



A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

Confirmation at the Eucharist

10 October 2021

10.00am

Rt Revd Dr Jill Duff
Bishop of Lancaster

Welcome to Lancaster Priory

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today. Wherever you have come from, this is your church and you are unconditionally welcome.

This Confirmation service paints many vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian way. There is the sign of the cross, the badge of faith in the Christian journey, which reminds us of Christ's death for us. Our 'drowning' in the water of baptism, where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ's dying and rising. Water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit. This reminds us of Jesus' baptism. And as a sign of that new life, there may be a lighted candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptized walks in that light for the rest of their lives. At Confirmation candidates make the promises made at their baptism and commit to walking in God's light in their lives.

We pray today for Tabitha Hope Joanne Robinson, Meredith Grace Christine Robinson, Evie Rose Hughes and Joleen Kenyon, making this next step of faith in their Christian Journey as they are confirmed.

As you pray for the candidates, picture them with yourself and the whole Church throughout the ages, journeying into the fullness of God's love.

The restrictions under which our services are being conducted at the moment are part of our responsibility to ensure that all who worship and visit the priory feel safe and valued. These are available on an additional flyer at the back of church. Thank you for your patience.

Today's services (Trinity 19):

President/Preacher: The RT Revd Dr Jill Duff, Bishop of Lancaster

The Reader: Joop Brouwer

Organist: Ian Pattinson FRCO, Priory Organist Choir: Boys and lower voices.

Setting: *Darke in F* Final Voluntary: *Fanfare* (Lemmens)

6.30pm Choral Evensong (BCP)

Officiant: Mrs Lois Kirtley, Licensed Lay Minister

The Welcome and Notices

Hymn (271) *Please stand.*

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark! The songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

3. Alleluia! Bread of Angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia! King eternal,
thee the Lord of Lords we own;
alleluia! Born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest;
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the Eucharistic Feast.

William Chatterton Dix 1837-1898

The Greeting

The Bishop greets the people

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

There is one body and one spirit.

There is one hope to which we were called;

one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **one God and Father of all.**

Peace be with you **and also with you.**

The Prayers of Penitence

The Deacon introduces the confession.

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

The Bishop declares God's forgiveness

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. **Amen.**

The Gloria *We sing*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. 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. 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. Amen.

The Collect *The Bishop prays*

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life, and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please sit

The First Reading Hebrews 4.12-end

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus,

the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Reading Mark 10.17-31

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation, the cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

The Deacon says

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother."' He said to Jesus, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.' Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in

this age – houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields – but with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon *Please sit.*

The Presentation of the Candidates

The Bishop asks those who are candidates for confirmation:

Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

Candidates **I have**

The Bishop asks all candidates:

Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

Candidates **I am**

The Bishop addresses the whole congregation

People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?

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

The Decision

The Bishop addresses all the candidates

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

Candidates **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

Candidates **I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

Candidates **I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

Candidates **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

Candidates **I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

Candidates **I come to Christ.**

May God who has given you the desire to follow Christ, give you strength to continue in the Way.

All **Amen.**

Prayer over the water

The organ plays as the procession moves to the font. All the candidates gather around the font and the Bishop addresses the congregation

Praise God who made heaven and earth

who keeps his promise for ever.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan:

we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith, and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours, now and for ever.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with these candidates the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The organ plays and the candidates and congregation recall their baptism whilst they are sprinkled with water from the font as the procession moves back to the front of the church.

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized into your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Confirmation

The Bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed

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

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

The Bishop extends her hands towards the candidates

Almighty and ever-living God, you have given these your servants new birth in baptism by water and the Spirit and in Christ have forgiven them all their sins.

Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord.

Amen.

All are seated

The Bishop addresses each candidate by name

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

The bishop lays her hands on each candidate

Confirm, O Lord, your servant *N* with your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Bishop anoints each candidate with oil.

The candidates return to their seats and remain standing

The Bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those on whom hands have been laid

Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.

The Welcome and Peace *Please stand*

The Bishop says

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

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

The Deacon says Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn (339) *The gifts are presented and the altar prepared..*

Be thou my vision, O lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

3. Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

4. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
be thou mine inheritance now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

5. High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

tr: Mary Byrne 1880-1931 versified Eleanor Hyll 1860-1935

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should always sing of your glory, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come. Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost, restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised. In his face your light shines out, flooding lives with goodness and truth, gathering into one in your kingdom a divided and broken humanity. Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation we glorify your name, for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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 says

Great is the mystery of faith

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 Blessed Virgin, Mary 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.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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 Breaking of the Bread

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

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

The Agnus Dei *Please sit*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

The Giving of Communion

The Bishop invites us to receive communion.

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.

Communion Anthem *The choir sings View me, Lord (Lloyd)*

View me, Lord, a work of thine! Shall I then lie drowned in night? Might thy grace in me but shine, I should seem made all of light.

Cleanse me, Lord, that I may kneel At thine altar pure and white; They that once thy mercies feel, Gaze no more on earth's delight.

Worldly joys like shadows fade When the heavenly light appears; But the covenants Thou hast made, Endless, know not days nor years.

In thy word, Lord, is my trust, To thy mercies fast I fly; Though I am but clay and dust, Yet thy grace can lift me high.

Communion Hymn (414) *We remain seated*

O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame;
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!

2. Return, O holy Dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.

3. The dearest idol I have known,
What'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from thy throne,
And worship only thee.

4. So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

William Cowper 1731-1800

Prayer After Communion

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.

Hymn (362 T:185) *Please stand.*

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

2. See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage:
grace which, like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age.

3. Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading,
light by night and shade by day;
daily on the manna feeding
which he gives them when they pray.

4. Saviour, if of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldlings pleasure,
all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure,
none but Zion's children know.

John Newton 1725-1807

The Commission

The Bishop commissions all

Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, I will.

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

With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?

With the help of God, I will.

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

With the help of God, I will.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

A lighted candle is presented to the candidates. When all the candidates have received a lighted candle the Bishop says

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Deacon says

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Please join us for refreshments in the Regimental Chapel after the service.

Today's Booklet is sponsored by...

Stephen and Barbara Gardner

To celebrate their grandson Nicholas' 2nd birthday
on 11 October.

Acknowledgements

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