

## The Episcopal Church – Title III: Ministry Canons

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### Canon 4: Of Licensed Ministries

#### Sec. 1

*Selection and license*

a. A confirmed communicant in good standing or, in extraordinary circumstances, subject to guidelines established by the Bishop, a communicant in good standing, may be licensed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to serve as Pastoral Leader, Worship Leader, Preacher, Eucharistic Minister, Eucharistic Visitor, Evangelist, or Catechist. Requirements and guidelines for the selection, training, continuing education, and deployment of such persons, and the duration of licenses shall be established by the Bishop in consultation with the Commission on Ministry.

b. The Presiding Bishop or the Bishop Suffragan for the Armed Forces of the United States, Veterans' Administration Medical Centers, and Federal Correctional Institutions may authorize a member of the Armed Forces to exercise one or more of these ministries in the Armed Forces in accordance with the provisions of this Canon. Requirements and guidelines for the selection, training, continuing education and deployment of such persons shall be established by the Bishop granting the license.

*Member of the Armed Forces*

#### Sec. 2

*Terms*

a. The Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith may request the Ecclesiastical Authority with jurisdiction to license persons within that congregation or other community of faith to exercise such ministries. The license shall be issued for a period of time to be determined under [Canon III.4.1.a](#) and may be renewed. The license may be revoked by the Ecclesiastical Authority upon request of or upon notice to the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

b. In renewing the license, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall consider the performance of the ministry by the person licensed, continuing education in the licensed area, and the endorsement of the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith in which the person is serving.

*Renewal*

c. A person licensed in any Diocese under the provisions of this Canon may serve in another congregation or other community of faith in the same or another Diocese only at the invitation of the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight, and with the consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority in whose jurisdiction the service will occur.

**Sec. 3.** A Pastoral Leader is a lay person authorized to exercise pastoral or administrative responsibility in a congregation under special circumstances, as defined by the Bishop.

*Pastoral Leader*

**Sec. 4.** A Worship Leader is a lay person who regularly leads public worship under the direction of the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

*Worship Leader*

**Sec. 5.** A Preacher is a lay person authorized to preach. Persons so authorized shall only preach in congregations under the direction of the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

*Preacher*

**Sec. 6.** A Eucharistic Minister is a lay person authorized to administer the Consecrated Elements at a Celebration of Holy Eucharist. A Eucharistic Minister should normally act under the direction of a Deacon, if any, or otherwise, the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

*Eucharistic Minister*

**Sec. 7.** A Eucharistic Visitor is a lay person authorized to take the Consecrated Elements in a timely manner following a Celebration of Holy Eucharist to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, were unable to be present at the Celebration. A Eucharistic Visitor should normally act under the direction of a Deacon, if any, or otherwise, the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

*Eucharistic Visitor*

**Sec. 8.** A Catechist is a lay person authorized to prepare persons for Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows, and shall function under the direction of the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

*Catechist*

**Sec. 9.** An Evangelist is a lay person who presents the good news of Jesus Christ in such a way that people are led to receive Christ as Savior and follow Christ as Lord in the fellowship of the Church. An Evangelist assists with the community's ministry of evangelism in partnership with the Presbyter or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation, or as directed by the Bishop.

*Evangelist*

**Request for License of Non-ordained Persons to Serve as  
EUCHARISTIC MINISTER**

I request the Bishop of Iowa to license those persons listed here to serve as *EUCHARISTIC MINISTER – to administer the Consecrated Elements at a Celebration of Holy Eucharist* – within our congregation for a period of time not to exceed three years. In the case of **REQUESTS FOR RENEWAL**, due consideration has been given to the performance of the ministry by the person licensed, and continuing education in the licensed area. **Attached to this request is an outline of the training used to prepare those named below to serve as Eucharistic Minister.**

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
Date

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Member of Clergy/Leader with oversight of Congregation  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation

Check box to indicate RENEWAL; alphabetize by last name

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The following persons are **NO LONGER ACTIVE** as EUCHARISTIC MINISTER:  
**INACTIVE DATE** (Month/year)

_____	_____
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**Request for License of Non-ordained Persons to Serve as  
EUCHARISTIC VISITOR**

I request the Bishop of Iowa to license those persons listed here to serve as *EUCHARISTIC VISITOR* – to take the Consecrated Elements in a timely manner following a Celebration of Holy Eucharist to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, were unable to be present at the Celebration – within our congregation for a period of time not to exceed three years. In the case of **REQUESTS FOR RENEWAL**, due consideration has been given to the performance of the ministry by the person licensed, and continuing education in the licensed area. **I certify by my signature that all whose names appear below have participated in training on Prevention of Adult Sexual Harassment and Exploitation. Attached to this request is an outline of the training used to prepare those named below to serve as Eucharistic Visitor.**

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(signed)\_\_\_\_\_  
Member of Clergy/Leader with oversight of Congregation  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation

Check box to indicate RENEWAL; alphabetize by last name

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The following persons are **NO LONGER ACTIVE** as EUCHARISTIC VISITOR:  
**INACTIVE DATE** (Month/year)

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_____	_____

**Request for License of Non-ordained Persons to Serve as  
CATECHIST**

I request the Bishop of Iowa to license those persons listed here to serve as *CATECHIST* – to prepare persons for Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows – within our congregation for a period of time not to exceed three years. In the case of **REQUESTS FOR RENEWAL**, due consideration has been given to the performance of the ministry by the person licensed, and continuing education in the licensed area. **Attached to this request is an outline of the training used to prepare those named below to serve as Catechist.**

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(signed)\_\_\_\_\_  
Member of Clergy/Leader with oversight of Congregation  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation

Check box to indicate RENEWAL; alphabetize by last name

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The following persons are **NO LONGER ACTIVE** as CATECHIST:

INACTIVE DATE (Month/year)

_____	_____
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# Request for License of Non-ordained Persons to Serve as PREACHER

I request the Bishop of Iowa to license those persons listed here to serve as **PREACHER** – *to preach* – within our congregation for a period of time not to exceed three years. In the case of **REQUESTS FOR RENEWAL**, due consideration has been given to the performance of the ministry by the person licensed, and continuing education in the licensed area. **Attached to this request is an outline of the training used to prepare those named below to serve as Preacher.**

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
Date

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Member of Clergy/Leader with oversight of Congregation  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation

Check box to indicate *RENEWAL*; alphabetize by last name

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The following persons are **NO LONGER ACTIVE** as PREACHER:

**INACTIVE DATE (Month/year)**


**Request for License of Non-ordained Persons to Serve as  
PASTORAL LEADER**

I request the Bishop of Iowa to license those listed here to serve as *PASTORAL LEADER* – to exercise pastoral or administrative responsibility in our congregation under special circumstances, as defined in conversation with the Bishop (attach proposed ministry description) – for a period of time not to exceed three years. In the case of REQUESTS FOR RENEWAL, due consideration has been given to the performance of the ministry by the person licensed, and continuing education in the licensed area. **Attached to this request is an outline of the training used to prepare those named below to serve as Pastoral Leader.**

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
Date

(signed)\_\_\_\_\_  
Member of Clergy/Leader with oversight of Congregation  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation

Check box to indicate RENEWAL; alphabetize by last name

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The following persons are **NO LONGER ACTIVE** as PASTORAL LEADER:  
**INACTIVE DATE** (Month/year)

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**Request for License of Non-ordained Persons to Serve as  
WORSHIP LEADER**

I request the Bishop of Iowa to license those persons listed here to serve as **WORSHIP LEADER** – *to regularly lead public worship* – within our congregation for a period of time not to exceed three years. In the case of **REQUESTS FOR RENEWAL**, due consideration has been given to the performance of the ministry by the person licensed, and continuing education in the licensed area. **Attached to this request is an outline of the training used to prepare those named below to serve as Worship Leader.**

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
Date

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Member of Clergy/Leader with oversight of Congregation  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation

Check box to indicate *RENEWAL*; alphabetize by last name

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The following persons are **NO LONGER ACTIVE** as WORSHIP LEADER:

**INACTIVE DATE (Month/year)**

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