

AN ORDER OF FAREWELL

Lay Leader 1:

*The church is a family.
United by the common recognition of Jesus Christ as our Savior,
we are all brothers and sisters.
And, for a time, Faith United Methodist Church is our home.
Like every human family,
our church family is formed and reformed over time:
as members are born, as members die,
as members are adopted into our family,
and as they leave our congregation for a new church home.*

Lay Leader 2:

*For a season, Pastor Kathryn and Don have been with us.
We have shared with each other good times and bad,
we have shared each other's joys and sorrows,
we have lightened each other's heavy loads.
Together we have laughed and cried,
together we have worshiped and praised God,
together we have lived.*

Pastor Kathryn:

I thank you,
the members and friends of Faith United Methodist Church,
for the love and support you have shown me
while I have ministered among you these past 11 years.
I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted.
I ask you to forgive me for the mistakes I have made.
As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.



Congregation:

**We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness,
and accept that you now leave to serve
Damascus United Methodist Church.
We give God thanks for your time among us and
we ask your forgiveness for our mistakes.
Your influence on our faith and faithfulness
will not leave with your departure.**

Pastor Kathryn:

I accept your gratitude and forgiveness, and I forgive you,
trusting that our time together and our parting
are pleasing to God.
I release you from turning to me and depending on me.
I encourage your continuing ministry here through Faith,
and I will pray for you and for your new pastor,
Rev. Wayne Chung.

**We feel sorrow in your leaving, yet we rejoice with you in
anticipation of this new phase of your life and ministry.
We will miss your love and support, yet we know you will add
much to the lives of your new congregation,
as you have added much to our lives.
As we say goodbye, we will prepare our hearts
to receive and to welcome our new pastor,
Rev. Wayne Chung.**

Lay Leaders:

Let us all pray together:
**Eternal God,
whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting,
we give you thanks for cherished memories
and commend one another into your care
as we move in new directions.
Keep us one in your love forever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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