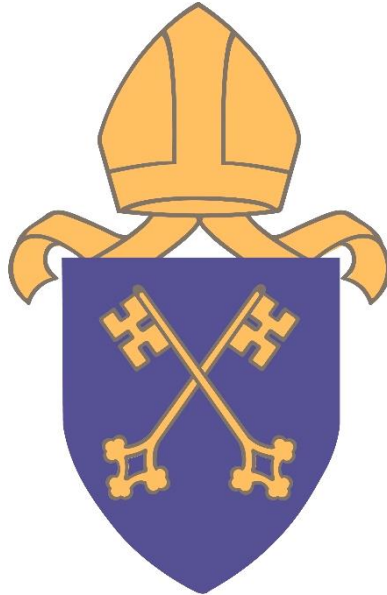


The Cathedral Church of St Peter and
The Holy and Indivisible Trinity
Gloucester



The Ordination of Deacons

Sunday 27th June 2021 at 10.15am

Episcopal Collections

Collections at 2021 episcopal services, such as this one, will support TIC+



TIC+ is a Christian-led charity providing free face-to-face and online counselling services for young people aged between 9-21 years. TIC+ also provide a range of additional services such as parent support groups and helplines, family counselling and psycho-educational workshops on a variety of topics. For more details of our services, please visit www.ticplus.org.uk

Our mobile counsellors cover the whole of Gloucestershire. Last year, over 2000 young people used our counselling services to help them cope with issues such as depression, anxiety, bereavement, bullying, anger, relationship problems, low self-esteem and self-harm; TIC+ face increasing demand on service. This year we expect to see over 3,000 children.

We believe getting access to transformative mental health support should be open to everyone; we don't charge for any of our services. The episcopal collection fundraising will allow us to keep seeing children and young people who are going through some of the toughest times of their young lives, as well as supporting parents who can feel so desperate themselves when their child is in such pain. Thank you for helping us be there.

Do give generously if you can. If you gift aid the money you give to this collection, the amount raised will be increased by 25%. Thank you for your support.

The Candidates to be Ordained Deacon:

Rachel Beere

Charlton Kings, Holy Apostles

Miriam Davis

Hucclecote

Luke Falvey

Gloucester, St Catharine

Coral Francis

Minchinhampton with Box and Amberley

Gareth Griffith

South Cotswold Team Ministry

Helen McGeoch

Gloucester, Saint James and All Saints and Christ Church

Welcome to Gloucester Cathedral for today's Ordination

Welcome to this morning's ordination of six deacons to serve in the Diocese of Gloucester. The candidates have spent the last four days in retreat together with the Retreat Conductor, the Revd Canon Aidan Platten.

Aidan is Canon Precentor at Norwich Cathedral and is married to Esther and they have three daughters. Ordained in 2003, Aidan served his title at St Mary's Woodbridge in Suffolk and then moved to be Chaplain to the Bishop of Gloucester for until 2010 when he moved to be Vicar of St Mark's Hamilton Terrace in London. Aidan has been Precentor of Norwich Cathedral since 2017 and has oversight of the cathedral's liturgy, music and worship and is also the Chapter's safeguarding lead.

Away from the cathedral, Aidan is a member of the executive board of the Association of English Cathedrals, serves on the Fabric Advisory Committee for St Edmundsbury Cathedral and chairs the board of Imagine Norfolk Together, part of the Church Urban Fund's Together Network.

Away from church life, Aidan and the family are keen sailors and sail on the North Norfolk coast and Aidan unwinds by getting his hands dirty restoring classic cars.

Before the service today the candidates made the Declaration of Assent, printed on the next page, and swore the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Canonical Obedience to the Bishop of Gloucester. During the retreat the candidates shared in a time of preparation, prayer and reflection. This included a Liturgy of Penitence, Healing and Reconciliation, the washing of the candidates' feet by the Bishop, and the Bishop's Ordination Charge.

They come now to be ordained deacon by the laying on of the Bishop's hands and by the prayers of the whole congregation assembled to support them.

After the ordination they go to the parishes where they are to serve and begin their ministry as deacons.

Declaration of Assent

The Bishop says

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?

and each ordinand replies

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 Bishop of Gloucester will preside. The deacon of the rite is the Archdeacon of Gloucester.

Our preacher this morning is the Revd Canon Aidan Platten, Canon Precentor of Norwich Cathedral, who has guided the ordinands on their retreat.

The music is sung by the boys and Lay Clerks of the Cathedral Choir, conducted by the Cathedral Director of Music, Adrian Partington. Playing the organ is Assistant Director of Music, Jonathan Hope.

We are sorry to have to ask you not to leave any valuables behind when you move to receive communion.

Please do not take photographs during the service. There will be an opportunity to take photographs of the candidates with the Bishop after the service. The use of any recording equipment during the service is not permitted.

Order of Service

¶ *The Gathering*

When the Choir is in its place, please stand as the Bishop leads those about to be ordained as deacons into the Cathedral from the West Doors.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear;
now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth;
Sheildeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth:
hast thou not seen
how thy heart's wishes have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee.
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for aye we adore him!

*Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680)
tr. Catherine Winkwirth (1827-1878)*

The Greeting

The Bishop says

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All **Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

There is one body and one spirit.

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

One Lord, one faith, one baptism.

All **one God and Father of all.**

Peace be with you

All **and also with you.**

The congregation sits and 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 the one 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 God's 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.

Invitation to confession

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

In a dark and disfigured world
we have not held out the light of life:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

In a hungry and despairing world
we have failed to share our bread:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

In a cold and loveless world
we have kept the love of God to ourselves:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The Bishop says

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 Diocesan Director of Ordinands reads the names of those to be ordained deacon and where they are to serve, first saying

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

When the ordinands have been presented, the Bishop asks these questions, to which the Diocesan Director of Ordinands responds

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 Bishop turns to the ordinands and says

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

The ordinands reply

I do so believe.

The Bishop says

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

The Archdeacon of Gloucester says

They have duly taken the oath of allegiance to the Sovereign and the oath of canonical obedience to the Bishop of Gloucester. 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 invites us to pray in silence, and then says

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 candidates for ordination sit.

¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

Reading

Zechariah 4:1-6a, 10b-14

Read by Matthew McGeogh

The angel who talked with me came again, and wakened me, as one is wakened from sleep. He said to me, 'What do you see?' And I said, 'I see a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it; there are seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it. And by it there are two olive trees, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.' I said to the angel who talked with me, 'What are these, my lord?' Then the angel who talked with me answered me, 'Do you not know what these are?' I said, 'No, my lord.' He said to me, 'This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts. For whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel.

'These seven are the eyes of the Lord, which range through the whole earth.' Then I said to him, 'What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?' And a second time I said to him, 'What are these two branches of the olive trees, which pour out the oil through the two golden pipes?' He said to me, 'Do you not know what these are?' I said, 'No, my lord.' Then he said, 'These are the two anointed ones who stand by the Lord of the whole earth.'

The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

There is silence and stillness.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-19

The congregation stand as the deacon says

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

All Glory to you O Lord.

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

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Sermon

*The Revd Canon Aidan Platten
Canon Precentor at Norwich Cathedral*

After the Sermon, the choir sing "Ubi caritas" by Maurice Duruflé

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur.

Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Amen.

¶ *The Liturgy of Ordination*

The Declarations

The ordinands stand before the Bishop, who addresses the congregation

Deacons are called to work with the Bishops 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 communities 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, so 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.

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

The ordinands reply

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. The Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

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 respond boldly, raising one hand high

All It is!

Will you continually pray for them?

All We will!

Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?

All We will!

The ordinands turn 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.

The Bishop introduces a time of prayer with these words

Pray earnestly for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The ordinands kneel.

The entire congregation prays in silence for a while for those to be ordained.

The Litany

The Litany is said, and the congregation join in the response below

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 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 Rachel our Bishop,
and Robert, Bishop of Tewkesbury,
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 Rachel, Miriam, Luke, Coral, Gareth and Helen
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 Elizabeth our Queen,
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.**

The Bishop says

Remembering all who have gone before us in faith,
and in communion with Mary, Peter, Benedict, Kyneburga,
and all the saints,
we commit ourselves, one another,
and our whole life to Christ our God;

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The Ordination Prayer

The ordinands continue to kneel before the Bishop.

The Bishop stretches out her hands towards the ordinands and says

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:

Here the Bishop lays her hands on the head of each ordinand, saying
Send down the Holy Spirit upon your servant N
for the office and work of a deacon in your Church.

When the Bishop has laid hands on all of the ordinands, the prayer 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.

All **Amen! Amen! Amen!**

The Giving of the Bible

The new deacons stand and are presented with a New Testament by Bishop Robert.

The Bishop of Tewkesbury says

As you begin this new ministry,

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

The congregation stands.

The Welcome

The deacon of the rite says to the newly ordained deacons

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.**

All greet the new deacons with applause.

The Peace

The Bishop introduces the Peace

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

All and also with you.

The deacon of the rite says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Members of the congregation greet one another and exchange a sign of peace.

¶ The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Hymn

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

*Words Richard Gillard (b 1953)
Copyright © 1977 Universal Music – Brentwood Benson Publishing
Tune Servant Song, Richard Gillard*

The Eucharistic Prayer

The congregation remain seated.

The Bishop says

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **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 sing the Sanctus from the Missa Brevis by Matyas Seiber

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

The Bishop continues

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.

The deacon of the rite says

Great is the mystery of faith.

**All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

The Bishop continues

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 Mary, Peter, Benedict, Kyneburga
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 Lord's Prayer

All As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The Bishop breaks the consecrated bread, saying

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 says

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 body and blood of Christ.

All **Amen.**

The congregation kneels or sits.

All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Those distributing the communion will do so wearing a face covering, and without further words.

The President and people receive communion. Please await directions from the stewards before leaving your seat and stay distanced from others as you move to the front.

Members of all Christian churches are invited to receive Communion here but if you are not receiving Communion please come forward and bow your head as a sign that you wish to receive a blessing.

If you need a gluten-free wafer, please indicate this to the priest.

During the communion the choir sing “God, who as at this time” by Ian King.

God, who as at this time
didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people by
sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the same Spirit,
one God, world without end.
Amen.

*Words: Collect for Pentecost
Music: Ian King (b.1962)*

Prayer after Communion

When the Bishop says Let us pray, all stand and the Bishop says

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.**

All **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 Dismissal*

The congregation sit as the choir sings

Hymn

We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for men in all 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 Joseph Burns b. 1938

The Blessing

The congregation stand and The Bishop says

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

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

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.**

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

The Dismissal

One of the new deacons says

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

As the organ plays Pomp and Circumstance March No4 (Edward Elgar), the Bishop leads the newly ordained deacons through the Cathedral to the applause of the congregation.

Please take this order of service away with you and continue to pray for all those who have been ordained today.

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