



Ordination of Deacons

29 June 2024




A very warm welcome to Christ Church and to this very special service, as those whom God has called to serve him as deacons in this diocese are ordained. Deacons are called to 'proclaim the gospel in word and deed, as agents of God's purposes of love': a particular fulfilment of the calling given to all God's people. As we celebrate those who become deacons today, please pray for them and those who support them, for their parishes and those they serve; but also for all God's people as we seek to be God's light and love in the world.

If you normally receive **Communion** in your own church, and if you have been baptised, you are welcome to receive today. Otherwise, you are warmly invited to receive a blessing. Please follow the stewards' instructions.

Children are very welcome at Cathedral services. Please ask a steward if you would like children's resources. However, you may prefer to take them into the Cloister to run around, or into the Chapter House just off the Cloister, where there is play space and a large screen relaying the service.

A **large print** version of this service booklet is available from the stewards. There is a **hearing loop**, which is most effective in the centre of the Cathedral away from the pillars. Please feel free to **sit** or move around at any point during the service; and when invited to stand, sit or kneel, please use whatever posture is most helpful for you.

This is a public occasion and the service is **livestreamed and photographed**. If you do not wish to be filmed, please ask a steward. Still images captured by the photographer today may be used in materials published by Christ Church Cathedral or the Diocese of Oxford. For any questions or concerns please email communications@oxford.anglican.org. **No other photography or filming is permitted during the service.**

There will be a **collection** for the **Bishop of Oxford's Outreach Fund**,  which is dedicated to supporting the mission of the church nationally and internationally. For any questions or concerns please email communications@oxford.anglican.org





At the entry of the Bishop's procession, it is our custom to stand to sing. Please use whatever posture is most helpful for you.

Processional Hymn



How shall I sing that majesty
which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie;
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around
thy throne, O God most high;
ten thousand times ten thousand sound
thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,
while I thy footsteps trace;
a sound of God comes to my ears,
but they behold thy face:
They sing, because thou art their sun;
Lord, send a beam on me;
for where heaven is but once begun,
there alleluias be.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart,
in flame it with love's fire,
then shall I sing and take my part
with that celestial choir.
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,
with all my fire and light;
yet when thou dost accept their gold,
Lord, treasure up my mite.





How great a being, Lord, is thine,
 which doth all beings keep!
 Thy knowledge is the only line
 to sound so vast a deep:
 thou art a sea without a shore,
 a sun without a sphere;
 thy time is now and evermore,
 thy place is everywhere.

WORDS: John Mason (1646–1694)

MUSIC: Coe Fen, Ken Naylor (1931–1991)

Common Praise 466

The Greeting

Bishop Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Bishop There is one body and one spirit.
All There is one hope to which we were called;

Bishop one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
All one God and Father of all.

Bishop Peace be with you
All and also with you.

The Congregation sits. The Bishop introduces the service.

God calls his people to follow Christ, and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

The Church is the Body of Christ, the people of God and the dwelling-place of the Holy Spirit. In baptism the whole Church is summoned to witness to God's love and to work for the coming of his kingdom.

To serve this royal priesthood, God has given a variety of ministries. Deacons are ordained so that the people of God may be better equipped to make Christ known.





Theirs is a life of visible self-giving. Christ is the pattern of their calling and their commission; as he washed the feet of his disciples, so they must wash the feet of others.

Prayers of Penitence

Deacon God calls all people to obedience and faith.
As we prepare to celebrate his love in word and sacrament, let us remember our failings, confess our sins, and pray for strength to amend our lives.

We remain seated or kneel.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Bishop Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**





The Presentation

The Archdeacons present those to be ordained, saying:

Bishop Steven, I present these persons to be ordained to the office of deacon in the Church of God.

The Archdeacons then read the name of each person, with the place where they are to serve. Each ordinand stands as their name is read.

When the ordinands have been presented, the Bishop turns to the Director of Ordinands and those involved with the ordinands' training, who all stand to respond.

Bishop Have those whose duty it is to know these ordinands and examine them found them to be of godly life and sound learning?

DDOs **They have.**

Bishop Do they believe them to be duly called to serve God in this ministry?

DDOs **They do.**

The Bishop turns to the ordinands and asks:

Do you believe that God is calling you to this ministry?

The ordinands respond:

I do so believe.

Bishop I invite the Registrar to confirm that the ordinands have taken the necessary oaths and made the Declaration of Assent.

Registrar They have duly taken the oath of allegiance to the Sovereign and the oath of canonical obedience to the Bishop. They have affirmed and declared their belief in 'the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness'.





You are invited to stand.

Gloria in Excelsis

Setting: Harold Darke (1888–1976) in E

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory:
O Lord God, heavenly King; God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father:
That takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

Bishop As we stand, let us pray for those to be ordained
this day, and for the whole people of God.

Silence is kept.

Bishop Almighty God,
whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul
glorified you in their death as in their life:
grant that your Church,
inspired by their teaching and example,
and made one by your Spirit,
may ever stand firm upon the one foundation,
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**





Please sit down.

Old Testament Reading

Acts 12: 1–11 (NRSV)

read by a Licensed Lay Minister

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.





Please stand to sing.

Gradual

He's coming on the clouds,
kings and kingdoms will bow down;
every chain will break,
as broken hearts declare his grace.
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?

*Our God is a Lion, the Lion of Judah,
he's roaring in power and fighting our battles.
Every knee will bow before him.*

*Our God is a Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
for the sins of the world,
his blood breaks the chains.*

*Every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb,
every knee will bow before him.*

So open up the gates,
make way before the King of Kings
the God who comes to save
is here to set the captives free
for who can stop the Lord Almighty?

Our God is a Lion, the Lion of Judah....

Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?

Our God is a Lion, the Lion of Judah....

Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson, Leeland Mooring
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O praise the name of the Lord our God,
O praise his name for evermore.
For endless days we will sing his praise,
O Lord, O Lord our God.

Ben Hastings, Dean Ussher, Marty Sampson
© 2015 Hillsong Music Publishing

Please sit.





New Testament Reading

2 Timothy 4: 6–8, 17–18 (NRSV)

read by one of the Assistant DDOs for the Diocese of Oxford

Reader A reading from the Second Letter to Timothy.

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Cantor Alleluia, alleluia.

The words that I have spoken to you are spirit
and they are life, says the Lord.

Alleluia.





Gospel Reading
Matthew 16: 13–19 (NRSV)
read by the Deacon

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Please sit down when you are invited.

*10am The Revd Canon Professor Mark Chapman
Ripon College Cuddesdon*

*2pm The Revd Canon Janet Binns,
Area Dean, Burnham and Slough Deanery*

After the sermon, we stand to sing.





Worship Song

I will offer up my life in spirit and truth,
pouring out the oil of love as my worship to you.
In surrender I must give my every part,
Lord, receive the sacrifice of a broken heart.

*Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring
to so faithful a friend, to so loving a King,
Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung
as a praise of Your name
for the things You have done?
O my words could not tell, not even in part,
of the debt of love that is owed
by this thankful heart.*

You deserve my every breath,
for You've paid the great cost
Giving up Your life to death, even death on a cross.
You took all my shame away,
there defeated my sin,
Opened up the gates of heaven,
and have beckoned me in.

Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring....

Matt Redman © 1994
Thankyou Music Publishing

Lord, I need you, how I need you,
every hour I need you,
my one defence, my righteousness;
O God, how I need you.

Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Matt Maher
© 2011 Capitol CMG Publishing



The Declarations

The ordinands stand before the Bishop, who addresses the Congregation.

Deacons are called to work with the Bishop and the priests with whom they serve as heralds of Christ's kingdom. They are to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, as agents of God's purposes of love. They are to serve the community in which they are set, bringing to the Church the needs and hopes of all the people. They are to work with their fellow members in searching out the poor and weak, the sick and lonely and those who are oppressed and powerless, reaching into the forgotten corners of the world, that the love of God may be made visible.

Deacons share in the pastoral ministry of the Church and in leading God's people in worship. They preach the word and bring the needs of the world before the Church in intercession. They accompany those searching for faith and bring them to baptism. They assist in administering the sacraments; they distribute communion and minister to the sick and housebound.

Deacons are to seek nourishment from the Scriptures; they are to study them with God's people, that the whole Church may be equipped to live out the gospel in the world.

They are to be faithful in prayer, expectant and watchful for the signs of God's presence, as he reveals his kingdom among us.

The Bishop addresses the ordinands directly.

We trust that you are fully determined, by the grace of God, to give yourself wholly to his service, that you may draw his people into that new life which God has prepared for those who love him.

And now, in order that we may know your mind and purpose, you must make the declarations we put to you.

The Congregation sits.





Bishop Do you accept the Holy Scriptures as revealing all things necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ?

Ordinands **I do so accept them.**

Bishop Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading Holy Scripture, and in all studies that will deepen your faith and fit you to bear witness to the truth of the gospel?

Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop Do you believe the doctrine of the Christian faith as the Church of England has received it, and in your ministry, will you expound and teach it?

Ordinands **I believe it and will so do.**

Bishop Will you strive to make the love of Christ known through word and example, and have a particular care for those in need?

Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you be a faithful servant in the household of God, after the example of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve?

Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you endeavour to fashion your own life and that of your household according to the way of Christ, that you may be a pattern and example to Christ's people?

Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you work with your fellow servants in the gospel for the sake of the kingdom of God?

Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you accept the discipline of this Church and give due respect to those in authority?

Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**





Bishop Will you then, in the strength of the Holy Spirit, continually stir up the gift of God that is in you, to grow in holiness and grace?

Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**

The Congregation stands and the ordinands turn to face them.

Bishop Brothers and sisters, you have heard how great is the charge that these ordinands are ready to undertake, and you have heard their declarations. Is it now your will that they should be ordained?

All **It is.**

Bishop Will you continually pray for them?

All **We will.**

Bishop Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?

All **We will.**

The ordinands turn back to face the Bishop, who continues addressing them.

In the name of our Lord, we bid you remember the greatness of the trust in which you are now to share: the ministry of Christ himself, who for our sake took the form of a servant.

Remember always with thanksgiving that the people among whom you will minister are made in God's image and likeness. In serving them you are serving Christ himself, before whom you will be called to account.

You cannot bear the weight of this calling in your own strength, but only by the grace and power of God. Pray therefore that your heart may daily be enlarged and your understanding of the Scriptures enlightened.

Pray earnestly for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Congregation and the ordinands kneel. Silence is kept.





A - men.

Cantor Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
and lighten with celestial fire;
thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart;

All Thy blessèd unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soilèd face
with the abundance of thy grace;
keep far our foes, give peace at home;
where thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but One,
that through the ages all along
this may be our endless song,

Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

WORDS: 8th century Latin, trans. John Cosin (1594–1692)
MUSIC: Plainsong, Mode viii





The Prayers

Prayers of intercession for the ordinands and for the ministry of the whole Church are led by a member of the DDO team.

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world,
for the welfare of the Holy Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For all the members of the Church
in their vocation and ministry,
that they may serve him in truth and love,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For our bishops, Steven, Olivia and Gavin
and for all bishops, presbyters and deacons,
that they may hunger for truth
and thirst after righteousness,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For *N* and *N*, called to be deacons in his Church,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church,
that in faithful witness we may proclaim the gospel
of reconciliation to the ends of the earth,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the unity of the Church,
that we may be one in Christ, according to his will,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**





For those who do not yet believe,
that they may receive the light of the gospel,
and for those whose faith has grown cold,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and suffering, for the aged and infirm,
for the lonely and neglected,
and for all who remember and care for them,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the hungry,
for the homeless and the oppressed,
for all prisoners and captives,
and for our brothers and sisters
who are persecuted for their faith,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For Charles our King, for the leaders of the nations,
and for all in authority,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For ourselves,
for grace to repent and amend our lives,
that we may be pardoned
and absolved from all our sins,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering all who have gone before us in faith,
and in communion with Frideswide, Birinus
and all the saints,
we commit ourselves, one another,
and our whole life to Christ our God;
All **to you, O Lord.**





The Ordination Prayer

The Bishop stands to pray, while others remain kneeling.

Bishop We praise and glorify you, almighty Father,
because in your infinite love
you have formed throughout the world
a holy people for your own possession,
a royal priesthood, a universal Church.

We praise and glorify you
because you sent your only Son Jesus Christ
to take the form of a slave;
he humbled himself for our sake,
and in obedience accepted death,
even death on a cross.

We praise and glorify you
because in every age you send your Spirit
to fill those whom you have chosen,
to equip your holy people for the work of ministry,
for the building up of the body of Christ.

And now we give you thanks
that you have called these your servants
whom we ordain in your name,
to share as deacons
in the ministry of the gospel of Christ,
who came not to be served but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Therefore, Father, through Christ our Lord we pray:



The Bishop lays his hands on the head of each ordinand, saying:

Bishop Send down the Holy Spirit on your servant N for the office and work of a deacon in your Church.

When the Bishop has laid hands on all the ordinands, the prayer continues:

Bishop Through your Spirit, heavenly Father, give these your servants grace and power to fulfil their ministry. Make them faithful to serve and constant in advancing your gospel in the world. May they follow the example of Jesus Christ your Son, who washed the feet of his disciples, and set the needs of others before his own. May their life be disciplined and holy, their words declare your love and their actions reveal your glory, that your people may walk with them in the way of truth and be made ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; to whom, with you and your Holy Spirit, belong glory and honour, worship and praise, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Giving of the New Testament

The Congregation sits; the newly ordained deacons stand. The Bishop gives the New Testament to each of them, saying:

Receive this book, as a sign of the authority given you this day to speak God's word to his people. Build them up in his truth and serve them in his name.





The Welcome

On behalf of the clergy of the diocese, a member of the Cathedral Chapter welcomes the newly ordained deacons:

Canon We preach not ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

All We welcome you as fellow servants in the gospel: may Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love.

The new deacons' training incumbents help them to vest in a stole or scarf, symbol of their new ministry.

The Peace

The Congregation stands.

Bishop We are all one in Christ Jesus.

All We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please offer one another a sign of peace as you are comfortable, with the words 'peace be with you,' 'the peace of the Lord,' or similar.

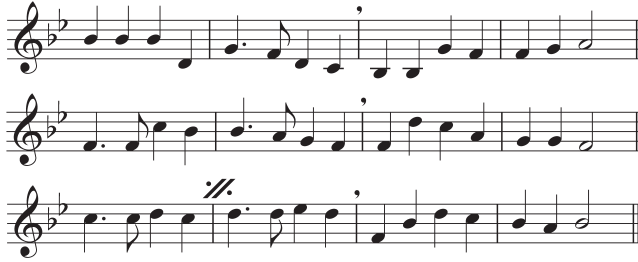
During the hymn which follows, a collection is taken for the Bishop of Oxford's Outreach Fund, which is dedicated to supporting the mission of the church nationally and internationally. Please use the Gift Aid envelopes if you are eligible.



Donations can also be made using this QR code or online at oxford.anglican.org/bishop-of-oxford/outreach-fund.php. For any questions or concerns please email communications@oxford.anglican.org



Offertory Hymn



Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour
 first-begotten from the dead,
 thou alone, our strong defender,
 liftest up thy people's head.
 Alleluia, alleluia, Jesu, true and living bread.

Here our humblest homage pay we,
 here in loving reverence bow;
 here for faith's discernment pray we,
 lest we fail to know thee now.
 Alleluia, alleluia, thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
 as of old in Bethlehem,
 here as there thine angels hail thee,
 branch and flower of Jesse's stem.
 Alleluia, alleluia, we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished
 once for all when thou wast slain,
 in its fullness undiminished
 shall for evermore remain,
 Alleluia, alleluia, cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly manna,
 stricken rock with streaming side,
 heaven and earth with loud hosanna
 worship thee, the Lamb who died,
 Alleluia, alleluia, risen, ascended, glorified!

WORDS: George Bourne (1840–1925)
MUSIC: St Helen, GC Martin (1844–1916)
Common Praise 311





Taking of the Bread and Wine

Please stand if you are able. The Bishop takes the bread and wine and says:

Bishop Pour upon the poverty of our love,
and the weakness of our praise,
the transforming fire of your presence.
All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Bishop The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Bishop Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Bishop It is indeed right and good,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere
to give you thanks and praise
through your servant, Jesus Christ our Lord.
At his baptism he was revealed as your beloved Son.
Coming among us as one who serves,
he taught us that the greatest in your kingdom
are those who make themselves least
and the servants of all.
Although he was their teacher and their Lord,
he washed the feet of his disciples
and commanded us to do the same,
that we might reveal the power of your love,
made perfect in our human weakness.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:





The Choir sings the Sanctus:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Setting: Darke in E

Bishop We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died
he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
When supper was ended, he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life
and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.





Deacon Great is the mystery of faith:
All **Christ has died;
 Christ is risen;
 Christ will come again.**

Bishop Lord of all life,
 help us to work together for that day
 when your kingdom comes
 and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
 Look with favour on your people,
 gather us in your loving arms
 and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary,
 Peter, Paul, Frideswide, Birinus, and all the saints
 to feast at your table in heaven.
 Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
 for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Congregation kneels or sits.

The Lord's Prayer

Bishop As our Saviour taught us, so we pray,
All **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.**





Breaking of the Bread

The Bishop breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

Bishop We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

The Bishop invites the people to receive Communion.

Bishop God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The Ministers and people receive Communion. The newly-ordained deacons receive Communion first and help to offer Communion to the congregation. If you normally receive Communion in your own church, or if you have been confirmed, you are most welcome to receive here.

If you would like to receive Communion or a blessing, please wait in your place until you are invited by a steward to move towards one of the communion stations. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please do not intinct (dip) your wafer in the chalice. If you would like a blessing, please bring your order of service with you so that the ministers know that you want a blessing.

If you wish Communion to be brought to you, please speak to a steward.

As the distribution of Communion begins, the Choir sings the Agnus Dei. This is followed by the Anthem and by worship songs, in which you are welcome to join.





Agnus Dei

Setting: Darke in E

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Anthem

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death.

Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.

If you keep my commandments, you shall abide in my love,
love one another as I have loved you,
then shall your joy be complete.

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death.

WORDS: Song of Songs 8: 6–7; John 15: 9–12

MUSIC: Eleanor Daley (b. 1955)

Worship Songs

We do not presume
to come to your table
trusting in our own righteousness
for we are not worthy
so much as to gather
the crumbs from under your table,
but trusting, O Lord
in your great and manifold mercies
for you are the same Lord
whose nature's always to have mercy.





So cleanse us and feed us with the
body and blood of your Son
that we may live in him
and he may live in us
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Words: © CBF, Church of England 1980
Music: Andy Piercy © 1996 IQ Music Publishing

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become his righteousness
He humbled himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

*Jesus Messiah, name above all names,
blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel.
The rescue for sinners,
the ransom from heaven,
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.*

His body the bread, his blood the wine,
broken and poured out, all for love.
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn.
Love so amazing, love so amazing.

Jesus Messiah, name above all names....

All our hope is in you, all our hope is in you,
all the glory to you God, the Light of the world.

Chris Tomlin, Daniel Carson, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves
© 2008 Rising Springs Music, Vamos Publishing,
Capitol CMG Publishing, worshiptogether.com songs





Prayer after Communion

Bishop Let us pray

A moment of silence is kept.

Bishop Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Please stand if you are able.

Blessing

Bishop Our help is in the name of the Lord
All who has made heaven and earth.

Bishop Blessed be the name of the Lord
All now and for ever. Amen.

Bishop God, who has called you, is faithful.

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

All Amen.

May Christ, 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.





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

All Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in the light and peace of Christ.
All Thanks be to God.

Final Hymn



Lord of the church, we pray for our renewing:
Christ over all, our undivided aim.
Fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduing,
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,
the will that lacks the courage to be free,
the weary labours, all but unavailing,
to bring us nearer what a church should be.

Lord of the church, we seek a Father's blessing,
a true repentance and a faith restored,
a swift obedience and a new possessing,
filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!
We turn to Christ from all our restless striving,
unnumbered voices with a single prayer:
the living water for our souls' reviving,
in Christ to live, and love and serve and care.





Lord of the church, we long for our uniting,
true to one calling, by one vision stirred;
one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,
one in the truth of Jesus and his word.
So lead us on; till toil and trouble ended,
one church triumphant one new song shall sing,
to praise his glory, risen and ascended,
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

*WORDS: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)
(C) Hope Publishing Company 1984
MUSIC: Londonderry Air,
arr. Michael Fleming (1928–2006)
t. Common Praise 54*

During the final hymn, the Bishop leads the newly ordained deacons to the west door of the Cathedral. Please feel free to applaud them!

Other clergy leave in procession. Please remain in your places until after the processions have left the Cathedral. The newly ordained deacons will be photographed with the Bishop in Tom Quad immediately after the service; you are welcome to greet them in the Quad after the photographs are finished.



Theological Note

The ministry of deacons is an ancient one, begun by the first apostles in the book of Acts who selected ‘seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom,’ appointing them to the task of caring for those in need within the Christian community (Acts 6: 3), and setting them apart for this ministry by the laying on of hands.

Those who are ordained today to the diaconate are following a call to be visibly on the margin, in the liminal space between God and human society, between the church and the world. Their particular concern, like that of their forebears in Acts, is for those who are vulnerable, lonely or in material or spiritual need; it is their role to welcome newcomers, to accompany those exploring faith, to bring new Christians to baptism, and to bring the sacraments of the Church to those who are unable to enter the building.

During the service, the Bishop reads the ordination preface, describing the vocation of deacons and their role in the household of God’s church, and summing up their ministry as ‘reaching into the forgotten corners of the world, that the love of God may be made visible.’

Most of those ordained as deacons will subsequently be ordained as priests, but the sacrament of ordination cannot be erased. Those made deacon today will remain deacons in all their ministry to come, wherever it may take them: called, blessed, and set apart for a ministry of making the love of God visible and present, in every place where God is most needed.





Please pray for those to be ordained, their families,
and the parishes in which they will serve:

10am Ordination Service

From the Archdeaconry of Dorchester:

Thomas Frances Caroe, to serve in the Benefice of Wantage

Emma Jane Firth, to serve in the Benefice of Dorchester

Martyn Geoffrey Thorne, to serve in the Benefice
of Cholsey and Moulsoford

Dov Reuben Whittle, to serve in the Benefice of DAMASCUS

From the Archdeaconry of Oxford:

Paul Stephen Charles, to serve in the Benefice
of Kidlington with Hampton Poyle

Reema Maria Shinhmar, to serve in the Benefice
of Oxford Saint Aldate

Joshua David Stenner, to serve in the Benefice
of Littlemore with Sandford on Thames

Jessica Frances Taylor Wyatt, to serve in the Benefice
of Oxford Saint Andrew

2pm Ordination Service

From the Archdeaconry of Buckinghamshire:

Alison Elizabeth Drury, to serve in the Benefice
of Walton, Milton Keynes

Lydia Rose Lee, to serve in the Benefice of High Wycombe

Joanne Ruth Wigley, to serve in the Benefice of Buckingham

From the Archdeaconry of Berkshire:

Alison Dean, to serve in the Benefice of Walbury Beacon

Leonie Victoria Fowler, to serve in the Benefice
of South Newbury Saint George, Saint John and Saint Michael

Andrew Stuart Medicott, to serve in the Benefice
of Bray with Braywood

Elizabeth Helen Quainton, to serve in the Benefice
of Bracknell





The Presiding Bishop at each service is the Bishop of Oxford,
the Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft.

Contemporary worship music is led by David Clifton.

At the 10am Ordination Service:

The Preacher is Canon Professor Mark Chapman.
Music is sung by the Cathedral Singers, under the
direction of Hilary Punnett. The Organist is Simon Hogan.

At the 2pm Ordination Service:

The Preacher is the Revd Canon Janet Binns.
Music is sung by members of the Cathedral Choir, under
the direction of Helen Smee, Director of Frideswide
Voices. The Organist is Ian Tindale.

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The Declaration of Assent

The Declaration of Assent is made by deacons, priests and bishops of the Church of England when they are ordained and on each occasion when they take up a new appointment (Canon C 15). Today's candidates swore their oaths and made their declarations with the presiding bishop and registrar before the service.

When the new deacons are welcomed into their parishes, these declarations are often read out at a principal service.

Preface

The Church of England is part of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, worshipping the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It professes the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, which faith the Church is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation. Led by the Holy Spirit, it has borne witness to Christian truth in its historic formularies, the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, The Book of Common Prayer and the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons. In the declaration you are about to make, will you affirm your loyalty to this inheritance of faith as your inspiration and guidance under God in bringing the grace and truth of Christ to this generation and making Him known to those in your care?

Declaration of Assent

I, A B, do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments, I will use only the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by Canon.

Oath of Allegiance

I, A B, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, his heirs and successors, according to law: So help me God.

Oath of Canonical Obedience

I, A B, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Oxford and his successors in all things lawful and honest: So help me God.



'... reaching into the forgotten corners of the world, that the love of God may be made visible.'



DIOCESE of OXFORD

A Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world