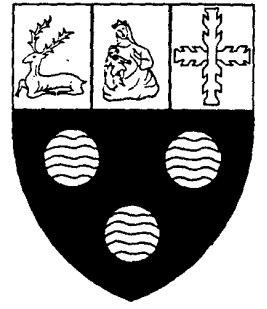


Southwell
Minster

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



FESTAL EVENSONG

*and Diocesan Celebration on the
Thirtieth Anniversary of the
Ordination of Women to the Priesthood*

The Birth of John the Baptist

Monday 24 June 2024

5.30pm

Welcome to Southwell Minster



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



Large print orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesman or Verger for a copy.



Toilet facilities (including disabled access) are situated in the Archbishop's Palace, opposite the South Door of the Minster.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.



This Order of Service is printed on sustainably produced paper.

The congregation is invited to join in all texts printed in **bold**.

The Girl Choristers are directed by Paul Provost, *Rector Chori*.

The organ is played by Jonathan Allsopp, *Assistant Director of Music*.

No collection will be taken at this service, but donations as you leave in support of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral are very welcome. Cash donations may be



placed in the donation box near each entrance. If you are a UK taxpayer, you are invited to fill in your details on the Gift Aid envelopes provided so that we can reclaim your income tax and thus increase your donation by 25p for every £1 given. Donations by card can be made using the contactless donation station. Alternatively, to make a donation online, please scan this QR code or visit www.southwellminster.org/donate. Please give generously.

The Service of Evensong

The experience of the service of Evensong is unique. It takes place at the end of the working day, and the choir leads worship through their singing. The service is centred around the singing of psalms, ancient texts that speak powerfully and accessibly to our very human hopes, fears and dreams. Every service of Evensong also includes two canticles, or songs, recorded in St Luke's Gospel: the *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*. Both canticles focus on hope and the fulfilment of what God promised to his people, and so have acted as a foundation for prayer and reflection towards the end of the day for many hundreds of years. The beauty of daily sung services in cathedrals is that no two composers' interpretation of these texts is the same, so in the repetition of familiar texts we find fresh meaning every single day.

The gift of the service of Evensong is that it requires little active participation from the congregation; it is a service of respite from the stresses of the day. Our hope is that those of you for whom this is your first taste of Evensong will let yourselves be immersed in the experience: you need simply to be receptive, and to allow yourself to be carried by the choir in song and prayer. In letting others take on the responsibility for prayer on your behalf, you are left with greater freedom to be open to the presence and grace of God.

Standing, Sitting and Kneeling

Throughout the booklet, you will find various references to posture:

- **Standing** is used for parts of the service where the emphasis is on praising or praying to God together; so we usually stand to sing hymns, and for certain important prayers.
- **Sitting** indicates listening and receiving; so we sit for the first and second readings from the Bible, and for the sermon.
- **Kneeling** is the traditional position for personal prayer. Please speak to one of the Vergers or Sidesmen if you would like a cushion for kneeling.

Adopting the same posture is a way of showing that we are worshipping God together, as his people. However, please always feel free to adopt a different posture, especially if standing or kneeling is uncomfortable

Acknowledgements

Text from The Book of Common Prayer, the rights in which are vested in the Crown, is reproduced by permission of the Crown's Patentee, Cambridge University Press. The words of the hymn Lord of all hopefulness are reproduced under CCL/MRL 40423 (all rights reserved). The authors of the hymns Called to Worship and Maker in this celebration have both given their permission for the words to be reproduced for use at this specific service. Scriptural quotations are from New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America (used by permission; all rights reserved). This compilation is copyright © Southwell Cathedral Chapter.

We are delighted to welcome to you to Southwell Minster. It is a joy and an honour to host this celebration of the ministry and witness of women as priests in the Church of England. For centuries, women have offered themselves to the mission of God in many and varied ways. We celebrate this 30th anniversary as a marker in the journey that so many have been on, as a way of recognising those who were called before 1994 and sadly were unable to be ordained as priest; and to pray for the continuing ministry of the whole people of God, in particular the many women who continue to respond to God's call upon their hearts and lives to be priests.

Prior to this service, Bishop Paul and Mrs Sarah Williams hosted a Garden Party for all women clergy in the diocese today, and they were delighted to be joined by women who now live outside the diocese, who were ordained in 1994.

The following 43 women were ordained to the office of Priest by the Bishop of Southwell, the late Rt Revd Patrick Harris, and the Bishop of Sherwood, the late Rt Revd Alan Morgan, across the Diocese of Southwell in 1994:-

Southwell Minster

Sunday 29 May 1994

Renee Winifred Bridger

Jean Calvert

Dorothy Chapman

Patricia Ann Chapman

Blanche Elizabeth Fisher Clancey

Sylvia Joy Griffiths

Muriel Ada Keene

Eileen Mary McLean

Martha McQuillan

Mary Joy O'Connell

Valerie Edith Rampton

Angela Mary Smythe

Southwell Minster

Sunday 29 May 1994

Frances Andrews

Mavis Adelaide Bexon

Gillian Anne Cooper

Sybil Ann Davenport

Gillian Mary Deave

Patricia Anne Edwards

Beatrice Mary Griffiths

Janet Henderson

Annie Johnson

Elaine Matthews Lloydall

Bethany Helen Walker

St Anne's, Worksop

Tuesday 31 May 1994

Jane Frances Chaffey

Annette Joy Cooper

Phyllis Elsie Sargan

June Hall Simpson

Jean Mary Tomlinson

St Martin's, Sherwood

Tuesday May 31 1994

Christine Browne

Elizabeth (Liz) Ashby Carrington

Pauline Hutchinson

Judith Mary Pilgrim

Beverley Ann Stark

St Giles', West Bridgford

Wednesday 1 June 1994

Lynn Fox

Dorothy Mary Gee

Janet Margaret Gorick

Jayne Elizabeth Shepherd

Susan Spencer

Beryl Jean Wood

St Mary's, Sutton in Ashfield

Wednesday 1 June 1994

Lynda Ann Church

Lesley Anne dePomerai

Janet Heath

Joan Valerie Sharpe

A Timeline of Ordained Women's Ministry in the Church of England

- 1862 First deaconesses serving in ministry (This was a lay order)
- 1920 Call for women's ordination brought to the Lambeth Conference
- 1944 First woman priest in the Anglican Communion, Hong Kong born Florence Li Tim-Oi, is ordained in Shoaqing, Guandong, China as a wartime emergency measure.
- 1969 First women Lay Readers licensed (there had been some in WW1, but they were allowed to lapse)
- 1975 General Synod determines 'There are no theological fundamental objections to the ordination of women to the priesthood'
- 1978: MOW (Movement for the Ordination of Women) begins.
- 1985 General Synod votes for women deacons
- 1987 First women ordained deacon
- 1992 General Synod votes in favour of women priests
- 1994 First women ordained priest in Diocese of Southwell during May 1994
- 2005 General Synod begins a process for the consecration of women bishops
- 2012 General Synod legislation fails
- 2014 20th anniversary 'celebrations' of women priests
- 2014 The Revd Sarah Clark becomes the first female Archdeacon for the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham and subsequently the Bishop of Jarrow in 2019.
- 2014 General Synod votes in favour of Women Bishops
- 2015 First woman bishop: the Rt Revd Libby Lane as the Suffragan Bishop of Stockport
- 2018 Dame Sarah Mullally becomes the 133rd Bishop of London and the first female bishop to take part in the coronation of a monarch in 2023.

ORDER OF SERVICE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam, BUXWV 180 Dieterich Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)

INTROIT *sung by the choir from the North Transept*

O virtus Sapientiae,
quae circuiens circuisti
comprehendendo omnia
in una via, quae habet vitam,
tres alas habens,
quarum una in altum volat,
et altera de terra sudat,
et tertia undique volat.
Laus tibi sit, sicut te decet,
O Sapientia.

*O strength of Wisdom
who, circling, circled,
enclosing all
in one lifegiving path,
three wings you have:
one soars to the heights,
one distils its essence upon the earth,
and the third is everywhere.
Praise to you, as is fitting,
O Wisdom.*

Music: Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)

Please stand at the entry of the choir and ministers

PRECES *sung by the Canon Precentor and 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.

Music: Timothy Noon (b. 1974)

The Dean welcomes the congregation to the service.

HYMN



1. Called to worship, called to service,
called to bring God's presence near;
called to preaching, prayer and blessing
speaking peace to conquer fear.
Thirty years of joys and sorrows,
priestly service gathered here.

2. We have walked where Christ has called us,
borne our cross and suffered pain.
To God's call we have been faithful,
and in loss have found our gain.
For indeed our God is faithful,
and we give our thanks again.

3. Called to tell salvation's story,
brought in safety through the sea;
brought into the new creation,
from the weight of sin set free.
Called to speak of God's forgiveness
— at our voice let sorrow flee.

4. Here we stand where earth and heaven
meet in praise and offering;
here we make Christ truly present,
hearts and lives the gifts we bring.
Where our hands share blood and body,
hearts and souls and voices sing.

5. In this House of prayer and teaching,
where our songs of praise arise,
Lord, receive our great thanksgiving
joy that echoes to the skies.
All for God and all with gladness,
which our service sanctifies.

Words: P.J. White (b. 1986)
Copyright © P.J. White

Music: REGENT SQUARE NEH 265
Henry Smart (1813-79)

Please sit

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that ledest Joseph like a sheep:
shew thyself also, thou that sittest upon the cherubims.
Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses:
stir up thy strength, and come, and help us.
Turn us again, O God:
shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.
O Lord God of hosts:
how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?
Thou feedest them with the bread of tears:
and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.
Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours:
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Turn us again, thou God of hosts:
shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.
Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt:
thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.
Thou madest room for it:
and when it had taken root it filled the land.
The hills were covered with the shadow of it:
and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedar-trees.
She stretched out her branches unto the sea:
and her boughs unto the river.
Why hast thou then broken down her hedge:
that all they that go by pluck off her grapes?
The wild boar out of the wood doth root it up:
and the wild beasts of the field devour it.
Turn thee again, thou God of hosts, look down from heaven:
behold, and visit this vine;
And the place of the vineyard that thy right hand hath planted:
and the branch that thou madest so strong for thyself.
It is burnt with fire, and cut down:
and they shall perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.
Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand:
and upon the son of man, whom thou madest so strong for thine own self.
And so will not we go back from thee:
O let us live, and we shall call upon thy Name.
Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts:
shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

God standeth in the congregation of princes:
he is a Judge among gods.
How long will ye give wrong judgement:
and accept the persons of the ungodly?
Defend the poor and fatherless:
see that such as are in need and necessity have right.
Deliver the out-cast and poor:
save them from the hand of the ungodly.
They will not be learned nor understand, but walk on still in darkness:
all the foundations of the earth are out of course.
I have said, Ye are gods:
and ye are all the children of the most Highest.
But ye shall die like men:
and fall like one of the princes.
Arise, O God, and judge thou the earth:
for thou shalt take all heathen to thine inheritance.

Please 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.

*Chants: Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)
& Ivor Atkins (1869-1953)*

Please sit

FIRST LESSON *read by the Revd Jean Tomlinson,
ordained to the office of Priest in the Diocese of Southwell in 1994
and now serving with Permission to Officiate in the Deanery of Bassetlaw and Bawtry*

Malachi 4

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts.

Remember the teaching of my servant Moses, the statutes and ordinances that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

Lo, I will send you the prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. He will turn the hearts of parents to their children and the hearts of children to their parents, so that I will not come and strike the land with a curse.

Please stand

ANTIPHON AND MAGNIFICAT *sung by the choir*

The child that unto us is born, is more than a prophet,
For this is he of whom the Saviour saith:
Among those that are born of women
None greater hath arisen than John the Baptist.

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
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 child that unto us is born, is more than a prophet,
For this is he of whom the Saviour saith:
Among those that are born of women
None greater hath arisen than John the Baptist.

Words: Luke 1: 46-55

*Music: from THE FATHER JULIUS CANTICLES
Katherine Dienes-Williams (b. 1970)*

Antiphon: Mode vii

Please sit

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said,

 'My soul magnifies the Lord,
 and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.

 Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
 and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
 from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
 and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,
 and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,

 in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
 to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

NUNC DIMITTIS *sung by the choir*

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.

Words: Luke 2: 29-32

*Music: from THE FATHER JULIUS CANTICLES
Katherine Dienes-Williams (b. 1970)*

Please turn east to face the High Altar

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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 catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Please turn back

LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER AND RESPONSES
sung by the Canon Precentor and choir

The Lord be with you:
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Please sit or kneel

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 let us not be led 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.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Almighty God,
by whose providence thy servant John Baptist was wonderfully born,
and sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour,
by preaching of repentance;
Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life,
that we may truly repent according to his preaching,
and after his example constantly speak the truth,
boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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.

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.

Music: Timothy Noon (b. 1974)

Please sit

ANTHEM sung by the choir

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from
Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou?
And he confessed, and denied not; and said plainly, I am not the Christ.
And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias?
And he said, I am not. Art thou the Prophet? And he answered, No.
Then said they unto him, What art thou? that we may give an answer
unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
make straight the way of the Lord.

Words: John 1: 19-23

Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Following the Anthem, the Girl Choristers leave the service.

HOMILY given by the Revd Prof. Alison Milbank, Canon Theologian, Southwell Minster

Please stand

HYMN



**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

*Words: Jan Struther (1901-53)
Copyright © 1931, 1982 Oxford University Press*

*Tune: SLANE NEH 239
Irish traditional arr. Erik Routley (1917-82)*

Please sit or kneel

*A PRAYER OF LAMENT led by the Revd Canon Sylvia Griffiths,
ordained to the office of Priest in the Diocese of Southwell in 1994
and currently serving with Permission to Officiate at St. Mary's, Arnold*

*A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING led by the Revd Edith Iheama,
Assistant Curate, St. Anne's, Worksop
and due to be ordained to the office of Priest at Pentecost 2024*

*A PRAYER OF INTERCESSION led by the Revd Jo Tatum
Bishop's Advisor for Women's Ministry and Area Dean for Nottingham South*

The following response is used:

**Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.**

THE GRACE

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

Please stand

FINAL HYMN



Maker, in this celebration,
all our gratitude we bring:
You have loved us and sustained us,
been our guide, protector, King.
Drawing us to join your mission,
by example we are led;
fulsome heritage behind us,
trusting you for what's ahead.

Jesus, Saviour and Redeemer,
calling us to follow you,
taking what we have to offer
and transforming, making new.
From all walks of life you call us
to your mission with its cost;
gathering up our joys and sorrows:
nothing wasted, nothing lost.

Holy Spirit, move amongst us
to enthuse, empower, inspire.
By your gifts equip for service
as we build Christ's body here.
Keep us faithful in our worship,
rooted in our praise and prayer.
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
send us out your love to share.

BLESSING given by the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham

Through the tender compassion of our God
may the dawn from on high break upon you
and guide your feet into the way of peace.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always.
Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY during which the ministers and choir depart

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam, BWV 684

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Once the ministers and choir have departed, you are invited to sit to listen quietly to the organ voluntary. If you wish to leave at this point, please do so without disturbing those who may still wish to listen or pray. The clergy will stand in the Crossing to greet you on your way out.



**The first women to be ordained to the office of Priest in Southwell Minster,
Sunday 29 May 1994**

The Minster Centre, Church Street, Southwell, NG25 0HD.

Tel.: 01636 812649

office@southwellminster.org.uk

www.southwellminster.org

Facebook: @SouthwellMinster

X: @SouthwMinster

Instagram: @SouthwellMinster

Southwell Cathedral Chapter: Registered Charity Number 1207138