

THE DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD
GOING FOR GROWTH

THE CELEBRATION OF
A NEW MINISTRY

*The Licensing & Induction
of*

*The Revd. Nicholas Peter Heron
as*

Priest-in-Charge of Wem & Lee Brockhurst

by

*The Rt. Revd. Jonathan Gledhill
Bishop of Lichfield*

at

The Church of St. Peter & St. Paul, Wem

on

20th February 2014

at

7.30p.m.

GROWING THE KINGDOM

“Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness”

The service is based on the five parts of our Lichfield Diocesan vision of *Growing the Kingdom* in which all have a part to play, whether clergy or laity. Therefore after the Presentation, Licensing and Induction the new Minister and the people together reaffirm their mutual commitment to the Lord and to one another.

The Rural Dean welcomes the congregation.

THE GATHERING

Please stand to sing

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

- 1. God is here; as we his people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of his Spirit into open minds and hearts.**
- 2. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font and pulpit, here the cross has central place; here in honesty of preaching, here in silence as in speech, here in newness and renewal God the Spirit comes to each.**
- 3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd’s flock and fold, here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us, as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what is means in daily living to believe and to adore.**
- 4. Lord of all, of Church and Kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel, help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day’s dedication, all we have to give, receive. We, who cannot live without you, we adore you, we believe.**

Please remain standing as the Bishop greets the people:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Please sit

The Bishop introduces the Liturgy with further words of welcome before the Rural Dean reads:

THE BIDDING AND CALL TO PENITENCE

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence, to offer him our worship and praise, to hear and receive God's Holy Word, and to pray for his blessing on all our work done in the name of Jesus. In particular we meet to commission Nicholas Peter Heron as Priest-in-Charge of Wem and Lee Brockhurst.

As we welcome him, we commit ourselves to working together to discover the heart of God, to growing disciples, to reaching new generations, to transforming communities and to practising generosity.

In all these things, the power and the glory belong to God, and we are but frail earthen vessels.

Knowing our unworthiness and sin, let us ask of God both mercy and forgiveness.

Remain seated or kneel

A short SILENCE is kept before the Rural Dean continues:

Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

The Bishop proclaims

THE ABSOLUTION

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 eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop introduces

THE COLLECT

Let us pray that God will renew us all
in the mission and ministry of his kingdom.

The Bishop reads this Collect

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ
sent his disciples into all the world
to preach the gospel of your Kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news
which we proclaim;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please sit for

THE READING FROM THE BIBLE

Colossians 1:15-29

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. ²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— ²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. ²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

A short SILENCE is kept after the reading.

Please stand to sing

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three and God is One;
and I next acknowledge duly
manhood taken by the Son.</p> | <p>2. And I trust and hope most fully
in the Saviour crucified;
and each thought and deed unruly
do to death as he has died.</p> |
| <p>3. Simply to his grace and wholly
light and life and strength belong,
and I love supremely, solely,
him the holy, him the strong.</p> | <p>4. And I hold in veneration,
for the love of him alone,
holy Church as his creation,
and her teachings as his own.</p> |
5. **Adoration ay be given,
with and through th'angelic host,
to the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

THE SERMON

THE PRESENTATION

***Please sit** as the Churchwardens and the Rural Dean lead the new Minister to stand before the Bishop and the Archdeacon.*

The Rural Dean says:

Bishop, I present to you Nicholas Peter Heron
who has been chosen to serve as Priest-in-Charge
of the parishes of Wem and Lee Brockhurst

Two Churchwardens say:

On behalf of the Parochial Church Councils,
We confirm that we have shared in the making
of this appointment,
and willingly and joyfully assent to it.

The Bishop addresses the new Minister:

Nicholas are you willing to commit yourself
to this new responsibility?

Answer: With God's help, I am.

The Churchwardens return to their seats.

THE DECLARATION AND OATHS

The Bishop addresses the new Minister:

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 that 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 new Minister says:

I, Nicholas Peter Heron, do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments, I will use only the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by Canon.

The Bishop says:

I request you to take the Oaths required by Law.

The new Minister takes the Bible in his right hand, faces the congregation and says:

I, Nicholas Peter Heron, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her heirs and successors, according to law: so help me God.

The new Minister turns to face the Bishop and says:

I, Nicholas Peter Heron, do swear that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Lichfield and his successors, in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

The new Minister signs the Declaration and Oaths.

Please stand

The new Minister turns to face the people. The Bishop says

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, after due consultation
Nicholas has been chosen and presented
to be Priest-in-Charge of these parishes.
Will you support him in this ministry,
and uphold him by your prayers?

All: With God's help, we will.

Bishop: Let us therefore pray for God's blessing on Nicholas Peter Heron and on our work together in Growing the Kingdom of God.

The new Minister kneels, and a short SILENCE is kept.

Bishop: Almighty and ever-living God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer for all your people in their life and work,
and especially for Nicholas and your Church in this place.
Fill us with the knowledge of your truth,
that in our varied ministries
we may serve your Kingdom in the world,
to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE LICENSING

Please sit

The new Minister remains kneeling. The Bishop reads the Letter of Licensing before saying:

Receive this Licence
in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

THE INSTALLATION AND INDUCTION

Please remain seated as the Archdeacon leads the new Minister to his seat in the Chancel. *The new Minister sits as the Archdeacon says:*

I place you in the stall
belonging to the Priest-in-Charge of these parishes.
May God the Holy Trinity
make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side,
and guide you in truth and peace.

The new Minister kneels and says this prayer:

Lord God, take my mind and think through it;
take my lips and speak through them;
take my heart and set it on fire with love
for you and for your people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Archdeacon and the new Minister return to stand with the Bishop and the Churchwardens.

The Churchwardens hand the keys of the churches to the new Priest-in-Charge, saying:

Nick, receive these keys
as a sign of your stewardship,
and let the doors of these churches be open to all.

The new Priest-in-Charge may cause the bell of the church to be tolled, thereby signifying his Induction to the parish.

The Archdeacon and Churchwardens return to their seats, and the new Minister stands with the Bishop.

WELCOME

Please sit

The Bishop says:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, now that Nicholas
has been licensed and inducted
to his new ministry,
let us welcome him in God's name.

All: **In the name of the Lord, we welcome you.**

All applaud

COMMITMENT TO THE DIOCESAN GROWTH STRATEGY

1. DISCOVERING THE HEART OF GOD Prayer, Worship and Vision

Representatives of the congregation present the new Minister with a copy of Daily Prayer and a loaf of bread, saying:

Nick, we welcome you among us as our Priest-in-Charge.
Will you join with us in prayer and worship, that together we may grow in the knowledge and love of God, our eyes firmly fixed on Jesus?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

The new Minister places the gifts on the Holy Table as the Rural Dean addresses the people:

It is the duty and joy of all God's people to join together to worship him.
Will you therefore offer the sacrifice of thanks and praise, worshipping God not only with your lips, but in your lives?

All: With God's help, we will.

2. GROWING DISCIPLES Teaching, Nurture and Pastoral Care

Representatives of Education in the Church and the Community present the new Minister with a Bible and a teapot as symbols of teaching and care, saying:

Nick, we welcome you among us as our fellow-worker.
Will you assist us in teaching and nurturing the Lord's people, encouraging all those in your care, that they may grow in faith and understanding?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

The new Minister places and opens the Bible at the Lectern as the Lay Chair addresses the people:

Will you read the Scriptures day by day, be open to God's word, and allow its truth to shape your lives?

All: With the help of God, we will.

3. REACHING NEW GENERATIONS **Mission and Evangelism**

Ecumenical Representatives present the new Minister with a vessel of water from the font and a copy of 'Everybody's Welcome', saying:

Nick, we welcome you as a bearer of Good News.
Will you so commit yourself to living the Gospel joyfully in the world,
that others may see the liberating power of Christ,
and be added to the number of those whom he has redeemed?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

The new Minister receives the gifts while the Rural Dean says:

By the one Spirit we were baptized into one body
and called to share the good news of Jesus Christ.
Will you do all in your power
to witness to our living Lord,
that others may find fellowship with him?

All: With God's help, we will.

4. TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES **Justice, Care and Community Issues**

Representatives of the local or civic community present the new Minister with a map and the Oil of Healing, saying:

Nick, we welcome you among us and invite you to assist those who
work for the relief of suffering, the protection of the weak and the
encouragement of high standards in public life.
Will you do all within your power to help sustain the communities you
serve, that the lives of all their members may be transformed and
renewed?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

The new Minister receives the gifts while the Lay Chair addresses the people:

God calls each of us to show that in Him
there is hope for all humankind.
Will you therefore work for a just and caring society?

All: With God's help, we will.

5. PRACTISING GENEROSITY

Becoming like our generous God

The Treasurer and Secretary present the new Minister with a bottle of sparkling wine, saying:

Nick, we welcome you among us as a wise Pastor and trusted Guide, one whose example others will follow. In your public duties and the ordering of your household, will you seek always to imitate the boundless generosity of God, remembering that much is asked from those to whom much has been given?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

The new Minister receives the gift as the Rural Dean says:

God knows all our needs before we ask.
Will you seek first God's kingdom and be generous to your new Minister
as you wish him to be generous to you?

All: With God's help, we will.

Please all stand as the Bishop commissions the Minister and People together:

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

The Lord bless you and prosper you!
The Lord grant success to the work of your hands.

**All: We bless you in the name of the Lord.
In the name of the Lord, we bless you.**

The Bishop introduces

THE PEACE

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

All: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

After the Peace has been shared, all sing

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|---|--|
| <p>1. From heav'n you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.</p> | <p>2. There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.</p> |
|---|--|

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

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- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>3. Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.</p> | <p>4. So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.</p> |
|--|---|

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THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The new Priest-in-Charge gives notice of when he will next preside at Holy Communion,
and invites the people to be present.*

The new Priest-in-Charge calls the people to prayer:

Let us pray for the growth of God's Kingdom, saying,
Father, your kingdom come:

All: Make us bearers of your love.

Please kneel or sit as members of the congregation lead the prayers:

In Jesus you came to bring good news to the poor,
sight to the blind, freedom to the captives,
and salvation to all people.
Help us to exercise our influence for good
in the world, our nation and our community.
Father, your kingdom come:

All: Make us bearers of your love.

Send us to tell the world
the good news of your healing love
in all the brokenness of life,
and help us to be faithful witnesses
to the risen glory of your Son.
Father, your kingdom come:

All: Make us bearers of your love.

Send us to those who mourn,
that we may bring comfort to all in sorrow
and light to those who sit in darkness.
Father, your kingdom come:

All: Make us bearers of your love.

Give us thankful hearts
for your faithful servants in every generation,
and all who have witnessed to you in this place.
Looking for the coming of your Kingdom,
the fulfilment of their hope and ours,
we pray as Jesus taught us:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Please stand to sing

during which a collection is taken and offered for the Bishop's Ordination Candidates' Fund which is used to meet special needs of ordinands in training and support of married ordinands' families.

1. **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.**
2. **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.**
3. **Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save;
in lonely suff'ring on the cross:
for all he loved, his life he gave.**
4. **Tell of that glorious Easter morn,
empty the tomb, for he was free;
he broke the pow'r of death and hell
that we might share his victory.**
5. **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.**
6. **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.**

Please remain standing as the Bishop proclaims

THE BLESSING

May the boldness of the Spirit transform us,
the gentleness of the Spirit lead us,
the gifts of the Spirit equip us
to serve and worship the Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

The new Minister dismisses the congregation:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please remain standing as the procession departs.

Please join us for refreshments in the Church Hall.