



DIOCESE OF
COVENTRY



The Ordination of Deacons
by
Sophie,
Bishop of Coventry

The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul
Sunday, 28th June, 2026 at 10:30 am

Welcome to Coventry Cathedral

Welcome! Today we gather with joy and thanksgiving as members of the Church are ordained to the diaconate in the Church of England. Whether you are a regular worshipper, a family member or friend supporting an ordinand, or attending an ordination service for the first time, we are delighted that you are here.

Ordination marks a significant moment in the life of the Church and in the lives of those whom God has called to serve. Through prayer, the laying on of hands by the Bishop, and the gift of the Holy Spirit, these candidates will be ordained as deacons. Their ministry follows the example of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve.

The ministry of a deacon is rooted in service, compassion, and proclamation. Deacons are called to serve the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely; to interpret the needs and hopes of the world to the Church; and to make Christ's redemptive love known through word and action. They assist in leading worship, proclaim the Gospel, and help God's people to see Christ at work in the world around them.

At the heart of today's liturgy is the belief that every Christian is called to share in God's mission. The deacon's ministry is a visible reminder that the Church exists not for itself, but for the service of God's kingdom in the world. As those being ordained answer God's call, we are all invited to reflect anew on our own calling as disciples of Jesus Christ. If you are new to faith or wish to explore faith more, please speak to someone today.

Children are especially welcome in the Cathedral. Activities are available at the back of this booklet or in the Children's Corner for younger members of our congregation. Hearing loops are available from the Vergers for those who would find them helpful.

As we worship together, we pray for those being ordained, for the communities they will serve, and for God's Church throughout the world, that we may all grow in faith, service and love.

If you would like to make a one-off donation to the Cathedral via your phone, or set up a recurring donation, please use the QR code here. There are also contactless donation points and collection boxes near the entrance. Thank you for your support.



Of your goodness, pray for those to be ordained to the diaconate today

Helen Sophie Bryant
The Benefice of Rugby East

Caroline Frances Castle
The Benefice of Alcester Minster

Rachel Nadine Douse
Kenilworth, St Nicholas

Benjamin Simon Packwood
Binley, St Bartholomew

Rea Frances Verdon
The Benefice of Edgehill Churches

The service is led by the Right Reverend Sophie Jelley, Bishop of Coventry. The Deacon is the Reverend Esther Peers, Associate Minister, Holy Trinity Leamington Spa and Dean of Women's Ministry, and the sub-deacon is the Reverend Canon Sacha Slavic, Cathedral Associate Minister.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by Joe Watson, Acting Director of Music. The organists are Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music and Adam Heron, Organ Scholar.

The mass setting is the Coronation Mass by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791).

Ayla Verdon, a photography student, has been designated as the official photographer for this service. For safeguarding reasons, we kindly ask that no photographs are taken during the service.

You are very welcome to take photographs after the service has concluded, and we encourage you to do so as you celebrate this special occasion.

Before the service

A number of legalities were dealt ~~with~~-in advance of this service. The Declaration of Assent is made by deacons, priests and bishops of the Church of England when they are ordained and on each occasion when they take up a new appointment (Canon C 15). It is printed below. Candidates also make an oath of allegiance to the Sovereign and an oath of canonical obedience to the Bishop of the Diocese.

The Preface to the Declaration of Assent

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?

The 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 authorized or allowed by Canon.

At **10.00am** the candidates for ordination are led to their seats, next to their families, at the front of the Nave, while the band leads pre-service worship songs. ~~At the end of the service, everyone is welcome to enjoy conversation at the back of the Nave.~~

The Gathering

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy! all the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim, falling down before thee,
Who was and is and evermore shall be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

(c)Public Domain - Reginald Heber (1823)

Open the Eyes of my Heart

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see You

© 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Leadworship Songs

Real Thing

There's a grace that comes when we say yes
To the fire of your holiness
We want You and we want nothing less
Fill our empty hands and lives, Jesus

We are blessed when have nothing left
But to hunger for Your righteousness
We want You and we want nothing less
Break the pride that hinders us, Jesus
Oh, let your church arise
In truth and grace

*Now for the real thing
Now for the kingdom come
Now for refining
We are more than we've become
Now for repenting
Until our only cry is 'Jesus'
Now for the promise
Now for the church on fire
Now for the fullness
We want more than shallow lives
Now for your goodness
To fill the whole earth, Jesus*

There's a joy that comes when we let go
When we lose ourselves we find your love
We want you and we want nothing more
Break the pride that hinders us, Jesus
Oh, let your church arise
In truth and grace

© Vineyard Nordic Worship; Integrity Music

Holy Forever

A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us and all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

*And the angels cry holy
All creation cries holy
You are lifted high, holy
Holy forever*

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

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At **10.25am** the Reverend Canon Kate Massey, Acting Dean of Coventry, welcomes the congregation.

At **10.30am** the organist sounds a fanfare and we **STAND**. As the procession enters, we sing

Hymn

**All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.**

**Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.**

**God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.**

**Daily doth th'Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.**

**Still from all to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.**

*Words by Robert Bridges (1844-1930)
Tune CP 368 Michael Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*

The Greeting

The Right Reverend Sophie Jelley, Bishop of Coventry, greets the people
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 Bishop adds informal words of welcome 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.

We SIT.

The Presentation

The candidates are presented by The Reverend Mark Norris, Diocesan Director of Ordinands, saying

~~Reverend Mother in God, Bishop Sophie,~~

I present the following candidates to be ordained to the office of deacon in the Church of God:

N, to serve in N.

The ordinands move to the seats laid out at the front of the nave.

When the ordinands have been presented they remain standing The Reverend Mark Norris, Diocesan Director of Ordinands, joins them. The Bishop asks:

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 says to the ordinands

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

I do so believe.

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

The Diocesan Registrar, Geoffrey Cotterill, says

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.

Gloria in Excelsis

We STAND. *The choir sings.*

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards 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, Jesu 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, 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 most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Bishop invites everyone to pray silently for each candidate.

The Collect

The Bishop 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 Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading

We remain SEATED as Esme Bryant reads

A Reading from the First Book of Samuel.

¹ Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.

⁴ Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

⁶ The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸ The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

1 Samuel 3: 1-10

This is the Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Everyone STANDS.

The Gospel Acclamation

During the singing of the Acclamation, the Gospel procession forms up and moves to the centre of the Nave – please turn to face the book of the Gospels as it passes. The choir sings, and then everyone repeats



The choir sings

If anyone serves me, he must follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, there will my servant be also.

John 12:26

Everyone repeats the Alleluias.

The Gospel

The deacon says

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy, others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" ⁶ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

Luke 10:1-9

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

A short organ improvisation follows as the Gospel procession returns and the preacher moves to the Pulpit.

The Sermon

Preached by the Reverend Sarah O' Donoghue, Diocesan Renewal Officer in the Diocese of Blackburn and Ordination Retreat Conductor. Please remain STANDING until the preacher has prayed, then SIT. After the sermon, the preacher returns to their seat, and time is kept for reflection. We remain SEATED as the band leads.

Song

Blessed assurance
Jesus is mine
He's been my fourth man in the fire time after time
Born of His Spirit
Washed in His blood
And what He did for me on Calvary is more than enough

*Oh, I trust in God
My Savior
The One who will never fail
He will never fail*

Perfect submission
All is at rest
I know the Author of Tomorrow has ordered my steps
So, this is my story
And this is my song
I'm praising my risen King and Savior all the day long

*I sought the Lord, and He heard, and He answered
I sought the Lord, and He heard, and He answered
I sought the Lord, and He heard, and He answered
That's why I trust Him, that's why I trust Him*

*That's why I trust Him
That's why I trust in God
My Savior
The One who will never fail
He will never fail*

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The Liturgy of Ordination

The Declarations

Those to be ordained deacon remain 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.

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 continues

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.**

Will you continually pray for them?

All **We will.**

Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?

All **We will.**

The ordinands turn back to face the Bishop, who says

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 Bishop, ministers and ordinands kneel and complete silence is kept.

Veni Creator Spiritus

Bishop Sophie intones the first line of 'Veni Creator'

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,

Everyone joins in

**and lighten with celestial fire;
thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart:**

**Thy blessed unction from above
is comfort, life and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight:**

**Anoint and cheer our soiled 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.**

*Tune CP 178 Veni Creator Mode viii
Latin, paraphrased by Bishop John Cosin (1594-1672)*

The Litany

The Bishop says

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

The Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship & Welcome,

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 Sophie, our Bishop,
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 Helen, Caroline, Rachel, Benjamin, Rea
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 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 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.

Each candidate, in turn, comes before the Bishop, who prays for each one
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 each ordinand, 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.**

The newly-ordained deacons stand and turn to face the congregation. The Training Incumbents come forward to present and vest each newly-ordained deacon with a stole to reflect their new ministry.

The Welcome of the Newly-ordained Deacons

The deacon invites everyone to STAND and then says to the newly-ordained deacons

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

We say together

**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 Bishop adds [his/her](#) own words of welcome.

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

All **and also with you.**

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We remain STANDING to offer a greeting of peace to those around us and then we sing the hymn.

After sharing the Peace, the Bishop and those who are to assist in administering Communion move to the High Altar. The new deacons return to their seats.

We do not take collections **during** the service, however, at the end of the service, we would greatly appreciate your generosity in donating to the life and work of the Cathedral. You can do so via your phone, using the QR Code at the end of this order of service, or, alternatively, there are donation boxes and contactless payment stations found in the Nave.

Hymn

We remain *STANDING* to sing the hymn.

**And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**

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

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

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

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

Words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Tune CP 376 Sagina from Thomas Campbell The Bouquet (1823)

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Bishop introduces

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

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 sings

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

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 introduces

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 the Mary, Michael, 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 SITS or KNEELS, and SILENCE is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

Please feel free to say the Lord's Prayer in any language or version you prefer.

All As our Saviour 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.

The 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.**

The Invitation to 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.**

Agnus Dei

The choir sings as the ministers and servers receive Communion

*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.*

The Giving of Communion

Please wait in your seat to be directed by a churchwarden or steward. If you wish to receive gluten-free bread, please ask and we will accommodate you. Those who do not intend to receive Communion, but would prefer to receive a blessing, are asked to carry this booklet as an indication to the ministers. We will be offering the bread and the chalice both at the high altar and in the Nave. Please do not feel any pressure to take the cup if you feel uncomfortable, but please do not try to dip the wafer into the wine, as that presents its own contamination risks. You will not be receiving a lesser gift in any way: Christ is fully present in either bread or wine.

Anthem

The choir sings

Bogoróditse Dyévo, ráduisya, Blagodátnaya Mariye, Gospód s tobóyu. Blagoslovyéna ty v zhenákh, i blagoslovyén plod chryéva tvojevó, yáko Spása rodilá yesí dush náshikh.

Mother of God, rejoice. Blessed Mary, God is with Thee; Blessed art Thou among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb because you bore the Saviour of our souls.

Music by Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943)

Song

As the distribution of Holy Communion continues, the following are sung by everyone, SITTING or KNEELING

**All I once held dear, built my life upon
All this world reveres, and wars to own
All I once thought gain I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now, compared to this**

**Knowing You, Jesus
Knowing You
There is no greater thing
You're my all, You're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love You, Lord**

**Now my heart's desire is to know You more
To be found in You and known as Yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All-surpassing gift of righteousness**

**Knowing You, Jesus
Knowing You
There is no greater thing
You're my all, You're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love You, Lord**

**Oh, to know the power of Your risen life
And to know You in Your sufferings
To become like You in Your death, my Lord
So with You to live and never die**

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I See The Lord

**I see the Lord
Seated on the throne exalted,
And the train of His robe
Fills the temple with glory
And the whole earth is filled
And the whole earth is filled
And the whole earth is filled
With His glory**

**Holy, holy, holy, holy
Holy is the Lord
Holy, holy, holy, holy
Holy is the Lord**

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Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

The Bishop invites everyone to STAND, and introduces the following prayer

**All 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.**

The Sending Out

The Solemn Blessing

Everyone STANDS.

The Bishop will say a few words and then gives the blessing.

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

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

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.**

We remain STANDING to sing the hymn. The processions move to the back of the Cathedral; please turn to face the Great Cross as it passes.

Hymn

**Here and now we're bound together:
held in one divine embrace.
Help us see, in one another,
difference as a gift of grace.
As each passing generation
worships you in fresh new ways,
join our songs with all creation,
lift our voice to sing your praise.**

**Lord, affirm our shared vocation:
may we bring your plans to birth,
build your church on sure foundations,
fit to serve a troubled earth.
Growing, praying, sharing, learning,
deep in wisdom, broad in scope,
love-revealing, truth-discerning,
living out the gospel hope.**

**In your work of transformation
you are making all things new.
Stir our hearts' imagination,
call us now to work with you.
Send us out to share your mission;
show us each our part to play.
as we live the **Great Commission**,
joyful in your world today.**

*Words © Ally Barrett
Tune CP 516ii Blaenwern W.P. Rowlands (1860-1937)*

The Giving of the Bible

The Bishop gives a Bible to each newly-ordained deacon and then 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 Dismissal

The newly-ordained deacons say, and we respond

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

Organ Voluntary

Performed by Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music.

Finale from Symphonie No. 6 by Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

Members of the congregation are asked to allow the families and friends of the newly-ordained deacons to be the first to move from the front of the Cathedral.

Please allow those who wish to listen to the music to do so quietly. Everyone is welcome to enjoy conversation at the back of the Nave.

The families of the newly-ordained should be guided to the West End via the side aisles.

Safeguarding at Coventry Cathedral

You can report a concern to our Safeguarding Team by emailing
cathedral.safeguarding@coventrycathedral.org.uk
or phoning 02476 52 1360

Alternatively, you can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team led by Sarah Price by phoning 024 7652 1345 or emailing
safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org

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Quotations from scripture are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.