



# Ordination of Deacons

5 July 2025



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. You may not be able to receive Communion from the new deacon you are here to support – unfortunately that is one of the downsides of ordination services!

**Children** are very welcome at Cathedral services. Please ask a steward if you would like children’s resources. You are welcome to remain in the service throughout, or you may prefer to take children 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. The **hearing loop** 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 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. Please email [communications@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:communications@oxford.anglican.org) with any concerns. **No other photography or filming is permitted during the service.**

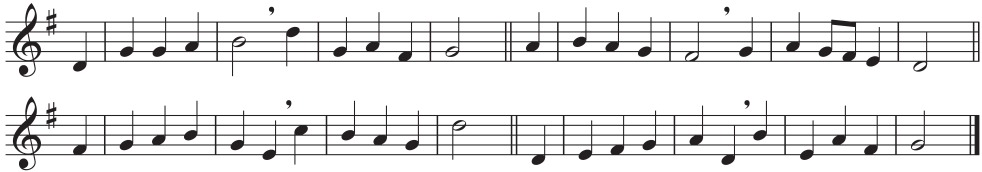
There will be a **collection** for the **Bishop of Oxford’s Outreach Fund**, dedicated to supporting the mission of the church nationally and internationally (please see p. 21).





*At the entry of the Bishop's procession, it is our custom to stand to sing.*

### Processional Hymn



O worship the King, all glorious above;  
O gratefully sing his power and his love;  
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;  
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,  
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;  
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,  
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;  
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.



O measureless might, ineffable love,  
while angels delight to hymn thee above,  
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,  
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

WORDS: Robert Grant (1779–1838)

MUSIC: Hanover, arr. Alan Gray (1855–1935)

Common Praise 546

### 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 Dave/ Bishop Mary, 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 Deo.  
Et in terra pax  
hominibus bonæ voluntatis.  
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,  
adoramus te, glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi  
propter magnam gloriam tuam,  
Domine Deus, Rex cœlestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite,  
Jesu Christe,  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,  
Filius Patris,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus;  
tu solus Dominus;  
tu solus Altissimus,  
Jesu Christe,  
cum Sancto Spiritu  
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*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* 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.**

*Please sit down.*

## Reading

Jeremiah 1: 4–10 (NRSV)

*Reader* A reading from the prophecy of Jeremiah.

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,

‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.’

Then I said, ‘Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak,  
for I am only a boy.’ But the Lord said to me,

‘Do not say, “I am only a boy”;  
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,  
and you shall speak whatever I command you.  
Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to deliver you,  
says the Lord.’







Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and  
the Lord said to me,

‘Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint  
you over nations and over kingdoms,

to pluck up and to pull down,  
to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant.’

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

### Reading

Romans 12: 1–13 (NRSV)

*Reader* A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies  
of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and  
acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be  
conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing  
of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of  
God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you  
not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think,  
but to think with sober judgement, each according to the  
measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body  
we have many members, and not all the members have the  
same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,  
and individually we are members one of another. We have  
gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy,  
in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in  
teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity;  
the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.





Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.

*All* Thanks be to God.

*Please stand to sing.*

### Worship Song

King of kings, Majesty  
God of Heaven living in me  
Gentle Saviour, closest friend  
Strong Deliverer, beginning and end  
All within me falls at Your throne:

*Your Majesty, I can but bow  
I lay my all before You now  
In royal robes I don't deserve  
I live to serve your Majesty.*

Earth and Heaven worship You  
Love eternal, Faithful and True  
Who bought the nations, ransomed souls  
Brought this sinner near to Your throne  
All within me cries out in praise:

*Your majesty, I can but bow  
I lay my all before You now  
In royal robes I don't deserve  
I live to serve your Majesty.*

WORDS and MUSIC: Jarrod Cooper  
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**Gospel Reading**  
**Luke 12: 35–40 (NRSV)**

*Deacon* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus taught his disciples, saying:

‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

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

**The Sermon**

*The Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft,  
Bishop of Oxford*

*Please sit down when you are invited.*

*After the sermon, we stand to sing.*



## Worship Song

My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
but wholly trust in Jesus name

When darkness seems to hide his face  
I rest on his unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale  
my anchor holds within the veil.

*Christ alone, cornerstone,  
weak made strong in the Saviour's love;  
through the storm  
he is Lord, Lord of all*

His oath, his covenant, his blood  
support me in the 'whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way  
he then is all my hope and stay.

*Christ alone, cornerstone...*

When he shall come with trumpet sound  
O may I then in him be found  
dressed in his righteousness alone  
and faultless, stand before the throne.

*Christ alone, cornerstone...*

WORDS and MUSIC: Jonas Myrin, Reuben Timothy Morgan,  
Eric Oskar Liljero, © Little Shop Of Morgansongs,  
Hillsong Music Publishing UK, Hillsong Music Publishing Australia,  
Hillsong Mp Songs



## 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.*



**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 clouded 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, tr. 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, Gavin, Mary and Dave,  
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

*The Congregation stands. 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

**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/outreach-fund.php](http://oxford.anglican.org/outreach-fund.php)*



## Offertory Song

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 heaven he stands  
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,  
and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look, and see him there  
who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Saviour died,  
my sinful soul is counted free;  
for God, the just, is satisfied  
to look on him and pardon me.

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 by his blood;  
my life is hid with Christ on high,  
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

WORDS: *Charitie de Chenez (1841–1923)*  
MUSIC: *Before the throne of God above,*  
*copyright © Vikki Cook 1997*





## 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:



Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth:  
pleni sunt cœli  
et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

*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.*

Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Blessed is he that cometh in the  
name of the Lord. Hosanna in the  
highest.*

*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,  
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

*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.*







## Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.

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

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.

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

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona nobis pacem.

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

*The Choir sings the Anthem, after which you are invited to  
join in with the band as they sing worship songs.*

## Worship Songs

I cast my mind to Calvary  
where Jesus bled and died for me.  
I see his wounds, his hands, his feet.  
My Saviour on that cursed tree.

His body bound and drenched in tears  
they laid him down in Joseph's tomb.  
The entrance sealed by heavy stone,  
Messiah still and all alone.

*O praise the name of the Lord our God,  
O praise His name forever more;  
for endless days we will sing Your praise  
O Lord, O Lord our God.*

Then on the third at break of dawn,  
the Son of heaven rose again.  
O trampled death where is your sting?  
The angels roar for Christ the King.

*O praise the name of the Lord our God...*



He shall return in robes of white,  
the blazing Son shall pierce the night,  
and I will rise among the saints,  
my gaze transfixed on Jesus' face.

*O praise the name of the Lord our God....*

WORDS and MUSIC: Benjamin Hastings /  
Dean Ussher / Marty Sampson  
© Music Services, Incsic

Worthy of every song we could ever sing,  
worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
we live for you, oh, we live for you.

Jesus, the Name above every other name  
Jesus, the only One who could ever save  
worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
we live for you, we live for you.

*Holy, there is no one like you  
there is none beside you  
open up my eyes in wonder  
and show me who you are  
and fill me with your heart  
and lead me in your love to those around me.*

And I will build my life upon Your love  
it is a firm foundation.  
And I will put my trust in You alone  
and I will not be shaken.

WORDS and MUSIC: Matt Redman / Kirby Kaple / Brett  
Yunker / Pat Barrett / Karl Martin  
© Worshiptogether.com Songs, Sixsteps Music, Said  
And Done Music, Thankyou Music Ltd., Thankyou Music,  
Capitol Cmg Genesis, Bethel Music Publishing, Vamos  
Publishing, Housefires Sounds, Kaplemusic



*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;  
worship his holy name;  
sing like never before, O my soul,  
I'll worship your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,  
it's time to sing your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me  
let me be singing when the evening comes

*Bless the Lord, O my soul...*

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger;  
your name is great and your heart is kind.  
For all your goodness I will keep on singing:  
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

*Bless the Lord, O my soul...*

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near and my time has come,  
still my soul will sing your praise unending:  
ten thousand years and then for evermore.

*Bless the Lord, O my soul...*

WORDS and MUSIC: Jonas Myrin/ Matt Redman  
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## Prayer after Communion

*Bishop* Let us pray

*A moment of silence is kept.*

*Bishop* Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* Amen.

*All* Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. 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



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.

WORDS: Edward J Burns (b. 1938)

MUSIC: Fulda, William Gardiner (1770–1853)

Common Praise 612

*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.*

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## 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

### The Ordinands

*From the Archdeaconry of Dorchester:*

**Philip James Rowlandson**, to serve in the Benefice  
of Marcham with Garford

**Oliver Shaw**, to serve in the Benefice of Chipping Norton

*From the Archdeaconry of Buckinghamshire:*

**Daniel Robert Carter**, to serve in the Benefice of Hazlemere

**Joshua Aidan King Harris**, to serve in the Benefice  
of High Wycombe

**Mark Anthony Payne**, to serve in the Benefice of Schorne

**Lewis Jeffrey Pat Simonds**, to serve in the Benefice  
of Water Eaton

**Thomas Edward Carey Venables**, to serve in the Benefice of  
Great Marlow with Marlow Bottom, Little Marlow and Bisham

*From the Archdeaconry of Oxford:*

**Samuel Joseph Jones**, to serve in the Benefice  
of Oxford Saint Aldate

**Shi-Hun Daniel Kim**, to serve in the Benefice  
of Oxford Saint Aldate

**Anastasiya Ryabchuk**, to serve in the Benefice of  
Summertown

**Matthew Robert Irvine Schrecker**, to serve in the Benefice of  
Cowley Saint John

**Bethan Siân Willis**, to serve in the Benefice of  
Oxford Saint Matthew with Saint Luke

**Oliver Thomas Irwin Wright**, to serve in the Benefice of  
Oxford Saint Clement



## Service Details

The Presiding Bishop is the Rt Revd David Bull, Bishop of Buckingham. Music is sung by the Cathedral Singers, under the direction of Hilary Punnett. The Organ is played by Simon Hogan.

The Gloria, Sanctus and Agnus Dei are sung in English, and the setting is by Kenneth Leighton (1929–1988), in D.

### Organ Music before the service

*Prelude and Fugue in C (BWV 547)* JS Bach (1685–1750)  
*Nun bitten wir heiliger Geist (BuxWV 208)*  
Dietrich Buxtehude (c.1637-1707)

### Organ Voluntary

*Final, from Symphony No. 2*  
Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937)

### Anthem

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n, to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesu, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.  
Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit, let us find that second rest.  
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.  
Come, Almighty to deliver; let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy host above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.  
Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;  
Changed from glory into glory till in Heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

MUSIC: Howard Goodall (b. 1958)



## 2pm Ordination Service

### The Ordinands

*From the Archdeaconry of Berkshire:*

**Lucy Margaret Bowley**, to serve in the Benefice of Binfield

**Matthew Richard Clark**, to serve in the Benefice  
of West Downland

**Kajsa-Stina Longuère**, to serve in the Benefice  
of Earley St Peter

*From the Archdeaconry of Dorchester:*

**James Kashmiri Lal Chal**, to serve in the Benefice of  
Bicester with Bucknell, Caversfield and Launton

**Gemma Rebecca Ferrier**, to serve in the Benefice of  
Woodstock and Bladon

**Szabina Patel**, to serve in the Benefice of  
Great Faringdon with Little Coxwell

**Claire Emily Wren**, to serve in  
the Benefice of Dorchester and the benefice of Warborough

### Service Details

The Presiding Bishop is the **Rt Revd Mary Gregory, Bishop of Reading**. Music is sung by the **Cathedral Choir**, under the direction of Peter Holder. The Organ is played by Richard Moore, George Balfour and Michael Chesters.

The Gloria, Sanctus and Agnus Dei are sung in Latin, and the setting is the Missa Brevis in F (K.192) by WA Mozart (1756–1791).

### Organ Music before the service

*Prelude and Fugue in C (BWV 545),  
Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit (BWV 669),  
Christe, aller Welt Trost (BWV 670)*

JS Bach (1685–1750)

### Organ Voluntary

*Fiesta*

Emma Lou Diemer (1927–2024)





## Anthem

Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine,  
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine,  
cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine,  
esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

*Hail, true body, born of the Virgin Mary; which truly suffered,  
sacrificed on the Cross for humankind; from whose pierced  
side flowed water and blood. Be for us a foretaste in the trial  
of death.*

WORDS: attr. Pope Innocent VI (d. 1362)

MUSIC: WA Mozart (1756–1791)



## 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.



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**'... 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*

