

June 9, 2015

Dear Grace Church Family and Friends,

On Saturday, I attended an ordination service for the Diocese of Virginia. A young woman who served as Youth Director at my previous parish, and with whom I worked very closely, was ordained to the transitional diaconate (meaning she will be ordained a priest in another 6 months or so).

It was a beautiful service, and I was honored to be one of the clergy presenting her for ordination. She is a very gifted individual and will be a blessing to the Church and the people she serves.

Afterwards, I was thinking of the many other wonderful people with whom I have worked in ministry. I have been fortunate to serve alongside fantastic colleagues, both clergy and lay people, who mentored me, supported me, laughed with me, and even tolerated me, all in the name of Jesus.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "A friend may well be reckoned the masterpiece of nature," and that may be particularly true for those friends at work who you can trust, turn to for help or advice, and help brighten each day.

I hope you have known colleagues like that. If you have, maybe it is time to let them know how much you appreciate their presence in your life. Maybe it is time to say: Thank You.

See you in church,
Andrew