



— Diocese of —  
**Hereford**

Proclaiming Christ ✦ Growing Disciples



# 2025 Visitations

Hereford Archdeaconry

[www.hereford.anglican.org](http://www.hereford.anglican.org)



# Welcome

(by the Rural Dean or Parish Priest)

We stand to sing.

## Hymn: Tell out, my soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:  
unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name:  
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:  
pow'rs and dominions lay their glory by;  
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word:  
firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith*

*(Tune: 10 10 10 10, 'Woodlands')*

*Please be seated.*

<i>Archdeacon</i>	O God, make speed to save us.
<i>All</i>	<b>O Lord, make haste to help us.</b>
<i>Archdeacon</i>	If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
<i>All</i>	<b>if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.</b>
<i>Archdeacon</i>	Yesterday I was crucified with Christ;
<i>All</i>	<b>today I am glorified with him.</b>
<i>Archdeacon</i>	Yesterday I was dead with Christ;
<i>All</i>	<b>today I am sharing in his resurrection.</b>
<i>Archdeacon</i>	Yesterday I was buried with him;
<i>All</i>	<b>today I am waking with him.</b>

	<i>As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:</i>
<i>All</i>	<b>Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen</b>

*Archdeacon* That this time may be holy, good and peaceful,  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept*

As our prayer rises before you, O God,  
so may your mercy come down upon us  
to cleanse our hearts and set us free  
to sing your praise now and for ever.

**All** **Amen**

*The Reading (by the Rural Dean)*

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All** **Thanks be to God**

**The Archdeacon's address**

## **Hymn: Will your anchor hold**

*Will your anchor hold in the storms of life, when  
the clouds unfold their wings of strife? When  
the strong tides lift and the cables strain, Will  
your anchor drift, or firm remain?*

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;  
fastened to the rock which cannot move,  
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*

Will your anchor hold in the straits of fear,  
when the breakers roar and the reef is near?  
While the surges rage, and the wild winds blow,  
shall the angry waves then your bark o'erflow?

Will your anchor hold in the floods of death,  
when the waters cold chill your latest breath?  
On the rising tide you can never fail,  
while your anchor holds within the veil.

Will your eyes behold through the morning light,  
the city of gold, and the harbour bright?  
Will you anchor safe by the heav'nly shore,  
when life's storms are past for evermore?

*Priscilla Jane Owens 1829-1899*

*(Tune: Will your anchor hold)  
Irregular and refrain*

*Archdeacon*    Let us pray

*We sit or kneel for prayer.*

*After prayer led by the Archdeacon/Bishop/Registrar  
all join in the prayer:*

**All            Merciful God,  
you have called us to be members of Christ  
and of his Church in this Archdeaconry.  
May we and our congregations  
reach up to your throne in adoration and worship;  
in to one another in love and fellowship;  
and out to the world in evangelism and care;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen.**

## **The Declaration and Admittance of Churchwardens**

*The Archdeacon invites the Churchwardens quietly to read through the declaration which they are about to make.*

*After a moment's silence, the Churchwardens stand and make their declaration together:*

**Archdeacon**

(Bishop /Registrar)

Churchwardens are officers of the bishop, responsible for representing the laity, supporting and co-operating with their incumbent and caring for the church building and its contents.

Will you, as leaders elected by your parish and as partners with your incumbent, promote God's mission through pastoral care, sharing the good news, serving the community and working for the unity of God's church?

**Wardens**

**We will, with the help of God**

**Archdeacon**

(Bishop /Registrar)

Will you do your best to ensure that the church building and its contents are properly maintained, and that they offer a welcome and a witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ?

**Wardens**

**We will, with the help of God**

**Archdeacon**

(Bishop /Registrar)

Will you care for your clergy and support them in their ministry, offering guidance and advice and ensuring that responsibilities are shared?

**Wardens**

**We will, with the help of God**

Archdeacon      I invite you now to make your declaration together.  
(Bishop /Registrar)

**Wardens      I solemnly and sincerely declare  
that I will faithfully and diligently perform  
the duties of the office of Churchwarden  
within the parish in which I am called to serve  
for the coming year.**

Archdeacon      I admit as Churchwardens all you  
(Bishop /Registrar) who have made this solemn declaration.  
May our Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
in all you do in his service,  
and give you grace to fulfil this office  
to the glory of God and for the good of his people.  
**Amen**

*The newly admitted Churchwardens say together:*

**Wardens      I will speak out for those who have no voice.  
I will stand up for the rights of all the oppressed.  
I will speak truth and justice.  
I will defend the poor and needy.  
I will speak out for those who have no choices.  
I will cry out for those who live without love.  
I will show God's compassion to the crushed  
and broken in spirit.  
I will lift up the weak in Jesus' name.  
Amen.**



*The clergy and others also stand:*

*Archdeacon* Let us now together reaffirm our various ministries.

Will you endeavour to continue  
in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread  
and in prayers for the church and the world?

**All** **With the help of God, we will.**

*Archdeacon* Will you persevere in resisting evil,  
and in penitence and faith resolve  
to live a godly life  
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ?

**All** **With the help of God, we will.**

*Archdeacon* Will you proclaim by word and example  
the good news of God in Jesus Christ?

**All** **With the help of God, we will.**

*Archdeacon* Will you endeavour to serve Christ in all people,  
loving your neighbour as yourself, and welcoming  
the stranger in your midst?

**All** **With the help of God, we will.**

*Archdeacon* Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over  
human society by prayer for the world and its  
leaders, by defending the weak,  
and seeking peace and justice?

**All** **With the help of God, we will.**

## **Hymn: Immortal, invisible, God only wise**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render, O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

*Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)*

*(Tune: St Denio 11 11 11 11)*

## **The Blessing**

*Bishop/Archdeacon*

May the Father, whose glory  
fills the heavens,  
cleanse you by his holiness  
and send you to proclaim his word.

**All      Amen**

May the Son, who has ascended to the heights,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

**All      Amen**

May the Holy Spirit, the Comforter,  
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.

**All      Amen**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All      Amen**

*Please join us for refreshments after the service, kindly  
provided by members of the parish.*

*Diocesan Officers and Staff will be pleased to talk to you,  
and to answer any questions you may have.*

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