



The Ordination of Deacons

**Sunday 30th June 2024
10.30am**

**President:
The Rt Revd Dr Mark Tanner
The Bishop of Chester**

**Preacher:
The Rt Revd Sam Corley
The Bishop of Stockport**

WELCOME

We welcome you to Chester Cathedral! It is a place where the mission of the church to proclaim God's love is central, and your welcome presence here for worship helps to strengthen this vital act of witness. This cathedral is the seat of the Bishop, Mother Church of the Diocese of Chester and the core of a Christian community which has worshipped here and worked together for over 1100 years.

We're a paperless Cathedral and are working environmentally to save paper. The service can be downloaded to your device using the QR code at the back of the nave, or by visiting [Services - Chester Cathedral](#). Hymns, readings and responses will be presented on the screens.

Music

Communion setting

Communion Service in B flat

CV Stanford 1852-1924

Communion Motet

Tu es Petrus

Robert Pearsall 1795-1856

Voluntary

Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist (BWV 671)

J.S. Bach 1685-1750

Throughout the service, where indicated, please only stand if you feel able to do so.

Receiving Communion

We warmly invite Christians of all denominations to come and receive bread and wine at the distribution of Holy Communion. There will be multiple communion stations available around the Cathedral – please follow the directions of the stewards.

Gluten-free wafers are available at all stations; please indicate to the priest if you require one. If you prefer not to receive communion, you are invited either to come forward for a blessing or to remain in your seat.

We are offering the chalice to every communicant at all communion stations. **Please do not intinct (dip) the wafer yourself.** If you prefer only to receive the wafer, then please do so.

COLLECTION

The collection today will be split between the Cathedral and the Chester Clergy Family Charitable Trust, supporting clergy families in need across the diocese.

The collection will be taken during the service; donations can otherwise be left with cash or using the

Contactless Donation Plates.

A sidesperson can help you with this.

Via the Cathedral Website

www.chestercathedral.com/donate

DECLARATIONS AND OATHS

Before the service today, those who are to be ordained have made the following declaration and oaths. They will make them again on each occasion when they take up a new appointment.

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 authorized or allowed by Canon.

Oath of Allegiance

I, N, 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, N, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of Chester and his successors in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

TO BE ORDAINED DEACON

We are here to pray for and to celebrate the ministries of those to be ordained to the diaconate and the parishes where they serve:

Elle Bird

Hurdsfield, Holy Trinity

Kathryn Elsmore

Lache cum Saltney, St Mark

Andrew Field-Davies

Bebington, St Andrew

Sandra Fletcher

Birkenhead Priory, Christ the King

David Hill

Romiley, St Chad

Gaynor Kydd

Thurstaston, St Bartholomew

Heidi Munn

Norbury Hazel Grove, St Thomas

Denise Noble

Chester, Christ Church

Rachel Pendleton

Sandbach, St Mary

Sam Rowan

Rock Ferry, St Peter

THE GATHERING

Please remain seated as the following processions enter the Cathedral before the service begins.

The Canon Diocesan and BADDOM
Ordinands

Verger
Training Incumbents

The Cathedral Choir

Shortly before 10.30am, The Dean offers words of welcome, after which we request that silence is kept in preparation for the service.

As the procession enters, we stand, if able, to sing the hymn

Cross
Acolytes

Dean of Emmanuel Theological College
Ministry Officers
Director of Ministry

The Dean's Vicar

The Canon Diocesan and BADDOM

The Vice Dean

The Dean of Women in Ministry

The Archdeacons

The Dean

The Registrar

Honorary Assistant Bishops

The Bishop of Birkenhead and
The Bishop of Stockport

The Bishop of Chester
The Bishop's Chaplain

Hymn

O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word,
ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him
by whom you were made,
and worship before him,
in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him on the earth,
in tuneful accord,
ye sons of new birth;
praise him who has brought you
his grace from above,
praise him who has taught you
to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord!
All things that give sound;
each jubilant chord,
re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory
forth tell in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story
of what he has done.

O praise ye the Lord!
Thanksgiving and song
to him be out-poured
all ages along:
for love in creation,
for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation,
O praise ye the Lord! Amen.

H. W. Baker 1821-77

LAUDATE DOMINUM

C. Hubert H. Parry 1848-1918

The Greeting

Please remain standing. The Bishop greets the people

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

There is one body and one spirit.

**There is one hope
to which we were called;**

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

Peace be with you
and also with you.

All sit. The Bishop introduces the service and then continues

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.

The Presentation

*Each ordinand is presented to the Bishop by
The Ven Dr Mike Gilbertson, Archdeacon of
Chester or The Ven Jane Proudfoot,
Archdeacon of Macclesfield*

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

As the names are read, the ordinands stand and face the Bishop.

The Bishop's Adviser for the Diocesan Discernment of Ordained Ministry stands, and the Bishop asks him

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

They have.

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

They do.

The BADDOM returns to his seat.

The Bishop addresses the ordinands

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

I do so believe.

The Bishop continues

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

The Registrar of the Diocese, Lisa Moncur, responds

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

The Bishop says

Let us pray for those about to be ordained
deacon and for the ministry of the whole
people of God.

A moment of silence is kept.

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.
Amen.

The ordinands sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The New Testament reading

Read by Revd Katie Wade, Associate Vicar and Ministry Lead Romiley Lifecentre, St Chad's, Romiley and a training incumbent

A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out

of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

2 Corinthians 4:1-12

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able, to sing.

Song

The last line of each verse is repeated.

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
a great High Priest whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heav'n he stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

Behold him there! The risen Lamb,
my perfect, spotless righteousness;
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die,
my soul is purchased with his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

I bow before the cross of Christ,
and marvel at this love divine;
God's perfect Son was sacrificed
to make me righteous in God's eyes.
This river's depths I cannot know
but I can glory in its flood,
the Lord Most High has bowed down low
and poured on me his glorious love.

Charitie L. Bancroft 1841-1923

Adapted by Vikki Cook

Vikki Cook b.1960

Please remain standing.

Holy Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

cf John 6.63

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Archdeacon of Chester says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give

us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Matthew 25.1-13

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

After the gospel procession has returned to the dais, and after the preacher's opening prayer, please be seated.

The Sermon

The Rt Revd Sam Corley,
Bishop of Stockport

At the end of the sermon, there is a short organ improvisation.

THE LITURGY OF ORDINATION

The Declarations

The ordinands stand and the Bishop says

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 Bishop asks the ordinands

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

I do so accept them.

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?

By the help of God, I will.

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?

I believe it and will so do.

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

By the help of God, I will.

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?

By the help of God, I will.

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?

By the help of God, I will.

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

By the help of God, I will.

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

By the help of God, I will.

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?

By the help of God, I will.

The ordinands turn to face the congregation and the Bishop says

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?

It is.

Will you continually pray for them?

We will.

Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?

We will.

*The ordinands turn back to face the Bishop,
who continues*

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 Bishops and ordinands kneel or sit while
silence is kept.*

The Litany

The litany is sung.

In the power of the Spirit
and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

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.

Lord, have mercy.



Lord, _ have mer-cy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For Mark, Julie and Sam, our bishops,
and for all bishops, priests and deacons,
that they may hunger for truth
and thirst after righteousness,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Elle, Kathryn, Andrew, Sandra, David,
Gaynor, Heidi, Denise, Rachel, and Sam,
called to be deacons in his Church,
let us pray to the Lord.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the hungry,
for the homeless and the oppressed,
for all prisoners and captives and for those
who are persecuted for their faith,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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



To you, O Lord.

The Ordination Prayer

The Bishop prays

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

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

The Bishop continues

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.

Amen.

The Giving of the Bible

The newly ordained deacons robe in their stoles (if wearing one) to signify the beginning of their diaconal ministry and are given a Bible.

At the end, the Bishop says

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

Please stand, if able. The newly ordained deacons turn to face the congregation. The Archdeacon of Macclesfield says to them:

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

**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.**

*We greet the new deacons with warm
applause!*

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Peace

The Bishop says

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise
of the Spirit of peace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

We remain standing to sing together

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King.

Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal 1836-79 *NOTTINGHAM*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756-1791

Preparation of the Table

We remain standing as the Bishop says

Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life
and the bread of heaven.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Amen.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name
of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Bishop continues

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example
and obey his command,
grant that by the power
of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us
his body and his blood;

who, in the same night
that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself made
once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ
your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love

and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour
and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

All sit.

The Lord's Prayer

*The Lord's Prayer can be offered in your own
language.*

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray

**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 says

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

Giving of Communion

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

*Stewards will invite the congregation to either
receive communion or a blessing; please follow
directions. Please return to your seats by the
Side Aisles.*

Agnus Dei

The choir sings

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.

Communion Motet

The choir sings

Tu es Petrus et super hanc petram aedificabo
ecclesiam meam et portae inferi non
praevallebunt adversus eam. Et tibi dabo claves
regni caelorum. Quodcumque ligaveris super
terram, erit ligatum et in caelis, et
quodcumque solveris super terram, erit
solutum et in caelis.

*You are Peter, and upon this Rock I will build my
Church: and the gates of hell shall not overcome
it. And I will give you the keys to the kingdom of
heaven. Whatever you bind upon earth shall be
bound in heaven, and whatever you release upon
earth shall be released in heaven.*

Matthew 16:18-19

Robert Pearsall 1795-1856

Communion Hymn

While seated, all are invited to sing

Such love, pure as the whitest snow;
such love, weeps for the shame I know;
such love, paying the debt I owe;
O Jesus, such love.

Such love, stilling my restlessness;
such love, filling my emptiness;
such love, showing me holiness;
O Jesus, such love.

Such love, springs from eternity
such love, streaming through history
such love, fountain of life to me
O Jesus, such love.

*Psalm 51:1-2
& Matthew 11:28-30*

Graham Kendrick b.1950

Post Communion Prayer

The Bishop prays

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.
Amen.

All pray together

**We thank you, gracious Father,
for welcoming your children
to feast in your kingdom;
by your love unite us
and with your Spirit send us,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

THE SENDING OUT

Hymn

Please stand, if able, to sing

We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim:
the Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save;
in lonely suffering on the cross
for all he loved, his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free;
he broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand
by all creation glorified;
he sends his Spirit on his church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
this gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Edward Burns b. 1938

FULDA

William Gardiner 1770-1853

The Blessing

All remain standing as the Bishop says

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.

Amen.

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

Amen.

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

Amen.

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

Amen.

The Archdeacon of Macclesfield says

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

*Applause is offered as the bishops lead the
newly ordained deacons out of the Cathedral.*

Organ Voluntary

Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist (BWV 671)

J.S. Bach 1685-1750

RECESSION

The Bishop of Chester

New deacons

The Bishop of Birkenhead and
The Bishop of Stockport

The Cathedral Choir

Cross
Acolytes

Verger

Training Incumbents

Dean of Emmanuel Theological College
Ministry Officers
Director of Ministry

The Dean's Vicar
The Canon Diocesan and BADDOM
The Vice Dean

The Dean of Women in Ministry
The Archdeacons
The Dean

The Registrar

Honorary Assistant Bishops

Elle Bird



My name is Eleanor and I have a husband called Paul and a daughter called Lucy, and together we love Jesus more than anything else in the world! Before my training, I was in full time church ministry for over fifteen years leading Kids and youth work and investing a lot of time in intergenerational church too through training others and writing a book on the subject. I am passionate about everyone having access to a church family that accepts and loves them, and that invests in their discipleship journey - so that they too can serve, lead and reach their full potential in Christ. I am so excited to be ordained and to serve God's church in new ways as I follow his call on my life. I have held the call to leadership for many years, and it feels such a humbling privilege to be stepping forward today.

Kathryn Elsmore



Originally from Rickmansworth, we moved to North Wales 20 years ago, and latterly to the Chester area. I have been married for 33 years and we have six children and two grandsons. I have been involved with church life since I was 13, though my faith journey started with the school Christian Fellowship when I moved up to High School. One of our daughters has severe learning disability and autism. Through

her, I have met so many lovely people who are struggling to be heard. I work as a support worker for people with dementia. I long to bring the Gospel to those who feel unloved or excluded. The journey to ordination has included studying with The Light College, and taking Theology with Counselling Skills at Chester University, before going to Theological College for post-graduate study. I Would never have thought this was possible, but God's grace makes all things perfect in our weakness (2 Cor 12:8).

Andrew Field-Davies

I was raised in a small mining valley in South Wales to wonderful Christian parents. It was here I began my journey of faith, discovered a love for rugby and music (neither of which were optional) and first laid eyes on my beautiful wife, Helen. I moved to the Wirral in 2005 where we have settled and grown to a family of 6. Neo, Ben, Emily and Levi make up our vibrant and very busy home, with Po our cockapoo adding his colourful character to the mix. I am blessed to say that all my family love the Lord. God called me, quite unexpectedly, out of ministry within AOG and into the CofE shortly after turning forty. Soon I was on the path to discernment and now I find myself preparing for ordination. It's been a journey that has challenged and shaped me for the ministry that now lies ahead.



Sandra Fletcher

Born on the Wirral. Second youngest of nine siblings, although separated at a young age. At the age of two and half I was adopted along with one of my biological sisters. I was christened at a United Reformed Church in Rock Ferry and attended Brownies, Guides and Rangers. I became a Christian when I was 27, when my son was 2 years old, at a Christian conference and was baptised at the Longcroft Christian Fellowship. I have three grandchildren and live with one of my older sisters plus our new little dog in St Mary's Church Upton (House) as caretaker for the last two and a half years. I have had varied employment from kennel maid, adult placement carer, security guard and social worker. For five years I was the ministry leader for a 12 step Christ Centred Recovery Programme at Kings Church Birkenhead. In 2019 God called me to full time ministry in the Church of England whilst at a friend's Ordination in Liverpool Cathedral.



David Hill

Growing up in the Welsh Valleys with two Christian parents, I have known God from a young age. I moved to Marple, near Stockport, as a teen so am now English unless watching rugby. I am married to Rachel with two children. In my spare time I enjoy sport, pub quizzes, reading, and writing (both



academic and fiction). Following my time at university and a job in banking, I've been a youth minister for six years. I hope to combine this calling to young people with a love for theological education as I move into ordained life. I'm currently studying for a DTh in Practical Theology and look forward to getting stuck into a wide range of community activities, including pioneering education, during my curacy at St Chad's, Romiley. Thanks to my friends, family, and sending church for their love and prayers and thanks to God for everything else.

Gaynor Kydd

I grew up in a ministry family my father being a methodist minister and a hospital chaplain and as a family we moved many times. As a teenager we moved to the Lake District where I met my future husband Malcolm. I became more involved in Church life and became a Christian aged eighteen. I had always wanted to be a nurse and moved to Blackpool to train as a Registered Nurse . I married Malcolm in 1989 , shortly afterwards we moved to Carlisle as Malcolm started his first job as a Christian youth Worker. We have three children, Anna, Sam and Beth and one Granddaughter Lottie. We moved to The Wirral in 1998 for my husband to take up the role of youth worker at St Mary's Upton. I first felt called to ministry in 2007, first completing pastoral worker training then commencing ordination



training in 2022. I continue to work part-time as a nurse in a fracture and orthopaedic clinic.

Heidi Munn

My family was not Christian, but I came to faith aged 14 when I heard that Jesus loved me and would be my friend forever. Jesus has indeed seen me through many storms in life and the Holy Spirit has brought much healing and peace. I have also been blessed by the love of my husband Nick, our teenage sons (David and Peter), kind friends and Nick's supportive family. During the pandemic I heard God asking me to serve in a different way. It took time to hear this as a call to ordination and I am grateful for the encouragement I received from my church families in Osterley and Richmond, and from fellow students and staff at St Mellitus College, London. I look forward to joining Norbury Church in Hazel Grove as a deacon, to serving its community, and to making a new home in the North West.



Denise Noble

I was born in Stockport and have lived in Leicester and Nottingham, but have lived in Chester for the past 26 years. I am married to David and we have three adult children. I have worked in Education for the whole of my working



life, initially as a primary school teacher and more recently as a Specialist Teacher with Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority, a role I will continue in after ordination. Lived experience of autism and disability fuel a desire to see all people enabled to be the person God created them to be. The calling into ordained ministry came in and through my working in Education as a Christian and I see this very much as part of my ongoing ministry. I have been a Christian for as long as I can remember and most recently I have been a member of St Peter's, Chester.

Rachel Pendleton

Hi, I'm Rachel. I'm married to Chris and I have two girls, Izzy and Esme. I'm from Middlewich and will be undertaking my curacy in Sandbach. I love to try new things and have a strong interest in connecting with people and communities outside of the church, helping others find God in chaotic moments, in small everyday occurrences, is something that really speaks to me. In my previous careers I have championed social justice and alleviating poverty and that is something close to my heart. I love football, fantasy books, politics and my family: not necessarily in that order! I am excited but more than a little nervous for the journey ahead.



Sam Rowan

I decided to follow Jesus aged 8, at a powerful Christian event in a big tent on a camp site in Anglesey, Wales. Throughout school and university, I would find ways of sharing my faith, because of the fulfilment and freedom it brings me. Aged 21, when exploring career paths, the Holy Spirit spoke to me about a life-long vocation of serving people within communities and serving God. Now aged 36, reflecting back, that is what I have done and what I will continue to do. I felt led to pioneer a Christian and community coffee shop called Community SOUL, celebrating ten years in November 2023. My strengths are in hospitality, pioneering and evangelism. I have felt called to Anglican ordained ministry since 2016. I enjoy playing football, open-water swimming, running, live music, good coffee, and a pint in the pub.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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