DIOCESE of OXFORD

ANNUAL SERVICE FOR LICENSED LAY MINISTERS



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, OXFORD

SATURDAY 7 NOVEMBER, 11AM



WELCOME

Welcome to this Cathedral Church, and to this annual service for Licensed Lay Ministers. Please pray for all those to be admitted and licensed, for their families and all who love and support them, and for their parishes and the people they will serve.

A list of those being licensed is found towards the back of this order of service. The president is the Rt Revd Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester, and the preacher is the Revd Dr Andy Angel, Warden of Readers.

The admission and licensing take place in the context of Holy Communion. If you normally receive Communion in your own church, you are most welcome to receive it here. Those wanting gluten-free wafers should come to the dedicated station in front of the High Altar at the east end of the Cathedral.

Please do not instinct (dip) your Communion wafer in the chalice; if you wish not to drink from the common cup, please take the wafer alone.

Anyone not wishing to receive Communion is most warmly invited to come forward at the same time to receive a blessing.

Please bring this order of service with you so that the ministers know that you would like a blessing.

There is a LOOP system for the hard of hearing, which is most effective in the centre of the Cathedral away from the pillars. A large print version of this booklet is available. Please feel free to sit at any point during the service.

This is a public occasion. Please be aware that photography will take place during the service, and that the service is being relayed around the building on the TV screens and livestreamed.

No other photography or filming is permitted during the service. Still images captured by the photographer today may be used in promotional materials published by Christ Church Cathedral or the Diocese of Oxford.

For any questions or concerns relating to photography taking place today, please email communications@oxford.anglican.org

There will be a collection during the service for the Adams-Myland Fund which provides grants to support Readers undertaking further study. Please use a gift aid envelope if you are a UK taxpayer.

The Candidates robe in the Chapter House before the service and move to the cloister for the procession.

Please stand as the procession of Licensed Lay Ministers and Clergy enters the Cathedral before the service begins. Throughout the service, the congregation is invited to join in everything in **bold**.

OPENING HYMN

The word of God breaks forth in power,
and speaks life to the dead;
it saves us in temptation's hour
through Christ our living head.
Pour out your power, O Lord we pray,
and let the voice be heard
of those you summon here today
to speak your mighty word.

The word of God gives out of naught
shape to the dust of earth;
from chaos and confusion fraught
new worlds are brought to birth.
Send forth your Spirit, Lord we pray,
on those who speak of you –
that all who hear their voice today
may live their life anew.

The word of God is swift and sure
and rises far above
all fantasy and false allure
to speak the truth with love.
Bestow that love, O Lord we pray,
on those who speak for you
that what they do and what they say
may to your word be true.

The word of God shines on our way
and lights the path we take;
it warns us when we go astray
and from our sleep we wake.
Speak through your heralds, Lord we pray,
that guidance may be known

by all who long for your new day
yet feel lost and alone.

The Word of God is Christ the Lord,
the true and lively way;
he is the prize and the reward,
the sun of endless day.
Proclaim his story, tell his fame
to greatest and to least
and bid them all in his great name
to share the Master's feast.

© *Paul P J Sheppy. Tune: Kingsfold*

THE GREETING

Bishop
The Lord be with you.

All
and also with you.

Bishop
Let us pray.

All
Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please sit.

INTRODUCTION

Bishop

My brothers and sisters, 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. Readers are called to serve the Church of God and to work together with clergy and other ministers. They are to lead public worship, to preach and teach the word of God, to assist at the eucharist and to share in pastoral, missional, and evangelistic ministry.

As licensed lay ministers, they are to encourage the ministries of all God's people, as the Spirit distributes gifts among us. They are called to help the whole Church to participate in God's mission in and to the world.



PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Bishop

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:
The first commandment is this:
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.'
The second is this:
'Love your neighbour as yourself.'
There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Bishop

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 live.

Let us therefore confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments,
and to live in love and peace with all.

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.

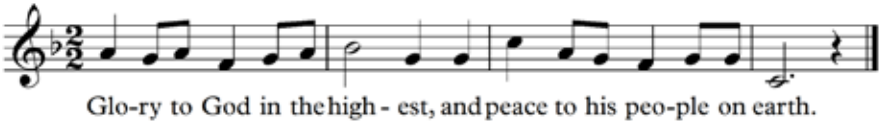
All

Amen.

Please stand.

GLORIA

Congregational Refrain:



All

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Choir

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

All

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Choir

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

All

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Choir

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

All

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Choir

Amen.

Music: Trinity Mass ©2009 David Thorne

Please sit.

THE PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

The Candidates stand and move to the Bishop to be presented to the Bishop by the Warden of Readers.

Warden

Bishop, I present these persons to be admitted to
the office of Reader in the Church of England and licensed as Lay Ministers in this Diocese:
Richard Wallace
Karen Eaves
Julia Kellett
Andrew Lord
Timothy Crapper

When the candidates have been presented, the Bishop asks the Warden of Readers these questions:

Bishop

Have they made the Declaration of Assent, and so 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?

Warden

They have.

Bishop

Have they also made the declaration of obedience to the Bishop and his successors in all things lawful and honest?

Warden

They have.

Bishop

Have they promised to endeavour, as far as it lies with them, to promote peace and unity, to conduct themselves as becomes a worker for Christ, for the good of his Church, and for the spiritual welfare of all people?

Warden
They have.

Bishop
Are they men and women of good lives, sound in faith, regular communicants, and well fitted for the work or a Reader?

Warden
They are.

Bishop
Do they possess sufficient knowledge of Holy Scripture and the doctrine and worship of the Church of England that they are capable of leading worship, preaching, and teaching?

Warden
They do.

THE COLLECT

The Bishop, Warden of Readers and candidates remain standing.

Bishop
Generous and omnipotent God,
who called, in the past, sages and prophets:
bless us, in these last days,
through those you have called,
and we admit today, to the office of Reader;
and make them faithful ministers of your word;
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 Bishop, Warden of Readers, and candidates return to their places. The congregation remains seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament reading: Numbers 11:16-17, 24-29

Reader
This is the word of the Lord.

All
Thanks be to God.

New Testament reading: Acts 20:28-35

Reader
This is the word of the Lord.

All
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
to receive the food of Your holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us
all Your purposes, for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of Your purity.

Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace, we'll stand on Your promises;
and by faith, we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
and the earth is filled with Your glory.

Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend © 2005 Thankyou Music/Adm.

Please remain standing.

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

All
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel: Luke 4:16-21

Reader
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

The Sermon: The Revd Dr Andy Angel

Please stand.

THE CREED

All
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

THE LICENSING

The Congregation sits. The Candidates move to where the Bishop is standing, and stand around him with the Warden of Readers and LLM Archdeaconry Advisors.

Bishop

In order that we may be satisfied that you are ready to begin the ministry of a Licensed Lay Minister, you must now answer the questions we put to you.

Do you believe that God has called you to this Ministry?

Candidates

I do so believe.

Bishop

Will you be faithful in leading the people of God in worship, and in preaching the Word of God to them?

Candidates

By the grace of God I will.

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?

Candidates

By the grace of God I will.

Bishop

Will you endeavour to fashion your life according to the way of Christ?

Candidates

By the grace of God I will.

The Bishop presents the Candidates to the people.

Bishop

Brothers and sisters, these men and women have been chosen for the office of Reader and are to be licensed as Lay Ministers. Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?

All

We will.

Bishop

Will you continue to pray for them?

All

We will.

Bishop

Eternal God, great in mercy and compassion, who orders the church and the world, look on these your servants called to the ministry of your Word: continually fill them with your Holy Spirit that they might speak your Word, live your truth, and glorify you in and through their lives and ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

The Bishop admits each candidate and prays for them in turn.

Bishop

N, I admit you as a Reader in the Church, and I license you as a Licensed Lay Minister in this Diocese, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All

Amen.

The LLM Archdeaconry Advisors put the scarves on their Candidates and give them a Bible.

When all Candidates have received these tokens of ministry, the Bishop says:

Bishop

Receive this book, as a sign of the authority given to you this day to speak God's word to his people. Build them up in his truth and serve them in his Name.

All

Amen.

The Bishop then welcomes the Readers into the ministry into which they have been newly licensed.

Bishop

Richard, Julia, Andrew, Karen, Timothy welcome to your new ministries! To lead people in worship and break open the Word of God are amongst the greatest privileges this life affords. May the Lord bless you richly in this ministry; give you wisdom, courage, love, and strength to do his will; may he stir up in you the gifts of his grace and sustain each one of you throughout your ministry, for his glory.

All

Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

The Bishop, Warden of Readers, and LLM Archdeaconry Advisors return to their places.

Please kneel or sit for the prayers of intercession.

RE-DEDICATION OF LICENSED LAY MINISTERS

All Licensed Lay Ministers in the congregation are now invited to dedicate themselves afresh to their Ministry.

The Congregation remains seated. The Licensed Lay Ministers stand.

Bishop

My brothers and sisters, in the name of the Church, I thank you for your faithful ministry as Licensed Lay Ministers. I pray God's continuing blessing upon you and invite you now to renew your commitment to the ministry entrusted to you.

Bishop

Will you continue to be faithful in leading the people of God in worship, and in preaching the Word to them?

Licensed Lay Ministers

By the grace of God, we will.

Bishop

Will you continue to 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?

Licensed Lay Ministers

By the grace of God, we will.

Bishop

Will you continue to endeavour to fashion your life according to the way of Christ?

Licensed Lay Ministers

By the grace of God, we will.

Bishop

Will you then, pray that the Holy Spirit, continually stir up the gift of God that is in you to make Christ known to all?

Licensed Lay Ministers

Holy Spirit, continually stir up the gift that is in us that we might make Christ known to all to the glory of God the Father. Amen

Bishop

Almighty God, who has given you the will to undertake these things, give you also the strength to perform them, that he may complete that work that he has begun in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

THE PEACE

Please stand.

Bishop

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptised
into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All

and also with you.

Bishop

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

When I survey the wondrous Cross,
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the Tree;
then I am dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts 1674-1748. Tune: Rockingham

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

The Bishop takes the bread and wine.

THE EUCHARIST PRAYER

Bishop
The Lord is here.

All
His Spirit is with us.

Bishop
Lift up your hearts.

All
We lift them to the Lord.
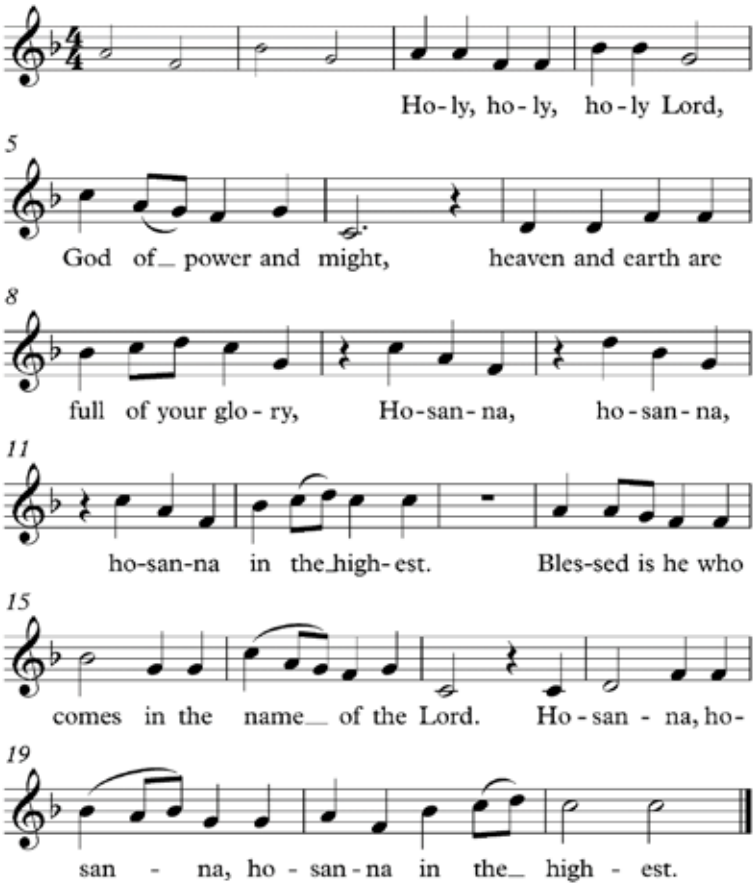
Bishop
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Bishop
Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

All



Bishop

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

All

This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Bishop

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.

All

This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Bishop

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

All

This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Bishop

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story.

All

This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Bishop

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please kneel or sit.

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.

THE BREAKING OF BREAD

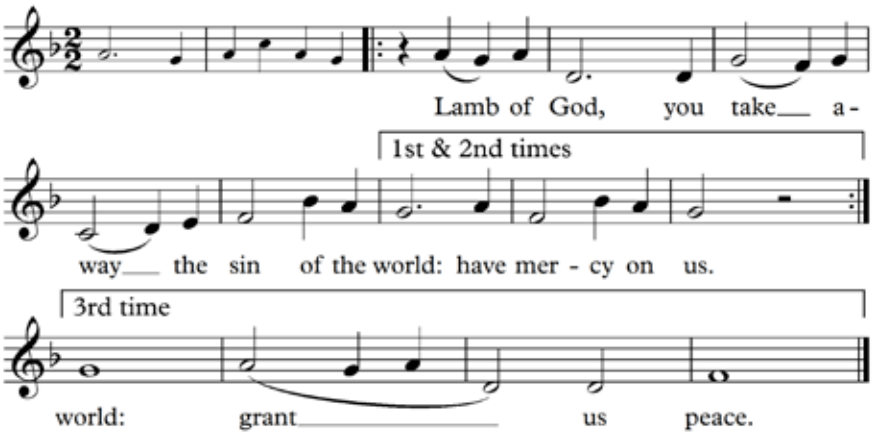
Bishop

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All

Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bishop

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

All

Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

If you normally receive Communion in your own church, you are most welcome to receive it here – please follow the directions of the stewards to the appropriate station.

Those requiring a gluten-free wafer should come to the High Altar at the east end of the Cathedral, where a dedicated station is available immediately in front of the altar.

If you wish Communion to brought to you, please speak to a steward.

All others are most welcome to come forward to receive a blessing: please bring this order of service with you so that the ministers know that you want a blessing.

During Communion the choir will sing, 'Fountain of Sweets' with words by Joseph Beaumont (1615-1699) and music by Peter Aston (1938-2013)

You are warmly invited to join in the hymns.

I will offer up my life in spirit and truth,
pouring out the oil of love as my worship to you.
In surrender I must give my every part;
Lord, receive the sacrifice of a broken heart.

Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring
to so faithful a friend, to so loving a king?
Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung
as a praise of your name for the things you have done?
Oh my words could not tell, not even in part,
of the debt of love that is owed by this thankful heart.

You deserve my every breath for you've paid the great cost;
giving up your life to death, even death on a cross.
You took all my shame away, there defeated my sin
opened up the gates of heaven, and have beckoned me in.

Jesus, what can I give,...

Matt Redman © 1993 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come.
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there a thousand year,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.

John Newton 1725-1807 alt, v5 John Rees 1828-1900. Tune: Amazing Grace

AFTER COMMUNION

The Bishop and others return to the crossing.

Bishop

God of truth,
we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life:
strengthen our faith

that we may grow in love for you and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

All

Almighty God
We thank you for feeding us
with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through Him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Bishop invites all those present who are licensed or authorised to preach to stand and lift up their Bibles

Bishop

God spoke the Word

All

and great was the company of the preachers.

The Bishop invites all who are able to stand for the dismissal.

Bishop

Go into all the word and make disciples of all nations,
bringing them to faith in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
and teaching them to obey the commandments of Jesus;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All
Amen.

Bishop
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All
In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Licensed Lay Ministers and Clergy process out during the hymn.

FINAL HYMN

Go forth and tell! O church of God, awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take;
proclaim Christ Jesus, saviour, Lord, and king,
that all the world his worthy praise may sing.

Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;
he will in grace respond to all who call:
how shall they call if they have never heard
the gracious invitation of his word?

Go forth and tell where still the darkness lies;
in wealth or want, the sinner surely dies:
give us, O Lord, concern of heart and mind,
a love like yours which cares for all mankind.

Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:
share God's good gifts let no one be denied;
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,
your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.

Go forth and tell! O church of God, arise!
go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
go 'til all nations his great name adore
and serve him, Lord and king for evermore

Author: J. E. Seddon 1915-83. Tune: Go forth (Baughen)

Those being admitted and licensed:

- Richard Wallace - St Mary's, Chesham (Buckingham)
- Timothy John Crapper - St Mary's, Wendover (Buckingham)
- Julia Ritsa Kellett - All Saints, Ascot Heath (Berkshire)
- Karen Eaves - All Saints, Ascot Heath (Berkshire)
- Andrew Lord - St John the Baptist, Burford (Dorchester)

We welcome to the diocese:

- Helen White
- Susan Coyne
- Katie Urban

We remember those who have moved to another diocese:

- Veronica Buxton
- Jill Bell

We honour those who have become Emeritus this year or have retired from LLM Ministry:

- Judith Aguda
- Philip Giddings
- Janet Collins
- Maureen Lampard
- Richard Bainbridge
- Richard Simmonds

We remember those who have died:

- Sheila Shield
- Eve Vause
- Gill More
- John Anthony Richmond

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