

SERVICE OF APPRECIATION
For Our Retiring Bishops
Southeast Jurisdiction, United Methodist Church
July 14, 2016

G. Lindsey Davis, elected 1996
Larry M. Goodpaster, elected 2000
B. Michael Watson, elected 2000
James R. King, elected 2000
Young Jin Cho, elected 2012

Prelude -----

Call To Worship

Hymn of Affirmation “The Church’s One Foundation” No. 545 UMH

Greeting and Opening Prayer

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Friends, we are gathered here this day to worship God and to witness to
Our common faith and ministry by celebrating the ministry of
Bishop G. Lindsey Davis, Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster,
Bishop B. Michael Watson, Bishop James R. King, and
Bishop Young Jin Cho.

To God be all glory, honor, and praise.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Let us pray.

**Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to teach them to fish for
People, let Your sweet invitation continue to resound: Come,
follow Me! Give us the grace of responding quickly to Your voice.
Support our bishops, clergy, and all who consecrate their labors to**

the Lord. Hear our affirmation and gratitude for these who now retire from their active service, after having said “Yes” to the oversight of Your church. May we all be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry we have received. Amen.

Anthem “-----=-----” **Lake Junaluska Singers**

Prayer For Illumination

Almighty God, May Your Spirit, rest upon us in the reading and hearing of Your word. Grant us a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and strength, a spirit of knowledge and may our delight be the fear of the Lord! (cf. Is 11:2-3).

Psalm 40:4-11 **Blessed are those who trust the Lord**

Hebrews 5:1-10 **God will not overlook your work**

John 15:12-17 **I appointed you to bear fruit**

Litany of Calling and Recognition:

Expressions of Thanksgiving

The Episcopal Area, represented by a member of the conference in which the Bishop is presently serving, will offer a 60 second expression of gratitude which will acknowledge appreciation for each area in which the Bishop has served and thanksgiving for their Bishop’s ministry and service.

Prayers of Gratitude and Blessing

Hymn of Hope **“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”** **140 UMH**

Postlude -----