



FOUNDATION CHURCH  
SACRED  
ORDINATION

JANUARY TWENTY SIXTH TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

**11025 GUY R. BREWER BOULEVARD | JAMAICA, NEW YORK**

REV. RODERICK R. CAESAR, III, LEAD PASTOR

DR. RODERICK R. CAESAR, INTERNATIONAL BISHOP & CHIEF PRELATE, BGTFI

# THE OFFICIAL VESTMENTS

BETHEL GOSPEL TABERNACLE FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

*As a policy for Bethel Gospel Tabernacle Fellowship International, it is our custom that all pastors, ministers and deacons, be fully vested during special ordination, licensing and elevation sacred services or when the International Bishop, Chief Prelate, Dr. Roderick R. Caesar, advises otherwise.*

## AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE VESTMENTS

The word *vestment* is from the Latin, and signifies *simply clothing*, but it is now used generally to denote the garments worn by the ministers of religion in the performance of their sacred duties. They are the uniform of the minister when he is “on duty,” while he is exercising the functions of his ministry and using the sacred blessings which he received at his ordination. Vestments are not like costumes in a theatre, but rather are worn in worship when we come together in the presence of the living God. Vestments are worn when fulfilling an official function or office.

## WHY WEAR VESTMENTS?

Like other elements in the church, such as the altar, stained glass windows, the cross, musical instruments and so on, vestments add a rich and colorful element to the celebration of a sacred service. A vestment can help cover over the identity of the persons wearing them. We cannot, for example, tell whether a person is rich or poor by the clothes they wear hidden under their vestments. In this way a person’s wealth, status and personal idiosyncrasies can disappear behind the Lord they serve. In worship our Lord must increase, we must decrease (*John 3:30*).

## ORIGINS

Many of the Church’s vestments have their origin in the everyday wear of the Roman Empire. The clergy maintained the simple clothes it had always worn. Over time their clothes were so out of date that they did not resemble everyday wear at all and they became the distinctive mark of the clergy. Many of the vestment’s symbolic meanings evolved later.

In the Middle Ages, two popular interpretations of the meaning of the vestments arose. The most prevalent one interpreted the vestments as symbols of Jesus’ passion: the cincture, the ropes and fetters which bound Him during the scourging. The other popular interpretation focused on the vestments in their symbols of the minister as the soldier of Christ doing battle against sin and Satan.

**The Cassock**, or soutane, is an item of Christian clerical clothing used by the clergy of Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Anglican and Reformed churches, among others. “Ankle-length garment” is the literal meaning of the corresponding Latin term, *vestis talaris*. The single-breasted cassock worn by Anglicans has thirty-nine buttons rather than the Roman complement of thirty-three, some-

times light-heartedly suggested as signifying the 39 stripes Jesus bore for us. Spiritually, the cassock reminds the minister of the charity of Christ: “Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect” (*Colossians, 3:14*).

**The Cincture** is the proper name for the girdle worn around the waist to bind the cassock closely to the body. (*Exod. 29:9 - ...and you shall gird [Aaron and his sons] with sashes and tie headdresses on them; and the priesthood shall be theirs by a perpetual ordinance.*) The two ends that hang down by the side have silk fringes. It symbolizes having truth encircling your inward being (*Eph 6:14*).

**The Deacon’s Stole**, traditionally, was crisscrossed on the chest of the deacon to symbolize the cross. It is worn across the sides with a closure in place signifying the piercing of our Lord. The stole reminds the deacon not only of his authority and dignity as a deacon but also of his duty to preach the Word of God with courage and conviction (*Hebrews 4:12*) and to serve the needs of the faithful, the needy and the less fortunate.

**The plain Clerical Shirt/blouse** worn today by the clergy is a remnant of the longer cassock.

**The Clerical Collar** worn by clergy evolved in the seventeenth century. The modern clerical collar of today comes from the starched collars of the nineteenth century and symbolizes being yolked to Christ.

**Liturgy:** The word liturgy comes from a Greek term meaning “public work” or “work done on behalf of the people.” Liturgy always referred to an organized community. A work, then, done by an individual or a group was a liturgy on behalf of the larger community. All the worshipers are expected to participate actively in each liturgy, for this is holy work, not entertainment or a spectator event. Every liturgical celebration is an action of Christ the High Priest and of His Mystical Body, which is the Church. It therefore requires the participation of the people of God in the work of God.

Liturgy is centered on the Holy Trinity. At every liturgy the action of worship is directed to God the Father, from whom all blessings come, through the Son in the unity of the Holy Spirit. We praise the Father who first called us to be His people by sending us His Son as our Redeemer and giving us the Holy Spirit so that we can continue to gather, to remember what God has done for us, and to share in the blessings of salvation.

# THE ORDER OF SACRED SERVICE

## MUSICAL PRELUDE

Bro. Winchel St. Fleur

## THE PROCESSIONAL

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

## THE INVOCATION

Rev. Harry Armand | *Foundation Church, NY*

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Pastor Roderick R. Caesar, III | *Lead Pastor, Foundation Church*

## THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

OLD TESTAMENT | Jeremiah 1: 4 - 10 | Rev. Dr. Stephen Samuel | *Westbury Gospel Tabernacle, Long Island, NY*

THE PSALMS | Psalm 1:1 - 6 | Pastor Curl Oral Hazell | *Agape Fellowship Christian Center, GA*

NEW TESTAMENT | Matthew 5: 13 - 16 | Pastor David Anderson | *RH Ministries Online*

THE EPISTLES | Philippians 2: 5 - 10 | Pastor John Sherrod | *Foundation Church*

## THE NICENE CREED

Rev. Dr. Kevin Page | *Foundation Church, NY*

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And we believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Note: By One Catholic and Apostolic Church is signified "The blessed company of all faithful people in Christ ; by One Baptism for the remission of sins, is signified The Baptism of the Holy Ghost.*

## THE PEOPLE STAND TO SING

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

## THE HOMILY

Bishop Sheldon Ferguson | *Mt. Olivet Gospel Church, NY*

## OFFERTORY

# THE ORDER OF SACRED SERVICE, CONTINUED

## PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Pastor Roderick R. Caesar, III | *Foundation Church, NY*

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## CHARGE TO THE CANDIDATES

Bishop Roderick R. Caesar | *Chief Prelate & Presiding Bishop*

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## CONSECRATION OF LICENSED MINISTERS

Sis. Stefanie Caesar, Sis. Natasha Ferguson, Sis. Claudine Fortune, Dr. Renee Freeman, Dr. Vincent Lewis,  
Sis. Alicia Nichols, Sis. Beatrice Page

## INSTRUCTION & PRAYER OF THE LICENSED MINISTERS

Pastor Roderick Caesar, III

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## CONSECRATION & INTERVIEW OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

Min. Sherri Adeosun, Min. Sunday Adeosun, Min. Andrea Barrett, Min. Roosevelt Cooper, Min. Alecia Jones,  
Min. William West, Dea. Dr. Milton Williams

## INSTRUCTION, PRAYER & LAYING ON OF HANDS OF THE ORDAINED MINISTERS

Pastor Roderick Caesar, III

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## CONSECRATION & INTERVIEW OF PASTORS ELECT

Rev. Renee Dedmon (*Clergy Overseer & CARE Pastor*), Rev. Shanekwa Hicks (*Christian Education Pastor*),  
Rev. Carl Phipps (*Corporate Music Pastor*)

## INSTRUCTION, PRAYER & LAYING ON OF HANDS OF THE ASSOCIATE & BGTFI PASTORS

Pastor Roderick Caesar, III

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## FORMAL CORPORATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Roderick Caesar, III & Bishop Roderick R. Caesar

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## DOXOLOGY

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## BENEDICTION

Rev. Cecily Turner | *Foundation Church, NY*

# THE INTERVIEWS

## THE INTERVIEW OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

**MINISTER:** Have you prayerfully considered the responsibilities and obligations which the office you are called to fill carries with it?  
**RESPONSE: YES, WE HAVE.**

**MINISTER:** Will you be ready with all faithful diligence, to teach & preach the Word of God without compromise? **RESPONSE: YES, WE WILL.**

**MINISTER:** Will you be diligent in prayer and in the reading of the Holy Scriptures? **RESPONSE: YES, WE WILL.**

**MINISTER:** Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourself and your own family according to the Doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourself and them, as much as in you lies, examples and patterns to the flock of Christ? **RESPONSE: WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO DO SO, THE LORD BEING OUR HELPER.**

**MINISTER:** Will you maintain quietness, peace, and love among all Christian people, and especially among them that are or shall be committed to your charge? **RESPONSE: WE WILL DO SO, THE LORD BEING OUR HELPER.**

**MINISTER:** Will you promise that, always seeking divine help, you will faithfully perform the duties of the office, studiously endeavoring to learn and to do the things that will make for peace, purity and spiritual growth to those over which you are called to govern? **RESPONSE: WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO DO SO, THE LORD BEING OUR HELPER.**

**BISHOP:** Forasmuch as you have declared your willingness to accept the office to which you have been called, and have promised to faithfully perform its duties, you are now by the laying on of hands with the earnest prayer for God's blessing formally ordained as a minister.

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## THE INTERVIEW OF ASSOCIATE PASTORS-ELECT

**MINISTER:** Have you prayerfully considered the responsibilities and obligations which the office of Associate Pastor of Foundation Church carries with it? **RESPONSE: YES, WE HAVE.**

**MINISTER:** Will you be ready with all faithful diligence, to teach & preach the Word of God without compromise? **RESPONSE: YES, WE WILL.**

**MINISTER:** Will you be diligent in prayer, fasting and in the reading of the Holy Scriptures? **RESPONSE: WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO DO SO, THE LORD BEING OUR HELPER.**

**MINISTER:** Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourself and your own family according to the Doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourself and them, as much as in you lies, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ? **RESPONSE: WE WILL, THE LORD BEING OUR HELPER.**

**MINISTER:** Because there is strength in unity, will you promise that, always seeking divine help, you will endeavor to maintain quietness, peace, spiritual growth and love among all Christian people, and especially among them that are or shall be committed to your charge? **RESPONSE: WE WILL DO SO, THE LORD BEING OUR HELPER.**

**MINISTER:** Are you willing to faithfully discipline yourself to maintain emotional, mental and physical purity at all times? **RESPONSE: WITH THE HELP OF THE LORD, WE WILL.**

**MINISTER:** Will you uphold the Biblical standards set by your forefathers, ensuring that godliness is displayed in your conduct?  
**RESPONSE: WITH THE HELP OF THE LORD, WE WILL.**

**MINISTER:** Will you be faithful to uphold the truths found in God's Holy Word in this Post-Christian era? **RESPONSE: WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO DO SO, THE LORD BEING OUR HELPER.**

**MINISTER:** Are you certain with a strong resolve that this sacred office you are about to enter was sanctioned in your spirit by the Holy Spirit and approved and observed by your spiritual leader? **RESPONSE: WE ARE CERTAIN.**

**BISHOP:** Forasmuch as you have declared your willingness to accept the office of Associate Pastor of this assembly, to which you have been called, and have promised to faithfully perform its duties, you are now by the laying on of hands, with the earnest prayer for God's blessing, formally installed as an Associate Pastor of Foundation Church

# THE CANDIDATES



SHERRI ADEOSUN



SUNDAY ADEOSUN



ANDREA BARRETT



STEFANIE CAESAR



ROOSEVELT COOPER



RENEE DEDMON



NATASHA FERGUSON



CLAUDINE FORTUNE



RENEE FREEMAN



SHANEKWA HICKS



ALECIA JONES



VINCENT LEWIS



ALICIA NICHOLS



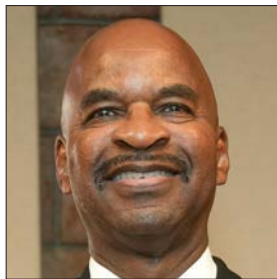
BEATRICE PAGE



CARL PHIPPS



WILLIAM WEST



MILTON WILLIAMS



## BISHOP SHELDON FERGUSON

Sheldon Blair Ferguson is one of six children born to the late Bishop James and the late Rev. Sylvia Ferguson. His foundation was implanted at Mt. Olivet Gospel Church in Corona, NY. He is currently the president of the Corona/East Elmhurst Clergy Association. A graduate of the Bethel Bible Institute, he also attended The Mt. Olivet School of Ministry in joint relationship with Oral Roberts University and received his Doctoral Degree from The House of Refuge Theological Seminary. In June 2010, he was installed as an Associate Pastor at Mt. Olivet and in 2012 as the Senior Pastor. In 2015, he was consecrated to the Bishopric and was elected to serve as overseer of the Mt. Olivet Gospel Church, Inc. and several churches located in Liberia, West Africa. Sheldon and his wife of over 40 years, Sherley, are the proud parents of two sons, two daughters-in-love, and three grandchildren. Bishop Sheldon and family solicit your prayers as they remain steadfast as a team impacting the lives of God's people at home and abroad.

## ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all. [2x]

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all. [2x]

Let every tribe and every tongue before Him prostrate fall  
And shout in universal song the crowned Lord of all. [2x]

## GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father; There is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

**Great is thy faithfulness, Great is thy faithfulness, Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hast provided; Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.**

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Blessings all mine and ten thousand beside.



## A GENUINE NOTE OF THANKS

### **FROM PASTOR RODERICK & THE LEADERSHIP OF FOUNDATION CHURCH**

We are indebted to you for your support and the visible display of your vote of confidence to this ministry and to the candidates. As we strive to fulfill the mandate God has on this church and the lives of its members, continue to uphold us in prayer. Our heritage is rich and we endeavor to maintain the divine order God has on this rich church through our founder, Bishop Roderick R. Caesar, Sr.

### **FROM THE CANDIDATES**

To our family, friends, and special guests who traveled from far and near to share this day with us, we say thank you. Your sacrifice of time and your expressions of love have encouraged our hearts. Continue to keep us in your prayers as we strive, by God's grace, to uphold the standard of God's Word and the rich legacy of this church.