

RESOURCE 6

COMMISSIONING OF SELF-STUDY OR
DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Warden* I present to you these persons to serve on the Discernment (Self-Study) Committee of _____ [Name of Church].
- Priest* Are these persons whom you present prepared by a commitment to Christ, by regular attendance at worship, and by commitment to this responsibility to exercise their ministry to the honor of God and the well-being of God's church?
- Warden* I believe they are.
- Priest* To you who have been called to serve on the Discernment (Self-Study) Committee in this congregation, as long as you are engaged in this work, will you perform it with diligence, love, and patience?
- Candidates* I will.
- Antiphon (said in unison)*
You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servants whom I have chosen.
- V* Give thanks to the holy and life-giving God.
R Make known the deeds of our Creator.
- Priest* Let us pray.
Have regard to our supplication, O gracious Lord, and confirm with your heavenly benediction your servants commissioned to serve on the Discernment (Self-Study) Committee of _____ Church, that with sincere devotion of mind and body they may offer acceptable service to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
- In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you, *N.*, as a member of the Discernment (Self-Study) Committee in this congregation.
- Committee Members* Eternal Light, shine in our hearts.
Eternal Power, be our strength.
Eternal Wisdom, guide us as we serve you.
Eternal Goodness, you have drawn us to your heart and united us in our desire to serve your holy will.
Now grant that with all our heart, and mind, and strength, we may evermore seek your face.
And finally, by your infinite love keep us in your holy presence, as we begin this phase of our Discernment Process; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. *Amen.**

* Adapted from Elizabeth Rankin Geitz, Marjorie A. Burke, and Ann Smith, eds., *Women's Uncommon Prayers* (Harrisburg: Morehouse Publishing, 2000), 326. Used with permission.