**Affirmation of a New Member**

**& The Right Hand of Fellowship**

Chair of the Board of Deacons: Today, with great joy, we welcome a new member into our church family. As Sarah is willing to make a commitment to this Christian community, we are mindful that we, as a congregation, also enter into this commitment with her. As you receive her, do you promise before God and in his presence to offer her your love, support, and encouragement as she grows in her Christian life and commitment?

**The Congregation shall answer: We do.**

Chair: Will you both challenge her and be challenged by her? Will you listen as she shares her dreams and visions with you?

**The Congregation shall answer: We will.**

Chair: For as in one body, we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts

that differ according to the grace given to us. (Romans 12:4-6a)

Sarah, do you promise to be a faithful follower of Jesus Christ and

to serve him gladly in this congregation?

***Sarah: I do.***

Chair: Will you share with us your gifts, your talents, who you are so that together we might do the work of God?

***Sarah: I will.***

*Pastor Sharon: Dear Lord, we thank you this day for the Sarah’s faith. As she joins together with this Christian community, may she find in our midst Your welcome and love. May we serve You and continue to grow in faith together. Amen.*

Chair: In the name of Jesus Christ and on behalf of this congregation, we welcome you into the membership of this church and extend to you the right hand of fellowship.