



Ordination of Priests

Dorchester Abbey
Sunday 23 June 2024



The Declaration of Assent

(made by the candidates before the service)

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).

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, N, 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.

The Oaths

(made by the candidates before the service)

The Oath of Allegiance

I, N, 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.

The Oath of Canonical Obedience

I, N, do swear by almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Oxford, and his successors and through his delegation to the Area Bishop of Dorchester in all things lawful and honest: So help me God.



Welcome to this ordination service, whether you are joining us in church or online. Today we give thanks for those committing their lives in service of God as they are ordained priests in the Church of England.

Please pray for all those being ordained priest in this service:

Sarah Cotterill to serve in the benefice of Banbury St Mary

James Elward to serve in the benefice of Witney

Mark Rhodes-Smith to serve in the benefice of Churn

Further details for each of our ordinands can be found at the back of this Order of Service.





Please switch off your mobile phone before the service.

This is a public occasion. Please be aware that photography and filming will take place during the service. Links to many diocesan services can be found at **oxford.anglican.org/livestream**

No other photography or filming is permitted during the service. For any questions or concerns relating to photography taking place today please email **communications@oxford.anglican.org**

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Hymn words published under CCLI 979415

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The Gathering

An organ voluntary will be played before the service as the congregation gathers in church and online.

Throughout the service, although you are invited to stand or sit at various points, please use whatever posture is most comfortable and helpful for you.

Processional hymn: Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the firey cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Text: W. Williams, 1727-1796
Music: J. Hughes, 1873-1932



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 Bishop welcomes the congregation and invites them to sit.

The Bishop introduces the service.

Bishop 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 particular ministries. Priests are ordained to lead God's people in the offering of praise and the proclamation of the gospel. They share with the Bishop in the oversight of the Church, delighting in its beauty and rejoicing in its well-being.

They are to set the example of the Good Shepherd always before them as the pattern of their calling. With the Bishop and their fellow presbyters, they are to sustain the community of the faithful by the ministry of word and sacrament, that we all may grow into the fullness of Christ and be a living sacrifice acceptable to God.



The Presentation

The Archdeacon presents those to be ordained and each ordinand stands.

Archdeacon Bishop Gavin, I present Sarah, James and Mark to be ordained to the office of priest in the Church of God.

When the candidates have been presented, the Bishop asks these questions of the Area Director of Ordinands and any involved with their training who all stand.

Bishop Have those whose duty it is to know these deacons and examine them found them to be of godly life and sound learning?
ADO **They have.**

Bishop Do they believe them to be duly called to serve God in this ministry?
ADO **They do.**

The Bishop turns to the ordinands and says

Bishop Do you believe that God is calling you to this ministry?
Ordinands **I do so believe.**

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

Archdeacon 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'.

The Collect

Bishop Let us pray.

A time of silent prayer is kept.

Bishop God our Father, Lord of all the world,
through your Son you have called us
into the fellowship of your universal Church:
hear our prayer for your faithful people
that in their vocation and ministry
each may be an instrument of your love,



and give to your servants now to be ordained
the needful gifts of grace;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

I John 4: 7-21 (NRSV)

God Is Love

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**



Hymn: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

Jesus, the name that charms our fears
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears
'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
And sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.

He speaks - and, listening to His voice,
New life the dead receive,
The mournful broken hearts rejoice,
The humble poor believe.

Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come,
And leap, ye lame, for joy!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim
And spread through all the earth abroad
The honours of Thy Name.

C Wesley (1707-1788)

Gospel Reading

John 15: 1-12 (NRSV)

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

Jesus the True Vine

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.



Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

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

Sermon

The Revd Preb. Jane Haslam
Associate Archdeacon of Dorchester



The Liturgy of Ordination

The Declarations

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

Priests are called to be servants and shepherds among the people to whom they are sent. With their Bishop and fellow ministers, they are to proclaim the word of the Lord and to watch for the signs of God's new creation. They are to be messengers, watchmen and stewards of the Lord; they are to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for his family, to search for his children in the wilderness of this world's temptations, and to guide them through its confusions, that they may be saved through Christ for ever. Formed by the word, they are to call their hearers to repentance and to declare in Christ's name the absolution and forgiveness of their sins.

With all God's people, they are to tell the story of God's love. They are to baptize new disciples in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and to walk with them in the way of Christ, nurturing them in the faith. They are to unfold the Scriptures, to preach the word in season and out of season, and to declare the mighty acts of God. They are to preside at the Lord's table and lead his people in worship, offering with them a spiritual sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. They are to bless the people in God's name. They are to resist evil, support the weak, defend the poor, and intercede for all in need. They are to minister to the sick and prepare the dying for their death. Guided by the Spirit, they are to discern and foster the gifts of all God's people, that the whole Church may be built up in unity and faith.

The Bishop addresses the ordinands directly.

Bishop We trust that long ago you began to weigh and ponder all this, and that you are fully determined, by the grace of God, to devote yourself wholly to his service, so that as you daily follow the rule and teaching of our Lord and grow into his likeness, God may sanctify the lives of all with whom you have to do. And now, in order that we may know your mind and purpose, you must make the declarations we put to you.



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 Will you lead Christ's people in proclaiming his glorious gospel, so that the good news of salvation may be heard in every place?
Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you faithfully minister the doctrine and sacraments of Christ as the Church of England has received them, so that the people committed to your charge may be defended against error and flourish in the faith?
Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you, knowing yourself to be reconciled to God in Christ, strive to be an instrument of God's peace in the Church and in the world?
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 and minister the discipline of this Church, and respect authority duly exercised within it?
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 make Christ known among all whom you serve?
Ordinands **By the help of God, I will.**



The congregation is invited to stand. The ordinands turn and face the people.

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.

Bishop In the name of our Lord we bid you remember the greatness of the trust that is now to be committed to your charge. Remember always with thanksgiving that the treasure now to be entrusted to you is Christ's own flock, bought by the shedding of his blood on the cross. It is to him that you will render account for your stewardship of his people.

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 is invited to sit or kneel and the ordinands stand.



The Prayers

A time of silent prayer is kept and then the Veni Creator is sung by a cantor as a prayer for those to be ordained.

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: Veni Creator Spiritus, Latin 8th or 9th century
trans. John Cosin (1594–1692)

Intercessions are led by the Revd Jane Hemmings, Area Director of Ordinands, and the Revd Jane Willis, Team Rector of the Dorchester Benefice.

*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 Sarah, James and Mark, called to be priests 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 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Ordination Prayer

The Bishop stands.

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 have given us your only Son Jesus Christ,
the image of your eternal and invisible glory,
the firstborn of all creation and head of the Church.



We praise and glorify you that by his death he has overcome death;
and that, having ascended into heaven,
he has given his gifts abundantly,
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 your servants,
whom we ordain in your name,
to share as priests in the ministry of the gospel of Christ,
the Apostle and High Priest of our faith,
and the Shepherd of our souls.

Therefore, Father, through Christ our Lord we pray:

The ordinands come forward in turn.

The Bishop and assisting priests lay their hands on the head of each ordinand.

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

*The candidates hold their hands, palms up, towards the Bishop who anoints them
with oil of chrism.*

Bishop May God, who anointed the Christ with the Holy Spirit at his
baptism, anoint and empower you to reconcile and bless his
people.

*After hands have been laid on all the ordinands, the Bishop continues the
ordination prayer.*

Bishop Through your Spirit, heavenly Father,
give your servants grace and power
to proclaim the gospel of your salvation
and minister the sacraments of the new covenant.
Renew them in holiness,
and give them wisdom and discipline
to work faithfully with those committed to their charge.

In union with their fellow servants in Christ,
may they reconcile what is divided,
heal what is wounded and restore what is lost.

May they declare your blessings to your people;
may they proclaim Christ's victory over the powers of darkness,
and absolve in Christ's name those who turn to him in faith;
so shall a people made whole in Christ
offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you, our God and Father,



to whom, with the Son and the Holy Spirit,
belong glory and honour, worship and praise,
now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Giving of the Bible

The congregation is invited to sit, and the newly ordained priests stand and their Training Incumbents reposition their ordination stoles to be worn priest-wise

Bishop N, receive this book

After all have received their Bibles, the Bishop continues

Bishop Receive this book as a sign of the authority which God has given you this day to preach the Gospel of Christ and to minister his Holy Sacraments.

The Welcome

The newly ordained priests turn to face the congregation. On behalf of the clergy of the diocese, Archdeacon David Tyler says:

Minister God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

All **We welcome you as ambassadors for Christ:
let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.**

*The congregation greet the newly ordained priests with applause.
The newly ordained priests turn back to face the Bishop.*

The Peace

The congregation stands.

Bishop God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us, and as a pledge of what is to come has given us the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**



Bishop Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

By the end of the hymn newly ordained priests, TIs, ADO, Archdeacon and Associate Archdeacon to gather around the table.

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father

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 hath 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, with ten thousand beside!

Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960) William M. Runyan (1870-1957)
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The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The Bishop takes the bread and wine.

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 Abiding God, you planted the vineyard of creation and called your chosen people to be your vine, rooted and grounded in you. In Jesus, you gave us the true vine, turning earth into grapes and the water of life into the wine of eternal life. Through your Son you abide in us, and in the power of your Holy Spirit you shape the branches of the vine to make fruit that will last.

Your Son was crucified on the vine of our sin, and the blood of his sacrifice might be the wine through which we may never be thirsty again.

In this meal of creation, of resurrection and of everlasting life, you pour out the cup of your abundance to give us eternal joy in you.

And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

All **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Bishop Transforming God, your Son took the ordinary substance of human flesh and bone; and on his last night with his friends he took the ordinary materials of bread and wine. Come among us now and make the ordinariness of our lives glow with the wonder of your eternal life. Take these gifts of bread and wine and make them before us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread and gave it to them saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me'.





After supper he took the cup.
 Again, he gave you thanks and gave it to his disciples, saying,
 '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.'

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

Bishop Companionable God, you turn Word into flesh
 and your perfect love cast out our fear.
 You show us a way to love you by giving us brothers and sisters
 to love as we love you.
 Abide with all those all whose lives are far from fruitful;
 remain with those who have experienced pruning;
 dwell with any who feel like branches that have been discarded.
 Unite your whole church, living and departed, as branches of your
 one vine, and through being rooted and grounded in you,
 make us fruitful in body, mind and spirit,
 until we stand before you with your whole creation,
 and you are all in all, one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The congregation is invited to kneel or sit.

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.

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 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 Bishop and people receive communion.

If you normally receive communion in your own church, you are most welcome to receive it here. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please ask the minister when you come forward. All others are most warmly invited to come forward to receive a blessing: please bring this order of service with you so that the ministers know that you want a blessing.

Choir **Anthem: Cantate Domino** by Guiseppe Pitoni

During communion, the following hymns will be sung:

And can it be

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:
who can explore His strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine!
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
let angel minds inquire no more.



He left His Father's throne above,
so free, so infinite His grace;
emptied Himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

C Wesley (1707-1788).

Lord, you have called disciples to your service

Lord, you have called disciples to your service
Those who've left all, responding to your grace;
Those who have sought the pearl, the priceless treasure.
And in their lives have etched God's human face.

Lord, still your call excites the human longing,
Though we betray your trust and turn away;
Still you forgive, when we seem past redemption,
And teach our yearning hearts to pray.

Lord, you have given us a new commandment
That we should love as you loved us first;
Here we receive the tokens of your bounty,
With bread we're fed and wine relieves our thirst.



Lord, bless the men and women you have chosen
 To break the bread and lead your Church in prayer;
 That, through their acts of human love and kindness,
 We may find Christ and in his banquet share.

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 Tune: Highwood

Eternal God, the Father of our Living Lord.

Eternal God, the Father of our Living Lord,
 Who for the world his life and love outpoured,
 In Jesus' name hear now our prayers of thanks and praise-
 And grant that we may live with you through all our days.

Abide in us as we, in faith, abide in you,
 Help us to see on earth the heavenly view;
 So take our lives, and through them may your truth be known,
 That no one now need fear to live or die alone.

O Servant Lord, the light that lightens every soul,
 Who came on earth to love and make us whole;
 We turn to you the source of truth for humankind –
 Who call us still to seek, that we may surely find.

Lord give us faith and strength to follow where you lead,
 May we be yours in every word and deed;
 Show us your way that we may journey hopefully,
 And live our lives in love with you eternally.

Spirit of God, the holy, driving, rushing power,
 Enter our lives and dwell with us each hour;
 Your sevenfold gifts send forth to all your servants here-
 That we may grow in faith and hold these things most dear.

Teach us to know the Father, Son and You as One,
 Help us to live that here your will be done;
 So lead us on through conflict to the tranquil shore
 Of your own Self where we may worship and adore.

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 Tune: Londonderry Air



The Sending Out

Prayer after Communion

Bishop Let us pray

A moment of silence is kept.

Bishop Holy and blessed God,
you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son
and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you,
not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service
of Jesus Christ, our Lord

All **Amen.**

Hymn: Praise, my Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like thee His praise should sing?
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise Him, still the same forever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Widely as His mercy flows.



Angels in the height, adore Him;
Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Henry Francis Lyte

Blessing and Dismissal

All are invited to stand.

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.**

Bishop May Christ, who has ascended to the heights,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.
All **Amen.**

Bishop 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.**

Bishop Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**



A retiring collection will be made for the Bishop of Oxford's Outreach Fund, supporting the mission of the Church nationally and internationally. Alternatively, donations can be made online via the QR code or: oxford.anglican.org/outreach-fund.php





Biographies

Sarah Cotterill

Sarah is serving her curacy at St Mary's Church in Banbury. Prior to ordination, Sarah has worked as a university teacher and researcher, a library assistant, a security guard and a farmhand. She spends her spare time listening to showtunes, reading history and detective novels, and attempting to garden.

James Elward

James is serving his curacy in the Witney Benefice. Prior to ordination, James worked at Open Doors UK - he enjoys running and walking around Witney or climbing mountains in the Lake District. Looking forward to his priesthood, James says, "As a passionate and adventurous servant of Christ, I'm ready to embrace this next step in my journey. Thank you, Lord, for this extraordinary opportunity to serve you and your people."

Mark Rhodes-Smith

Mark is serving his curacy in the Churn benefice. He is a self-supporting minister serving his curacy while working in research at the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology in Wallingford. Originally a physicist and astronomer, he now uses computer models to study rivers and especially flood risk and the effects of pollution on our ecosystems. He sees this work as part of our common call to explore God's creation and as his response to a particular call to build bridges between the communities of faith and science.

I Am the Vine *Malcolm Guite*

How might it feel to be part of the vine?
Not just to see the vineyard from afar
Or even pluck the clusters, press the wine,
But to be grafted in, to feel the stir
Of inward sap that rises from our root,
Himself deep-planted in the ground of Love,
To feel a leaf unfold a tender shoot,
As tendrils curled unfurl, as branches give
A little to the swelling of the grape,
In gradual perfection, round and full,
To bear within oneself the joy and hope
Of God's good vintage, till it's ripe and whole.
What might it mean to bide and to abide
In such rich love as makes the poor heart glad?



**Come, Holy Ghost,
Our souls inspire**



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