



**LANCASTER  
PRIORY**

## Choral Evensong

With the licensing of  
Revd Louis Johnson  
as Associate Priest  
by the

Rt Revd Philip North, Bishop of Blackburn.

6.30pm, June 25<sup>th</sup> 2023



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.

We gather at this service of Choral Evensong to welcome Revd Louis Johnson as our Associate Priest. Below you will read a little bit about him. Please pray for Louis and Christine as they begin a new phase in their lives here in Lancaster.

### **Revd Louis Johnson**

Louis was born, raised and schooled in Liverpool, Louis read Music at Churchill College, University of Cambridge, received his MMus and PhD in Music (Composition) from the University of Liverpool, and taught in the music departments at Liverpool Hope University, and the universities of Liverpool, Cardiff and Bristol, before undertaking training for ordained ministry at St Mellitus College, North West (now Emmanuel Theological College), whilst also serving a three-year context-based placement with Liverpool Parish Church, Our Lady & St Nicholas (which was also his sending parish). He was ordained deacon at Michaelmas 2020, and priest at Petertide 2021, at the Anglican Cathedral in his home diocese of Liverpool.

As Louis and his wife, Christine, are both born-and-bred scousers (and Evertonians!), it has taken lots of prayer, thought, and discernment to explore the call to ministry in Lancaster, and answering this call feels like a big step for both of them – but the sense of call is certain, and they are both genuinely excited about this new chapter in their lives, and about getting to know the people and places that make up the parish of Lancaster Priory, the city of Lancaster, and the wider Diocese of Blackburn.

*The Priory Choir is directed by Jeremy Truslove (Interim Director of Music), and the organist is Ian Pattinson (Priory Organist).*

### **Acknowledgements**

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Processional Hymn (NEH 137) *We stand to sing as the choir and ministers enter.*

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 illumining.

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.

tr: RF Littledale 1833-1890

*The Preces Ayleward*

*The choir sings*

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 Welcome** *The Bishop welcomes the people.*

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

*The Bishop introduces the service. All are invited to pray the Diocesan Vision Prayer together*

Heavenly Father,  
we embrace Your call for us to make disciples,  
to be witnesses to grow leaders  
and to inspire children and young people.  
Give us eyes to see Your vision,  
ears to hear the prompting of Your Spirit  
and courage to follow in the footsteps of Your Son,  
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## The Order of Licensing

*The Bishop sits. Louis stands before the Bishop and is presented to him by Revd Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes, Louis' Training Incumbent.*

*Miranda introduces Louis. She then says*

Bishop Philip, I present Louis to be licensed as  
Associate Priest of Lancaster Priory.

*The Bishop replies*

Thank you for your presentation, which I accept.

*The candidate turns to face the congregation*

*Bishop* It is my pleasure to introduce Louis, who is to be your new Associate Priest.

People of this parish and all who share in Christ's ministry here, will you support each other in that ministry and now welcome Louis among you?

*All* **In Christ's name we will.**

## **The Collect for Vocations and Ministry**

*Bishop* Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose spirit the whole body of the Church  
is governed and sanctified:  
hear our prayer for all Your servants,  
especially for Your Church in this place;  
that each of us in our vocation and ministry  
may serve You in holiness and truth,  
to the glory of Your name and the good of Your Church  
and give to Your servant Louis, now to be licensed, the needful  
gifts of grace, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **Declaration and Oaths**

### **The Declaration of Assent** *The Bishop addresses Louis*

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 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 candidate makes the following declaration:*

I, Louis, 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 only use the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by Canon.

*All stand.*

*The candidate takes the Oaths, holding the Bible in his right hand*

### **The Oath of Allegiance**

I, Louis, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty, King Charles the Third, his heirs and Successors, according to Law; so help me God.

### **The Oath of Canonical Obedience**

I, Louis, do swear by almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Blackburn and his Successors in all things lawful and honest; so help me God.

*The Bishop then replies*

Thank you for this declaration of loyalty. On behalf of our diocese I, with all God's people here, undertake to support and uphold you in your new ministry. In token of this we will now sign the Declaration and Oaths.

**The Licensing** *Please sit or kneel, the candidate kneeling before the Bishop.*

*Bishop* Let us pray  
Heavenly Father, bless this parish and those who minister here, that with Louis they may fulfil your loving purposes for those who live and work in this place. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen**

*Bishop* Louis do not forget the trust of those who have chosen you. In your work and ministry, and with your colleagues, care alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor.

By your words and in your life preach the gospel.  
Give time for yourself, your family and friends.  
Love and serve Christ's people. Nourish them  
(by word and sacrament) and strengthen them to glorify  
God in this life and in the life to come.

*The Bishop sits and reads the Licence and gives it to the candidate.*

Receive your Licence;  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Taking his staff, the Bishop blesses him saying:*

Louis, the Lord give you courage, wisdom,  
strength and love to do his will:  
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son  
and Holy Spirit, rest upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

### **Psalm 46** *Deus noster refugium*

*We sit. The choir sings*

- 1 GOD is our hope and strength : a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved :  
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea;
- 3 Though the waters thereof rage and swell :  
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.
- 4 The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God :  
the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.

- 5 God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed :  
God shall help her, and that right early.
- 6 The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved :  
but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away.
- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us : the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord :  
what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.
- 9 He maketh wars to cease in all the world :  
he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder,  
and burneth the chariots in the fire.
- 10 Be still then, and know that I am God :  
I will be exalted among the heathen,  
and I will be exalted in the earth.
- 11 The Lord of hosts is with us : the God of Jacob is our refuge.

*We stand.*

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 First Lesson 1 Samuel 24.1-17**

*Read by Dame Pauline Fielding, PCC member & Deanery Synod Representative.*

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, 'David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.' Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to look for David and his men in the direction of the Rocks of the Wild Goats. He came to the sheepfolds beside the road, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. The men of David said to him, 'Here is the day of which the Lord said to you, "I will give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you." '



Then David went and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul's cloak. Afterwards David was stricken to the heart because he had cut off a corner of Saul's cloak. He said to his men, 'The Lord forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the Lord's anointed, to raise my hand against him; for he is the Lord's anointed.' So David scolded his men severely and did not permit them to attack Saul. Then Saul got up and left the cave, and went on his way.

Afterwards David also rose up and went out of the cave and called after Saul, 'My lord the king!' When Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the ground, and did obeisance. David said to Saul, 'Why do you listen to the words of those who say, "David seeks to do you harm"? This very day your eyes have seen how the Lord gave you into my hand in the cave; and some urged me to kill you, but I spared you. I said, "I will not raise my hand against my lord; for he is the Lord's anointed." See, my father, see the corner of your cloak in my hand; for by the fact that I cut off the corner of your cloak, and did not kill you, you may know for certain that there is no wrong or treason in my hands. I have not sinned against you, though you are hunting me to take my life. May the Lord judge between me and you! May the Lord avenge me on you; but my hand shall not be against you. As the ancient proverb says, "Out of the wicked comes forth wickedness"; but my hand shall not be against you. Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom do you pursue? A dead dog? A single flea? May the Lord therefore be judge, and give sentence between me and you. May he see to it, and plead my cause, and vindicate me against you.'

When David had finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul said, 'Is that your voice, my son David?' Saul lifted up his voice and wept. He said to David, 'You are more righteous than I; for you have repaid me good, whereas I have repaid you evil.'

Here ends the reading.

**Magnificat** *Sumsion* in A

*We stand. The choir sings*

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.

## **The Second Lesson** Luke 14:12-24 *We sit.*

*Read by Mrs Christine Hill*

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, 'Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!' Then Jesus said to him, 'Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, "Come; for everything is ready now." But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, "I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my apologies." Another said, "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my apologies." Another said, "I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come." So the slave returned and reported this to his master.

Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, "Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame." And the slave said, "Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room." Then the master said to the slave, "Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner." ' "

Here ends the reading.

**Nunc Dimittis *Sumsion* in A**

*We stand. The choir sings*

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**

I believe in God

**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 Ayleward

*Sung by the choir.*

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit.

*We kneel or sit.*

Let us pray:

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

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that 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 King. 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 of the Day*

O LORD, we beseech thee mercifully to hear us; and grant that we, to whom thou hast given an hearty desire to pray, may by thy mighty aid be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

**The Anthem** Thomas Tallis *If ye love me.*

If ye love me, keep my commandments.  
And I will pray the Father,  
And He shall give you another comforter,  
That He may 'bide with you forever;  
E'en the sp'rit of truth.

*John 14:15–17*

**The Commisioning of the Ministry Team**

*By the Archdeacon of Lancaster, Venerable David Picken*

*Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders (Vicar), Revd Louis Johnson (Associate Priest), Lois Kirtley (Licensed Lay Minister), Richard Carter (Licensed Lay Minister), Katie Schad (Marsh Community Worker), Tio Lishomwa (Trainee ALM), Sarah Hutchins (Trainee ALM) and Kaarina Leong (ordinand) stand at the front of the nave.*

*Archdeacon* In a team, clergy and lay workers collaborate to serve the whole of their Parish.  
Louis, will you work with your colleagues in the service of Christ and support them in their ministry?

*Louis* By God's grace, I will.

*Archdeacon* Leah, Lois, Richard, Katie, Tio, Sarah and Kaarina will you take care with Louis to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace and together build up the common life?

*Team* By Gods' grace, we will.

*The Archdeacon addresses the congregation*

Let us acknowledge the gifts and callings of your sisters and brothers.

*The congregation responds:*

**We receive you as servants of Christ; we will support you in your service with prayer and encouragement and in the offering of our own gifts and callings.**

*The Archdeacon says*

Leah, Louis, Lois, Richard, Katie, Tio, Sarah and Kaarina, you have been entrusted with the responsibility of working together in the leadership of mission and ministry in this Priory Parish of St Mary with St George, St John and St Anne. Do not neglect the gift that is in one another or in the people of the congregations of this parish and wider community. Present yourselves to God in worship, be fed in word and sacrament, be ever faithful to the Spirit of God. Remember always that Jesus called you friends as well as servants. Attend to prayer, for without God you can do nothing.

*Let us pray:*

Spirit of the living God, in every age you call your people to proclaim the good news of your saving love. We thank you for Leah, Louis, Lois, Richard, Katie, Tio, Sarah and Kaarina, for the gifts you give to them, and their call to service in this place. Fill them with grace and grant them the strength and peace of your Spirit. Bless them in their collaboration and leadership and inspire all in this place to be drawn into your mission and ministry in this Parish. In the name of Christ, our Master, Servant, and Friend. **Amen.**

The Intercessions *Led by the Revd Louis Johnson.*

*The intercessions finish 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 (NEH 302) *We stand.*

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray  
That all thy Church might be for ever one,  
Grant us at every Eucharist to say  
With longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done.'  
Oh, may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
One through this Sacrament of unity.

2 For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;  
Make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;  
Draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,  
By drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:  
Thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
One through this Sacrament of unity.

3 We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;  
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,  
Back to the faith which saints believed of old,  
Back to the Church which still that faith doth keep:  
Soon may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
One through this Sacrament of unity.

4 So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,  
May we be one with all thy church above,  
One with thy saints in one unbroken peace,  
One with thy saints in one unbounded love:  
More blessèd still, in peace and love to be  
One with the Trinity in Unity.

W Turton 1856-1938

*We sit.*

Sermon The Bishop of Blackburn.

Hymn (NEH 95) *We stand to sing. During the hymn there will be a collection.*

1 When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of Glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the cross of Christ my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

3 See from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 His dying crimson, like a robe  
spreads o'er his body on the tree;  
then am I dead to all the globe,  
and all the globe is dead to me.

5 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, may all.

Isaac Watts 1674-1748

The Final Prayer and Blessing *The Bishop Prays*

Gracious Father; renew the church in our day and make the people of your  
Priory Parish of St Mary's with St John's, St George's and St Anne's, holy,  
fruitful, and faithful, for your glory's sake, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and  
minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:  
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,  
be amongst you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

The Organ Voluntary Stanford *Postlude in G*

*Please stay and listen to the organ voluntary.*

*Refreshments will be served at the back of church, all are welcome to join us.*