

2024 Street Psalms Ordination Application

Thank you for your interest in becoming ordained with Street Psalms! Below, please find the information that will be required on your application. Complete applications (including two completed reference forms) are due by May 15, 2024. Submit your application at www.streetpsalms.org/ordination.

Questions? Email connect@streetpsalms.org.

Basic Information

First Name:

Last Name:

Email address:

City:

Role(s):

Denomination (if applicable):

Are you ordained with another community? If so, who?:

How have you engaged the Street Psalms Community? Select all that apply:

- Participation with weekly Lectionary Reflections
- Participation in a Preaching Peace Table
- Participation in monthly Commons
- Completed Making Peace with God Fellowship
- Participation in a Vision Trip
- Other (please indicate below)
- I have not yet engaged with the Street Psalms Community

Have you completed the [Incarnational Framework Self Assessment](#)?

Do you have any criminal record or credible accusations regarding legal, moral or sexual impropriety that we should be aware of and take into consideration in our discernment? Please tell us more, or write "none".

Short Response Questions

1. The Street Psalms community shares a common vision: to see cities of peace for all people. How does this vision align with your own vision? (150 words)
2. Street Psalms is a Community in Mission that shares a common call. We are called to free leaders from all walks of life. How does your call to free others to love and serve express itself? (150 words)
3. The Street Psalms community practices a shared methodology of formation. We don't just "teach" or "instruct." We help free people by inducting them into their own humanity as modeled by Jesus. We do this in community, over time and always in context. How does our incarnational methodology of formation match your own formational methodology? (150 words)
4. The Street Psalms community enjoys a shared sense of belonging. We belong to one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. Ordained members come from a wide variety of spiritual traditions. What spiritual tradition are you rooted in, and how do you understand and practice your sense of belonging to the Body of Christ? (150 words)
5. Street Psalms celebrates the shared practice of communion modeled for us by Jesus. We celebrate communion within our own contexts and traditions, and we share communion as often as we gather. It is a spiritual practice that demonstrates unity in the Body of Christ. As St. Augustine said, by celebrating communion we become what we receive. Describe your experience of "becoming what you receive" in communion and what practical difference it is making in your life. (150 words)
6. Street Psalms practices doing theology from below. We read the Scripture not "to," or "for," but "with" those who are at the margins, learning how to see and celebrate Good News in hard places. We do this not by asking "what does the text say" but by asking "through whose eyes do we read the text." Doing Theology from Below is the practice of reading the text through the eyes of the crucified/risen Christ with the power of the Spirit or what James Alison calls "the intelligence of the victim." How have you been taught to read the text and how does that inform your call as a formationist? (150 words)
7. Incarnational Framework: See, Do, Be, Free: Street Psalms engages a shared framework called the Incarnational Framework. It asks a series of questions concerning ways of seeing, doing and being that free us to love and serve. Together, as a community, we engage these questions and celebrate the breadth of answers within the beautiful and sometimes challenging diversity of our community. Interact with the questions of the framework and describe the shape of the freedom you are experiencing:

- a. See: How does Jesus' way of seeing call you out of scarcity into the liturgy of abundance? (150 words)
 - b. Do: How does Jesus' way of doing call you out of theory into embodied practice? (150 words)
 - c. Be: How does Jesus' way of being call you out of rivalry into peacemaking? (150 words)
 - d. Free: How does Jesus' way of seeing, doing and being free you to love and serve? (150 words)
8. Ordination Discernment: If ordained can you, with a free conscience, answer yes to the following questions? (Respond with Yes, Still Discerning, or No)
- a. Do you freely receive ordination with the support of your community?
 - b. Are you prepared to faithfully live out the call of freeing leaders to love and serve?
 - c. Are you prepared to do this within the rich and sometimes challenging diversity of our own community, as well as the diversity of our urban contexts?
 - d. Are you committed to nurturing life-giving perspectives and practices that sustain those who live and breathe good news in hard places?
 - e. As one who has experienced the Incarnational love of Christ who reconciles all things, are you committed to seeking peace and the underlying unity of all things?
 - f. As a vital member of the broader Street Psalms Community are you committed to undergoing the love of Christ and participating in the ongoing act of Creation through receiving and giving forgiveness?
 - g. Are you committed to a life of Action, Reflection and Discernment for the sake of the city and the most vulnerable?
 - h. Can you faithfully participate in a community in which we put the city and the most vulnerable at the center of our concern and celebrate the rich, sometimes challenging diversity that our community holds?

Your Story

9. Humans are narrative creatures. We don't just tell stories, we are the stories we tell. Knowing that our stories are always unfolding, tell your life story in seven words (which is one more word than Hemingway used in this example: "For sale: baby shoes, never worn.").
10. In one sentence, please share a prayer that is helping name your deepest desires related to ordination and discern your call to ordination.

References

Please provide two references (name and email address). They should be people who are familiar with your commitment and calling to the place you serve (this could also be someone among the community already ordained by Street Psalms). They will receive a link to a brief reference form that must be completed by May 15, 2024.