

9.3.7 Guidelines for a CV Induction Service

- Mention is made here of Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian traditions. Churches in the Congregational Union and Christian Churches NZ do not have a liturgical formula and need to be considered case-by-case.
- Some denominations may ordain and induct a minister – adaptations need to be made for this consideration.
- Notification and invitations to attend should be given as early as possible by the appointing church to all local church partners.
- The Appointing Partner leads the induction service and the Participating Partners should be visible throughout, and if there is a Regional Forum the chairperson or representative should participate.
- The Appointing Partner ensures that signed copies of the Letter of Appointment are sent to all local church partners and to the UCANZ office.
- Songs/hymns would be sung at appropriate times.
- The Lord’s Prayer and Prayers for the World are added where suitable.
- Opportunity for less formal welcome speeches may be given later in the service or following it.

1. A call to worship

This may consist of a welcome, a liturgical response, a hymn and procession, or some other feature. It is appropriate to acknowledge the partner church representatives at this point. Due consideration should be given to where they are seated so that partnership is symbolised in their participation.

2. A statement of purpose

This affirms the authority of the church in proceeding to the induction and may explain what it means to be a cooperative venture.

3. The presentation of the minister to be inducted

The minister may have a support group, and the congregation may give approval for the induction to proceed. The partner and family of the minister may also be acknowledged here.

4. Ministry of the Word – the reading of Scripture, a sermon.

Opportunity may be made for members of the local congregation and participating partners to share in this part of the service.

5. An affirmation of faith

This is the choice of the coordinating partner and/or the minister to be inducted.

- Apostle’s Creed
- Nicene Creed
- Kupu Whakapono (Presbyterian)
- We are not alone (United Church of Canada)

6. The induction

a. Acknowledging the call

This sets the scene for why the induction is happening.

- Anglicans may hear from the nominating committee.
- Presbyterians will share ‘the narrative’ – a report of the settlement board.

- b. Affirmation of the minister
The minister is asked to affirm their commitment to ministry and to work in the local church.
 - The Anglican Bishop questions the minister
 - The Methodist Superintendent questions the minister
 - The Presbyterian Moderator invites the minister to affirm their vows and to sign the Formula.
 - c. Affirmation of the local congregation
The local church affirms their acceptance of the minister.
The local church accepts their role in a partnership of ministry.
 - d. Signing of the Letter of Appointment and a Code of Ethics
Amendable copies of this are available on the UCANZ website. Any denominational documents are also signed at this point. The documents should be signed by partner representatives, a Regional Forum (if existing) representative, and by the local church.
 - e. Prayer
Prayer is offered for the minister, the local church, and the work to be done.
 - f. Acknowledgement
The induction is acknowledged.
 - The Bishop gives the Vicar's Licence.
 - The Presbytery (other clergy and sometimes the congregation) offer the right hand of fellowship in welcome.
7. Symbols of Ministry (optional)
Symbols of ministry are offered to the minister.
 - Chalice, paten, water, Bible, pastoral roll, oil, keys, map (or other symbol)
 8. Communion/Eucharist (optional)
The Lord's Supper may be celebrated, being aware of the ecumenical setting.
 9. Prayer
The minister may be invited to pray for the local church and the mission that it now undertakes.
The minister may informally respond to the welcome of the parish, introduce special guests, and share some of their vision.
 10. Sending Forth and Blessing
The congregation is sent into the community with God's blessing.
 - Presbyterians have traditionally given the inducted minister this task.

Some liturgical examples (modify to suit).

1. Call to Worship

We gather in the name of Christ,
to worship and belong.

**In Jesus there are no barriers,
we are one by the grace of God
and by the power of the Spirit.**

All are called to the ministry of Christ,
to follow and serve in his way.

**We are called to serve with our gifts,
that the Good News may be spoken.**

2. Purpose

[Local Church name] exists as a partnership of the *Anglican/Presbyterian/Methodist/Christian Churches/Congregational Union* churches in this community. The *Diocese/Presbytery/Synod/Conference/Assembly*, as Coordinating Partner, acts with the partner churches in *[ordaining and]* inducting a new minister to serve this local church.

3. Presentation

The minister is brought forward by local church leader(s).

(Bishop/Moderator/Superintendent) we bring [minister's name] to be inducted to this local church by the (diocese/presbytery/synod) on behalf of the partner churches in this Cooperative Venture.

6a. Acknowledging the call

This local church is a partnership of *Anglican/Methodist/Presbyterian/Christian Churches/Congregational Union* and on behalf of each partner we undertake this induction today. The call to *[minister's name]* has been discerned by him/herself, by the local church and by the partner church courts. On behalf of the local church partners, we now proceed to the induction.

6b. Affirmation of the minister

This local church is a cooperative venture, a partnership of the *[Anglican/Methodist/Presbyterian/Christian Churches NZ/Congregational Union]* churches. Do you affirm your willingness to participate in the life of the partner churches, affirming their traditions and upholding their character?

6c. Affirmation of the local congregation

Members of this *union/uniting/cooperating church/parish* you share a journey of faith that is ecumenical and partnership based. You now begin a new partnership in ministry with *[minister's name]*.

Do you affirm her/his call to minister in this local church?

Will you support her/him through your prayers, presence and practical help?

6e. Prayer for the local church and minister

We pray for the witness of this local church, *[name]*, as it works in and for this community. May the Spirit guide the parish council in their governance role, may the people find encouragement in each other, in their worship and in their service.

We pray for *[minister's name]*, newly appointed minister of *[church name]*. May your Spirit enliven this ministry, bringing insight to her/his proclamation of the Word, compassion to her/his pastoral care, and challenge in her/his tasks as prophet and leader.

We pray for the partner churches of this local ecumenical expression. Be with the leadership and members of [*the Diocese/Presbytery/Synod ...*] as they work in this region, and with the national church courts and leaders. May the church continue to find its unity in Christ.

6e. Signing of documents

As a Cooperative Venture appointment ministers sign a Code of Ethics that outline their responsibilities as a pastor. They also sign a Letter of Appointment that affirms their call and requires a review of ministry by all the partner churches within five years. Those that sign these documents recognise the partnership nature of this ministry and agree to work together for the church of Christ.

9. Sending Forth

Leader: In worship we have united together in faith.

People: **We have sung together, prayed together,
and shared together in the Word of God.**

Leader: Now we are called to go in mission.

People: **In the name of Christ we go,
to proclaim the Good News,
to serve our community,
and to bring new hope to the world.**

Leader: May grace be full in your lives,
may love be the centre of your action,
and may peace be in your communion together.

People: **So may it be. Amen.**