



# **LANCASTER PRIORY**

A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

## **Choral Evensong**

with the welcome of new  
Assistant Archdeacons and the  
Dean of Women's Ministry

**12 June 2022**

**6.30pm**

# Welcome to Lancaster Priory

Welcome for this service of Choral Evensong with the Welcome of new Assistant Archdeacons the Dean of Women's Ministry.

We are delighted to welcome the Bishop of Blackburn, the Rt Revd Julian Henderson, the Bishop of Burnley, the Rt Revd Philip North, the Archdeacon of Lancaster, the Venerable David Picken, and those being commissioned along with their parish clergy and supporters.

Those to be commissioned are:

## **Revd Anne Beverley                      Dean of Women's Ministry**

Revd Anne Beverley is currently the Vicar of Christ Church Wesham and Area Dean of Kirkham Deanery. She is married to Paul and they have two teenage children. Anne has a heart to see the Gospel preached in every community and to see people grow in their faith and to reach new people with the message of salvation. She is passionate for the family and for the Parish as the centre of ministry and mission. Anne is honoured to have been appointed Dean of Women's ministry and is looking forward to serving the women of Blackburn Diocese.

## **Revd Canon Fleur Green              Assistant Archdeacon for the Lancaster Archdeaconry**

Revd Canon Fleur Green is Vicar of St John Baptist Broughton and St Peter & St Martin's Chapels Fulwood. She was a Blackburn Diocese ordinand, having first felt called to ordained ministry at the age of sixteen. After training and ordination she has worked across the diocese for all of her ministry, predominantly in UPA parishes. Her curacy was in the centre of Blackpool, a couple of years were then spent at Lancaster Priory, then onto parishes in both Blackburn and Darwen. Fleur spent a number of years as Advisor for Women's Ministry and has also for a long time been involved in vocations work both in the diocese and nationally as a Bishop's advisor. This is a part of ministry that she really enjoys, walking alongside people at different stages of their vocational journey. She is an avid reader, mainly thrillers and crime novels, and collects costume jewellery. Fleur enjoys going walking, although has only done a small part of the Guild Wheel in Preston so far and has a very spoilt cat.

## **Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders          Assistant Archdeacon for the Lancaster Archdeaconry**

Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders is vicar of Lancaster Priory. She is a musical priest who has come back to parish ministry after a season as a precentor in Wakefield Cathedral. Before that Leah has served in a variety of different churches in Newcastle, Lichfield and Southwell & Nottingham dioceses – from city to town and suburbs, predominantly in former mining communities. During this time she has also served on General Synod and has been working within the chaplaincy team preparing for the Lambeth Conference. She is also Chair of On Fire Mission, a charity working to support and enable renewal in the catholic tradition of the Church of England. When relaxing Leah enjoys listening to and performing a wide range of music, fibre crafts and utopian novels.

## **Bishop Jill writes:**

I am so sorry I am not able to be with you all at dear Lancaster Priory on this special day. But wonderfully, it means I can get my congratulations in first, and in print...

I am thrilled by the appointments of Rev Canon Fleur Green and Rev Canon Leah Vasey-Saunders as Assistant Archdeacons in the Lancaster Archdeaconry, and by Rev Anne Beverley's appointment as the Bishop's Adviser on Women's Ministry and member of the Bishop's Leadership Team. I am also pleased that next month, Bishop Julian will be licensing Rev Dr Sarah Gill as an Assistant Archdeacon in the Blackburn

Archdeaconry. I am thrilled because this continues our trajectory in diversity in our senior leadership as a Diocese, but more importantly because they are priests who meet that all-important selection criteria to choose “from among you [those] who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom” (Acts 6.3).

Anne, Leah and Fleur, as you are licensed today, my prayer is that:

“The Spirit of the Lord will rest on you—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—  
and may you delight in the fear of the Lord.” (Isaiah 11.2-3)

+Jill Lancaster

*The organist is Ian Pattinson FRCO and the Priory Choir is directed by Don Gillthorpe BMus (Hons) PGCE.*

*An induction loop is available inside the Priory for those who are hard of hearing.*

*Please turn your hearing aid to the ‘T’ setting.*

*Toilet facilities are situated through the Refectory past the organ on the north side of the building.*

*To enable our worship to be uninterrupted, please ensure all mobile phones are switched off before and during the service.*

#### **Acknowledgements**

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**Processional Hymn** (NEH 137) *As the hymn begins, we stand to sing*

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 he become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Words *Bianco Da Siena d 1434*  
*Tr R F Littledale 1833-90*

Tune *DOWN AMPNEY*  
*R Vaughan Williams 1872-1958*

**The Preces** *Rose*

*The opening responses are sung by the choir*

O Lord, open thou our lips:  
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us:  
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord:  
The Lord's Name be praised.

## **The Bidding and Thanksgiving** *The Bishop welcomes the congregation*

'Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord'.

We gather on this day to celebrate and welcome the ministry of Fleur Green and Leah Vasey-Saunders as Assistant Archdeacons in the Lancaster Archdeaconry and Anne Beverley as Dean of Women's Ministry in this Diocese of Blackburn.

Father, we give thee thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord:

For the whole human race.

For revealing to us the mystery of thy purpose and choosing us all in Christ.

We give thee thanks: **we praise thy holy name.**

For giving us power to proclaim thy gospel to the nations

and to serve thee as a royal priesthood.

We give thee thanks: **we praise thy holy name.**

For the Church of today, for all Christian people,

for deacons, priests and bishops.

We give thee thanks: **we praise thy holy name.**

O God our mystery,

you bring us to life,

call us to freedom,

and move between us with love,

May we so participate

in the dance of your trinity,

that our lives may resonate with you,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **The Psalmody** Psalm 73

*The choir sings the psalmody appointed for this evening*

1 Truly God is loving unto Israel : even unto such as are of a clean heart.

2 Nevertheless, my feet were almost gone : my treadings had well-nigh slipt.

3 And why? I was grieved at the wicked : I do also see the ungodly in such prosperity.

16 Until I went into the sanctuary of God : then understood I the end of these men;

17 Namely, how thou dost set them in slippery places :

and castest them down, and destroyest them.

18 O how suddenly do they consume : perish, and come to a fearful end!

19 Yea, even like as a dream when one awaketh :

so shalt thou make their image to vanish out of the city.

20 Thus my heart was grieved : and it went even through my reins.

21 So foolish was I, and ignorant : even as it were a beast before thee.

22 Nevertheless, I am alway by thee : for thou hast holden me by my right hand.

23 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel : and after that receive me with glory.

24 Whom have I in heaven but thee :

and there is none upon earth that I desire in comparison of thee.

25 My flesh and my heart faileth : but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.  
26 For lo, they that forsake thee shall perish :  
thou hast destroyed all them that commit fornication against thee.  
27 But it is good for me to hold me fast by God, to put my trust in the Lord God : and to speak of all thy works in the gates of the daughter of Sion.

Glory be to the Father: and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning: is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **First Reading** 2 Kings 5:1-19

*Read by Mrs Lois Kirtley, Licensed Lay Minister and followed by a period of silence.*

A reading from the second book of Kings.

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.'

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.' When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.'

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?''

So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, 'Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing!' He urged him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'If not, please let two mule-loads of earth be given to your servant; for your servant will no longer offer burnt-offering or sacrifice to any god except the Lord. But may the Lord pardon your servant on one count: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow down in the house of Rimmon, when I do bow down in the house of Rimmon, may the Lord pardon your servant on this one count.' He said to him, 'Go in peace.'

Here ends the reading.

## **The Magnificat** *Fauxbourdon Service June Nixon*

*Please stand*

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm:

he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

## **Second Reading** John 3:1-17

*Please sit. Read by the Revd Canon Fleur Green and followed by a period of silence*

A reading from the Gospel of John.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.'

Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Here ends the reading.

## **The Nunc Dimittis** *Fauxbourdon Service June Nixon*

*Please stand*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;  
Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed** *We remain standing*

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth:  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried, he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholick Church;  
the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins;  
the Resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## **The Prayers** *Rose*

The Lord be with you:  
And with thy spirit.

*Please sit or kneel*

Let us pray:

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us  
And grant us thy salvation.



O Lord, save the Queen  
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness  
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people  
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord  
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us  
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## **The Collects**

*The Collect for Vocations.*

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 thy faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve thee in holiness and truth, to the glory of thy name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Second Collect, for Peace.*

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

*The Third Collect, for Aid against all Perils.*

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Please sit.*

## **The Anthem** *Upon your Heart* Eleanor Daley

Set me as a seal upon your heart. As a seal upon your arm. For love is as strong as death. Many waters cannot quench love. Neither can the floods drown it. Many waters cannot quench love. Neither can the floods drown it. If you keep my commandments you shall abide in my love. Love one another as I have loved you then shall your joy be complete.

## **The Intercessions** *Please kneel or sit. The response to each bidding is*

Lord Jesus, hear us  
**and pour out your compassion.**

*The intercessions led by Revd Anne Beverley end with the Grace.*

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

## Hymn (T.NEH 117)

*We stand. This hymn was sung at the Fortieth Anniversary of the ordination of women as priests in the Church of New Zealand.*

1. Come, celebrate the women  
who brought the church to birth,  
the gentle revolution  
that shall transform the earth:  
whose faith was salt and leaven,  
whose hearts and minds were free,  
this war was their direction  
to peace and unity.

2. The teacher, saints and mothers  
who lived and died unsung  
kept safe the gospel story  
and taught it to the young;  
the Christ child Mary cradled,  
the living word to be  
was crucified for pleading  
this peace and unity.

3. Daughters of the disciples,  
you weave the story still,  
the fabric of the future  
with warmth and love and skill,  
you make the bread of wholeness,  
the wine of harmony -  
and all shall share your feasting  
in peace and unity.

Words S E Murray

Tune ELLACOMBE

Mainz Gesangbuch 1833

**Sermon** *The Archdeacon of Lancaster, The Venerable David Picken.*

*We sit.*

## Hymn (NEH 339) *Please stand*

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 or sleeping, thy presence my light.

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

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.

Riches I heed not, nor all the world's 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.

High king of heaven, thou bright heaven's 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.

Words Irish c 8<sup>th</sup> century  
Tr Mary Byrne 1880-1931  
Versified Eleanor Hull 1860-1935

Tune SLANE  
Traditional Irish Melody

## The Welcome

*The Archdeacon of Lancaster presents Revd Canon Fleur Green, Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders to be welcomed as Assistant Archdeacons.*

Assistant Archdeacons work alongside and under the authority of the Archdeacon to whom they are authorised, giving practical support in areas of pastoral care and specifically to parishes needing strategic vision planning, especially during vacancies. They will work in consultation with Archdeacon and the Bishops. In so doing they share in the ministry of love and service entrusted to the Church by Christ himself.

*The Archdeacon of Lancaster presents the Revd Anne Beverley to be welcomed as Dean of Women's Ministry.*

The Dean of Women's Ministry works alongside and under the authority of the Bishop, to be an advocate, encourager and voice for women in the Diocese of Blackburn. They offer brave and wise counsel to the Bishop and all who implement his leadership, grounded always in the gospel and in the fruit of good research.

*The Bishop addresses the Dean of Women's Ministry and the Assistant Archdeacons*

Anne, Fleur and Leah you have been called to this ministry, will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with care, to the honour of God and the benefit of the Church?

**We will.**

*The Bishop addresses the congregation*

As Anne, Fleur and Leah perform these ministries they will need our encouragement, support and above all our prayers.

Is it your will that they fulfil this ministry?

**It is.**

Will you uphold them in this service?

**We will.**

*The Bishop prays*

Gracious God, whose Son Jesus Christ came among us as one who serves and taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for him, we pray for Anne, Fleur and Leah may they look for the face of Christ in those around them and bring healing to our broken world through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

God bless and guide you in all that you do in his name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Bishop of Burnley welcomes Fleur, Leah and Anne to their new roles.*

**Hymn** (T.NEH 351) *Please stand. During the hymn a collection is taken*

1.Praise the Spirit in creation,  
breath of God, life's origin:  
Spirit, moving on the waters,  
forming order deep within,  
source of breath for all things breathing,  
life in whom all lives begin.

2.Praise the Spirit, close companion  
of our inmost thoughts and ways;  
who, in showing us God's wonders,  
moves our hearts to love and praise;  
and God's will, to those who listen,  
by a still small voice conveys.

5.Pray we now, Lord, Holy Spirit,  
on our lives descend in might;  
let your flame burn bright within us,  
fire our hearts and clear our sight,  
till, consumed with your compassion,  
we too set the world alight.

3.Praise the Spirit, who enlightened  
priests and prophets with the word;  
hidden truth behind the wisdoms  
which as yet know not their Lord;  
by whose love and power in Jesus  
God himself is seen and heard.

4.Praise the Spirit, sent by Jesus  
when ascended to his throne,  
who pours forth on men and women  
power for turning upside down  
all the world and every people  
as the gospel is made known.

Words *Michael Hewlett*  
1916-2000

Tune NEANDER  
*Joachim Neander 1640-80*

**The Blessing** *We remain standing. The Bishop says*

The blessing of the God of Sarah and of Abraham,  
the blessing of the Son, born of Mary, the blessing of the Spirit,  
who broods over us, as a mother over her children,  
the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Final Responses** *Rose*

The Lord be with you  
And also with you.

Let us bless the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

**Organ Voluntary** *Postlude on 'Salzburg June Nixon*

*during which the procession departs.*