



A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

## Confirmation at the Eucharist

30 April 2023  
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 for themselves the promises made at their baptism and commit to walking in God's light in their lives.

We pray today for Isabella Balmer, Dylan Bushall, Kate McNamara, Orla McNamara, Jude Vasey-Saunders and Miriam Vasey-Saunders, making this next step of faith in their Christian Journey as they are confirmed.

Refreshments are served at the back of church following this service every week. Please join us.

President/Preacher: The Rt Revd Dr Jill Duff, Bishop of Lancaster  
The Reader: Christine Dickinson  
Organist: Ian Pattinson FRCO, Priory Organist  
Choir: *Full Choir*.  
Setting: Nardone/Truslove

*Throughout this booklet you will find instructions regarding posture (sit and stand), these capture what is normal for our congregation but are not intended to be restrictive for those who may need to sit or indeed not sit for too long.*

 **CONTACTLESS CARD DONATIONS STATION**—you can donate to the Priory using the contact-less card reader which stands beside the door. Alternatively you can give online via GiveaLittle using this QR Code:



#### Acknowledgements

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## The Welcome and Notices

**Processional Hymn** (NEH117) *Please stand as the choir, servers and clergy enter and the paschal candle and the altar are censed.*

The Day of Resurrection!  
Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the Passover of gladness,  
the Passover of God!  
from death to life eternal,  
from earth unto the sky,  
our Christ hath brought us over  
with hymns of victory.

2. Our hearts be pure from evil,  
that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal  
of resurrection-light;  
and, listening to his accents,  
may hear so calm and plain  
his own 'All hail', and, hearing,  
may raise the victor strain.

*The organist improvises as the procession continues and we then sing*

3. Now let the heavens be joyful,  
and earth her song begin,  
the round world keep high triumph,  
and all that is therein;  
let all things seen and unseen  
their notes of gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord is risen,  
our joy that hath no end. Tr. John Neale (1816-66)

**The Greeting** *The Bishop greets the people*

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

Alleluia. Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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 Bishop introduces the service.*

**The Gloria** *We sing together*

**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*

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whose wounded side flowed life for the world: raise your people from sin and death and build them as living stones into the spiritual temple of your Church; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

**The First Reading** Romans 8:1-11 *Please sit*

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Reading** John 20. 19-23 *Please stand for the Acclamation, the cantor sings*

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

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore. **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 John. **Glory to you, O Lord**  
When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'  
This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Sermon** *Please sit.*

**The Presentation of the Candidates** *The Bishop asks all candidates:*

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

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

*The Bishop addresses the whole congregation*

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

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil? **I renounce them.**

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

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord? **I submit to Christ.**

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

Commented [1]: As this will be a printed booklet for everyone, maybe better if this line joins the text on the next page?

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

**Hymn** (LP 44) *During which the procession moves to the font. All turn to face the font.*

**Holy Spirit, living breath of God,  
Breathe new life into my willing soul.  
Let the presence of the risen Lord,  
Come renew my heart and make me whole.  
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;  
Give me faith for what I cannot see,  
Give me passion for Your purity;  
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.**

**2. Holy Spirit, come abide within,  
May Your joy be seen in all I do.  
Love enough to cover every sin,  
In each thought and deed and attitude.  
Kindness to the greatest and the least,  
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my strivings into works of grace;  
Breath of God show Christ in all I do.**

**3. Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,  
Giving life to all that God has made,  
Show Your power once again on earth,  
Cause Your church to hunger for your ways.  
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;  
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
That in unity the face of Christ  
May be clear for all the world to see.**

Stuart Townend & K&K Getty

**Prayer over the water**

Praise God who made heaven and earth  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

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 forever. **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*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said. 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

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** (NEH 296) *The gifts are presented and the altar prepared..*

**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour  
first-begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Jesu, true and living bread.**

**3. Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
we in worship join with them.**

**2. Here our humblest homage pay we,  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
thou art here, we ask not how.**

**4. Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall for evermore remain,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
cleansing souls from every stain.**

5. Life-imparting heavenly manna,  
stricken rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
risen, ascended, glorified!

GH Bourne 1840-1925

### 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, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks because by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us  
a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord, you raise us to new life in him and renew in us  
the image of your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

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

*The Bishop continues:* Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.  
In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all  
upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup

we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

*The Deacon says:* Great is the mystery of faith

**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

*The Bishop continues*

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your  
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you,  
Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**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 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.*

**The Agnus Dei** *Please sit. The Choir sings*

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus,  
redeemer of the world, give us your peace.

**Communion Anthem** *Nardone I give to you a new commandment.*

Commented [2]: You've been using this before the Agnus recently which works well but understand this might be intentional as it is the order +jill will be expecting.

**Communion Hymn** (CH 502 t. NOTTINGHAM) *We remain seated*

Take my life, Lord, let it be  
consecrated, glad, and free;  
take my moments and my days,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2. Take my hands, and let them move,  
at the impulse of your love;  
take my feet, that I may run  
bearing news of Christ your Son.

3. Take my voice, and let me sing  
always, only, for my King;  
take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.

4. Take my will – your will be done,  
may my will and yours be one;  
take my heart - it is your own,  
it shall be your royal throne.

5. Take my love - my Lord, I pour  
at your feet its treasure-store;  
take myself, and I will be  
all for you, eternally.

Frances Ridley Havergal 1836-1879

**Prayer After Communion** *The Bishop prays*

Author of life divine, in the resurrection of your Son, you set before us the mystery of his triumph over sin and death; may all who are washed in the waters of rebirth rise to newness of life and find the promised presence of your abundant grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn** (LP 27) *Please stand.*

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed;  
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:

3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die – I scarce can take it in:  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin:

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4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home – what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art: tr. Stuart K. Hine 1899-1989

**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 Bishop says*

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you by his life-giving Spirit to walk with him in the paths of righteousness and peace; 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 and 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. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Organ Voluntary** *Young Prelude in Classic Style*

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Commented [3]: As it's Eastertide: ...peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.