



— Diocese of —
Hereford

Proclaiming Christ ✦ Growing Disciples



2023 Bishop's Visitation

Hereford Diocese

www.hereford.anglican.org



Welcome

We stand to sing.

Hymn:

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
Sing and praise your God and mine!
Great the Lord in love and wisdom,
Might and majesty divine!
He who framed the starry heavens
Knows and names them as they shine.

Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
Wounded souls his comfort know.
Those who fear him find his mercies,
Peace for pain and joy for woe;
Humble hearts are high exalted,
Human pride and power laid low.

Praise the Lord for times and seasons,
Cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;
Spring to melt the snows of winter
Till the waters flow again;
Grass upon the mountain pastures,
Golden valleys thick with grain.

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
Peace and plenty crown your days!
Love his laws, declare his judgements,
Walk in all his words and ways;
He the Lord and we his children,
Praise the Lord, all people, praise!

Timothy Dudley Smith

Timothy Dudley Smith, 9 Ashlands Ford Salisbury SP4 6DY

Please be seated.

Bishop

O God, make speed to save us.

All

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Bishop

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;

All

if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

Bishop

Yesterday I was crucified with Christ;

All

today I am glorified with him.

Bishop

Yesterday I was dead with Christ;

All

today I am sharing in his resurrection.

Bishop

Yesterday I was buried with him;

All

today I am waking with him.

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

Bishop That this time may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept

As our prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts and set us free
to sing your praise now and for ever.

All Amen

The Reading:

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

The Bishop's address

Hymn:

Facing a task unfinished
That drives us to our knees
A need that, undiminished
Rebukes our slothful ease
We, who rejoice to know Thee
Renew before Thy throne
The solemn pledge we owe Thee
To go and make Thee known.

Where other lords beside Thee
Hold their unhindered sway
Where forces that defied Thee
Defy Thee still today
With none to heed their crying
For life, and love, and light
Unnumbered souls are dying
And pass into the night.

We bear the torch that flaming
Fell from the hands of those
Who gave their lives proclaiming
That Jesus died and rose
Ours is the same commission
The same glad message ours
Fired by the same ambition
To Thee we yield our powers

O Father who sustained them
O Spirit who inspired
Saviour, whose love constrained them
To toil with zeal untired
From cowardice defend us
From lethargy awake!
Forth on Thine errands send us
To labour for Thy sake

Facing a task unfinished
Words by Frank Houghton,
Music by Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Archdeacon Let us pray

We sit or kneel for prayer.

*After prayer led by the Archdeacon,
all join in the prayer:*

All **Merciful God,**
you have called us to be members of Christ
and of his Church in this Archdeaconry.
May we and our congregations
reach up to your throne in adoration and worship;
in to one another in love and fellowship;
and out to the world in evangelism and care;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

The Declaration and Admittance of Churchwardens

The Bishop invites the Churchwardens quietly to read through the declaration which they are about to make.

After a moment's silence, the Churchwardens stand and make their declaration together:

Bishop

(Bishop /Registrar)

Churchwardens are officers of the bishop, responsible for representing the laity, supporting and co-operating with their incumbent and caring for the church building and its contents.

Will you, as leaders elected by your parish and as partners with your incumbent, promote God's mission through pastoral care, sharing the good news, serving the community and working for the unity of God's church?

Wardens

We will, with the help of God

Bishop

(Bishop /Registrar)

Will you do your best to ensure that the church building and its contents are properly maintained, and that they offer a welcome and a witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ?

Wardens

We will, with the help of God

Bishop

(Bishop /Registrar)

Will you care for your clergy and support them in their ministry, offering guidance and advice and ensuring that responsibilities are shared?

Wardens

We will, with the help of God

Bishop I invite you now to make your declaration together.

Wardens **I solemnly and sincerely declare
that I will faithfully and diligently perform
the duties of the office of Churchwarden
within the parish in which I am called to serve
for the coming year.**

Bishop I admit as Churchwardens all you
who have made this solemn declaration.
May our Lord Jesus Christ be with you
in all you do in his service,
and give you grace to fulfil this office
to the glory of God and for the good of his people.
Amen

The newly admitted Churchwardens say together:

Wardens **I will speak out for those who have no voice.
I will stand up for the rights of all the oppressed.
I will speak truth and justice.
I will defend the poor and needy.
I will speak out for those who have no choices.
I will cry out for those who live without love.
I will show God's compassion to the crushed
and broken in spirit.
I will lift up the weak in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

The clergy and others also stand:

Archdeacon Let us now together reaffirm our various ministries.

Will you endeavour to continue
in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread
and in prayers for the church and the world?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

Archdeacon Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and in penitence and faith resolve
to live a godly life
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

Archdeacon Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Jesus Christ?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

Archdeacon Will you endeavour to serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself, and welcoming
the stranger in your midst?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

Archdeacon Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over
human society by prayer for the world and its
leaders, by defending the weak,
and seeking peace and justice?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

Hymn:

WE have a gospel to proclaim,
Good news for all throughout the earth,
The gospel of a Saviour's name:
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
Not in a royal house or hall,
But in a stable dark and dim:
The Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,
Hated by those he came to save,
In lonely suffering on the cross:
For all he loved, his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn,
Empty the tomb, for he was free:
He broke the power of death and hell,
That we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
By all creation glorified:
He sends his Spirit on his Church,
To live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim;
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

We have a gospel to proclaim
Words: Edward Joseph Burns

The Blessing

Bishop May the Father, whose glory
fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you to proclaim his word.

All **Amen**

May the Son, 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 among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen**

*Please join us for refreshments after the service,
kindly provided by members of the parish.*

*Diocesan Officers and Staff will be pleased to talk to you,
and to answer any questions you may have.*



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