Bishop: You heard the call of Jesus Christ to follow and serve; you responded by ministering to others. Through the years and in the providence of God, you have learned that both suffering and joy can be God's way of teaching and healing.

At your ordination you, who are elders, received authority to preach God's Word, to celebrate the Sacraments, and to Order the life of the Church.

At your ordination you, who are deacons, received authority to equip the people of God, and to embody the unity of the congregation's worship with its life in the world.

At your commissioning you, who are local pastors, have shared the Scriptures through preaching and teaching, caring for congregations, and by God's grace, did many things that seemed to be beyond your power.

People: We thank God that all of you were given the vision to be faithful. Death and illness have not come on schedule. The truth has not always been easy to preach. We know something of the grace by which you have lived and we thank God for your vision.

Bishop: Never think lightly of the great good that God has wrought through you. Continue to be true to your calling. May God's love and power be with you always. Let us pray together...

People: God of grace, you filled your servants with the vision. You empowered your servants with your Spirit. We give thanks for the ministry of these women and men and for the ways in which they have ministered to us. Give each of them a sense of your abiding presence, that they may continue to love and serve you, and ever grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Anthem

The Pinning                                 Rena Yocum

Recognition of the Retirees

Versicle

Closing Song                                 “Will the Circle Be Unbroken”
                                          Great Plains Retirement Celebration Version
                                          Asbury UMC Music Team, Prairie Village, KS

Dismissal with Blessing                       Charles Benton

Postlude                                     Bryan Mock


Ernest, Robert “Rob” - Great Plains: Richmond-Princeton 2016; Lecompton 2017; Retired 2021


Gill, Sarah - Great Plains: Morganville-Green 2016; Retired 2020

Goltry, Donna - (Kansas West 2013 PE; Great Plains 2018 FE) Kansas West: School Wesley 2013. Great Plains: Madison-Norfolk Westridge 2014; Retired 2021

Harmon, Kathy - Great Plains: Lawrence Centenary-Linwood, KS 2017; Harveyville, KS 2018; Retired 2021

Hopwood, Linda - Great Plains: Baldwin City: Ives Chapel 2019; Retired 2021


Olson, Doug - Great Plains: Omaha St. Paul 2014; Deerfield-Lydia 2015; Weeping Water-Newawaka 2019; Retired 2021


Saddler, Becky - Nebraska: Arapahoe-Beaver City 2013. Great Plains: Retired 2021


