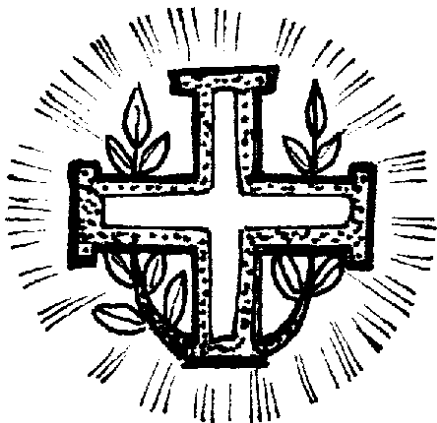


Chelmsford Cathedral

Admission and Licensing of Lay Ministers



Saturday 18th September 2021

2.30pm



You are warmly welcomed to Chelmsford Cathedral, whether you are joining us online or in the Cathedral. Today we are celebrating the Admission and Licensing of Lay Ministers.

Everything you need for this celebration is in this booklet. Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off.

The service today is led by The Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford. The preacher is Caroline Harding, Lay Ministry Adviser.

Music: The music today will be played by Matthew Kelley, the Graham Rogers Organ Scholar.

Toilets: Limited toilet facilities are available. However, public toilets can be found very nearby (behind the Golden Fleece pub).

Hearing Aids: There is a loop system installed throughout the church. If you are a hearing aid user, please turn it to **T**.

You are warmly invited to make a financial contribution to the life of the cathedral by making a donation using the contactless giving plates near the doors. Your gift will be used to enable us to deliver our ministry in its varied forms, from hosting community events, cultural activities, maintaining free entry to this glorious building, supporting our musical and worship tradition and much more. If you would like to find out more about our planned giving scheme, please ask one of the stewards. To donate online, please visit the cathedral website, scroll towards the bottom of the page and under the heading “supporting your cathedral” click the link. Thank you.

If the alarm sounds, please make your way out of the Cathedral via the nearest available door and if it is safe to do so, assemble at the rear of the Shire Hall in the South Eastern corner of the churchyard. Please do not go back for your belongings until you are told it is safe to do so.

Live stream: This service is being live streamed to the Chelmsford Cathedral YouTube channel.

Car park code: 1403

A service to celebrate lay ministry can only begin to record the many and varied ways in which God's people have responded to the call of God to follow and be faithful. Not everyone can be named aloud. We can each only marvel at the rich generosity of God, who not only calls us to share in the divine mission to the world but gives to us so many fellow Christians to join us in missionary discipleship. So as the names of those who are licensed and commissioned today are read out, please also pray for all those in your own churches who are obedient to God's call in their daily lives and pray that we may offer ourselves as co-labourers with Christ, blessed in His service.

To be admitted and licensed as Licensed Lay Ministers from the Bradwell area:

Karen Bates	St Nicholas, Canvey Island
Olga Porteous	St George, New Thundersley
Carolyn Robertson	Ingrave, Brentwood
Elizabeth Robinson	St Lukes, Prittlewell
Susan Shadrake	St Nicholas, Laindon

To be admitted and licensed as Licensed Lay Ministers from the Colchester area:

Stephen Norris	Two Rivers Benefice
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Music before the service

Prelude in Eb major (BWV 552i)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

¶ The Gathering

Before the celebration begins, the congregation is welcomed by the Dean.

Please stand to sing

Hymn (NEH 137)

DOWN AMPNEY

R. Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

**Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till they become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.**

*Words: Italian, Bianco da Siena (d.1434),
tr. R F Littledale (1833-1890) alt.*

The Greeting

The Bishop greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ be with you.

All **And also with you.**

The Bishop gives words of welcome.

Collect for Ministry

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
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 Service of the Word

Please sit

Psalm 66

read by Dee O'Reilly

**R: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

**R: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth.

**R: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

**R: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

Bible Readings

Acts 8 v 26 - 40

read by Stephen Norris

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot,

he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

All

Sermon

Caroline Harding, Lay Ministry Adviser

Please stand to sing

Hymn



**There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
holy one.**

*Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.*

**Jesus, my Redeemer,
name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain:**

Thank you, O my Father...

**When I stand in glory
I will see his face,
and there I'll serve me king
for ever in that holy place.**

Thank you, O my Father...

*Words: Melody and Keith Green
Tune: There is a Redeemer*

Admission and Licensing

The licensed lay ministers and training incumbents stand. The Bishop of Chelmsford says:

God has called us into the fellowship of the universal Church. As members of his body, Christ calls us to minister together in his name and, according to our gifts, to be instruments of his love in the world. Licensed Lay Ministers are called to a ministry of the word, preaching and teaching, inspiring others to follow the way of Christ, and calling them to share in the good news of the kingdom. They are called to a ministry of discernment and encouragement, nurturing the gifts of others and helping God's people to greet their living Lord, so that they may worship him, praise him and live by His commands.

The Revd Dr Elizabeth Jordan says:

Bishop Guli, 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.

The Incumbents say

I present N to serve in the parish of N.

When all the candidates have been presented, the Bishop asks these questions:

Have they made the Declaration of Assent, and thereby 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? Have they also made the declaration of obedience to the Bishop and the declaration which must be made before a Reader is licensed or a Lay Worker admitted?

Elizabeth Jordan: They have.

The Bishop asks

Are they men and women of Christian character, well versed in the Holy Scriptures and in the doctrines of our faith?

Elizabeth Jordan: They are.

The Bishop asks

Have they been sufficiently prepared for the duties of this office?

Elizabeth Jordan: They have.

The Bishop turns to the candidates and says

In order that we may be satisfied that you are ready to begin the work of a Lay Minister, you must now answer the questions we put to you. Do you believe that God is calling you to his ministry?

Candidates: I do so believe.

Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading Holy Scripture, and in all studies that will deepen your faith and fit you to help others learn the truth of the gospel?

Candidates: By the grace of God, I will.

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

Candidates: By the grace of God, I will.

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

Candidates: By the grace of God, I will.

Will you promote unity, peace and love in the Church and in the world, and especially among those whom you serve?

Candidates: By the grace of God, I will.

Will you work closely with your colleagues in ministry and encourage the gifts of others?

Candidates: By the grace of God, I will.

The Bishop says to the congregation

Brothers and sisters, these men and women are to be licensed as Lay Ministers. Will you uphold them in their ministry?

Congregation: **We will.**

Will you continue to pray for them?

Congregation: **We will.**

The Bishop asks the representatives of the parishes of the new LLMs:

Will you work closely with your new Licensed Lay Ministers and encourage them to use their gifts and develop their ministry?

Ministers: **We will.**

Will you commend them to the people amongst whom they will minister?

Ministers: **We will.**

The candidates remain standing before the Bishop. The Bishop then admits them to the office of Reader by the delivery of a copy of the Scriptures. As each Licensed Lay Minister and the Bishop hold the Bible together, the Bishop says

N, I admit you as a Reader in the Church
and license you as a Lay Minister in this diocese.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Bishop blesses the new lay ministers saying

May the Lord give you wisdom, courage, strength
and love to do his will,
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
rest upon you, and on your work done in his name, now and always.

Amen.

Please stand to sing

SAGINA

Thomas Campbell 1824-1876

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef. It begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 2/2. The melody consists of six staves. The first five staves contain the main body of the hymn, and the sixth staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains a shorter, simpler melodic phrase.

**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: Charles Wesley (1707 - 1788)

Tune: Sagina

Re-affirmation of Commitment

The Bishop says

I invite all those who wish to reaffirm their commitment to ministry to stand.

We minister as part of the Body of Christ, each part needing the other and no part able to disregard the gifts of another.

I invite you to commit yourself to the ministry entrusted to you.

Will you proclaim the Gospel in both word and action without regard for your own comfort or reward?

With the help of God and in fellowship with His people, I will.

Will you be faithful in prayer for the needs of those who suffer, and act to release those who are bound by fear?

With the help of God and in fellowship with His people, I will.

Will you continue to study the scriptures, to deepen your knowledge of the Christian faith and to communicate new and fresh insight to others?

With the help of God and in fellowship with His people, I will.

Will you work willingly and in collaboration with all who are your fellow-workers in the gospel?

With the help of God and in fellowship with His people, I will.

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

With God's help, I will.

Please remain standing to sing

Hymn

VULPIUS (GELOBT SEI GOTT)

Melody from Vulpius's *Gesangbuch* 1909

Al - le - lu - ya, Al - le - lu - ya, Al - le - lu - ya,

**Sisters and brothers with one voice
confirm your calling and rejoice:
each is God's child and each God's choice.
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**Strangers no more, but cherished friends,
live as the body God intends,
sharing the love the Spirit sends.
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**Not, though, by wisdom, wealth or skill,
nor by ourselves can we fulfil
what, for the world, is God's own will.
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**Christ is the way. By him alone,
seeds of the kingdom's life are sown,
patterns of heaven and earth are shown.
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**Then follow him through every day.
Fear not what crowds or critics say:
those on the move stir those who stay.
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**In factory, office, home or hall;
where people struggle, strive or stall,
seek out and serve the Lord of All.
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**Seeking and serving, with one voice,
confirm your calling and rejoice:
each is God's child and each God's choice.
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*Words: John L Bell (born 1949) and Graham Maule (born 1958)© 1989 WGRG, Iona Community,
4th floor, Savoy House, 140 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow G2 3DH, Scotland*

Blessing

May the boldness of the Spirit transform you,
may the gentleness of the Spirit lead you,
may the gifts of the Spirit equip you
to serve and worship God.

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

All **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ, Amen.**

Organ Voluntary

Nun dankett alle Gott (Op. 65, No. 59)

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877 – 1933)

Please remain seated during the organ voluntary while the Bishop leads the newly licenced Lay Ministers out of the Cathedral and into the world where they will serve. Once the voluntary has finished, the LLMs are invited to gather for photos.

Safeguarding at Chelmsford Cathedral

Do you have a concern about a child or a vulnerable adult?

You must report that concern directly to our Cathedral Safeguarding Lead

Ms Lisa Blaco

Telephone: 07902 225131

Email: safeguarding@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

If she is unavailable, you must report your concern to our Assistant Safeguarding Lead

Revd Kate Moore

Telephone: 07860 459465

Email: safeguarding@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

If you have information about a safeguarding situation where a child or adult is in immediate danger call the emergency services on 999

To contact your local police to report a non-emergency concern call 101

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL WORSHIP

Join us during the week for prayer online, or in person, at the following times every day:

Weekdays

7.45am: Morning Prayer

8.15am: Eucharist

10.30am: Eucharist on Thursdays*

5.15pm: Evensong on Mondays*, Tuesdays*, Thursdays & Fridays

Sundays

7.45am: Morning Prayer

8am: Eucharist (BCP)

8.45am: Breakfast with the Bible

(available via zoom, contact Canon Imogen Nay for the link)

10.30am: Eucharist

11.30am: Coffee

(available to join us outside)

3.30pm: Evensong

For details of how to listen live or later, visit our website chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk and find our Regular Worship page.

*available to join in person only



visit us at chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk