



DIOCESE OF EXETER

The Parish Church of St Mary, Bideford



EVENING PRAYER

with the Inauguration of the ministry of the

Venerable Verena Breed

as **ARCHDEACON** of Barnstaple

Wednesday, 15th September at 7.00pm

Two Chorale Preludes:-

Von Gott will ich nicht lassen J S Bach and Schmucke dich, O liebe Seele J S Bach

The Rev'd Preb Claire Rose-Casemore, Team Rector, welcomes everyone to Bideford and gives notices

Stand for the entrance hymn

ENTRANCE HYMN - To God be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things he hath done:
so loved he the world that he gave us his son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to ev'ry believer the promise of God.
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [Refrain]

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. [Refrain]

https://hymnary.org/text/to_god_be_the_glory_great_things_he_hath

PREPARATION

Please remain standing as the Bishop of Exeter, the Rt Revd Robert Atwell, says:

All The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
All **Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.**

O Lord, we call to you: come to us quickly.
All **Hear us when we cry to you.**

Let our prayers rise up before you.
All **Let our lifted hands be like an evening sacrifice.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
All **as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever.**

Amen.

The Bishop welcomes the congregation and introduces the Prayers of Penitence.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.

In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

A moment of silence is kept.

The Rector says:

In a dark and disfigured world we have not held out the light of life:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

In a hungry and despairing world we have failed to share our bread:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

In a cold and loveless world we have kept the love of God to ourselves:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Bishop declares God's forgiveness.

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive you your sins
and make you holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

Psalm 27 (*Congregation please join in the even verses*)

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation—
 whom shall I fear?

 The Lord is the stronghold of my life—
 of whom shall I be afraid?

**2 When the wicked advance against me
 to devour me,
 it is my enemies and my foes
 who will stumble and fall.**

3 Though an army besiege me,
 my heart will not fear;
 though war break out against me,
 even then I will be confident.

**4 One thing I ask from the Lord,
 this only do I seek:
 that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
 all the days of my life,
 to gaze on the beauty of the Lord
 and to seek him in his temple.**

5 For in the day of trouble
 he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
 he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent
 and set me high upon a rock.

**6 Then my head will be exalted
 above the enemies who surround me;
 at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy;
 I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

7 Hear my voice when I call, Lord;
 be merciful to me and answer me.

- 8 **My heart says of you, “Seek his face!”
Your face, Lord, I will seek.**
- 9 Do not hide your face from me,
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.
Do not reject me or forsake me,
God my Saviour.
- 10 **Though my father and mother forsake me,
the Lord will receive me.**
- 11 Teach me your way, Lord;
lead me in a straight path
because of my oppressors.
- 12 **Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,
for false witnesses rise up against me,
spouting malicious accusations.**
- 13 I remain confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.
- 14 **Wait for the Lord;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.**

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

Please sit

Reading from the Old Testament *read by Jacque Ward - PA to ADB*

Isaiah 9: 2-7

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Praise

God is light.
In him there is no darkness.

If we live in the light,
as God is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another
and the blood of Jesus, his Son,
purifies us from all sin.

cf 1 John 1.5,7

Reading from the New Testament *read by Rev'd Chris Hutchins*

Matthew 5: 13-16

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

We stand to sing

HYMN - Bless the Lord O, my soul

Chorus

Bless the Lord oh my soul

Oh my soul

Worship His Holy name

Sing like never before

Oh my soul

I'll worship Your Holy name

The sun comes up

It's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass

And whatever lies before me

Let me be singing

When the evening comes *Chorus*

You're rich in love
And You're slow to anger
Your name is great
And Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness
I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons
For my heart to find *Chorus*

And on that day
When my strength is failing
The end draws near
And my time has come
Still my soul will
Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years
And then forevermore
Forevermore *Chorus x2*

Yes I'll worship Your Holy name
I'll worship Your Holy name

Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name
Jesus I will worship Your Holy name
Worship Your Holy name

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PRAYERS, *led by Rural Dean of Shirwell Rev'd Preb Rosie Austin and Lay Chair of Hartland Deanery Nigel Price*

We pray for God's faithfulness to be known in our world.
Faithful God

glorify your name.

In a world of change and hope, of fear and adventure;
faithful God

glorify your name.

In human rebellion and obedience, in our seeking and our
finding;

faithful God

glorify your name.

In the common life of our society, in prosperity and need;
faithful God

glorify your name.

As your Church proclaims your goodness in words and
action;

faithful God

glorify your name.

Among our friends and in our homes;

faithful God

glorify your name.

In our times of joy, in our days of sorrow;

faithful God

glorify your name.

In our strengths and triumphs,
in our weakness and at our death;

faithful God

glorify your name.

In your saints in glory
and on the day of Christ's coming;

faithful God

glorify your name.

The Collect

The Rector:

O God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen

The Lord's Prayer

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

ANTHEM *Lead me Lord* – (SS Wesley)

COLLATION OF THE ARCHDEACON OF BARNSTAPLE

The Archdeacon-designate is presented to the Bishop by the Rt Revd Colin Fletcher, former Bishop of Dorchester, Diocese of Oxford

Bishop Colin commends Verena.

Bishop Robert, I commend to you Verena Breed. As one who has shared Verena's ministry in the Diocese of Oxford, I warmly commend her to you and to the people of this Archdeaconry as a faithful pastor and a woman of prayer. I ask you to Licence her to her new ministry as Archdeacon of Barnstaple.

The Archdeacon of Exeter says:

Verena, before you are admitted as Archdeacon of Barnstaple, you must declare your assent to the Christian faith as received by the Church of England; and swear your allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, and your canonical obedience to the Bishop of Exeter.

The representatives return to their seats.

Bishop 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.

Verena, 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 Archdeacon-designate makes the Declaration of Assent

AD I, Verena Breed, 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 use only the forms of service which are authorized or allowed by canon.

Facing the people and holding the New Testament in her right hand, the Archdeacon-designate makes the Oath of Allegiance

AD I, Verena Breed, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her heirs and successors, according to law. So help me God.

Facing the Bishop and still holding the New Testament in her right hand, the Archdeacon-designate makes the Oath of Canonical Obedience

AD I, Verena Breed, do swear that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Exeter and his successors, in all things lawful and honest. So help me God.

All stand. The Rural Deans and the Lay Chairs of the Deaneries in the Archdeaconry of Barnstaple gather around the Archdeacon-designate, who kneels before the Bishop.

The Bishop reads the Deed of Collation and delivers it to the new Archdeacon saying:

Bishop Receive this deed for ministry and take your share in the responsibility which is mine in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit **Amen.**

The Bishop then blesses her saying:

The God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, rest upon you now and always.

All Amen.

ACT OF DEDICATION

The Bishop and Archdeacon remain standing. All others sit. Representatives present symbols of ministry to the new Archdeacon.

A Bible is presented by Annie Jeffries, the Chair of the House of Laity of the Diocesan Synod, who says:

St Paul writes: 'Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.'

Verena, receive this Bible as a sign of our calling to make Christ known in the world. Be among us as a student of the Scriptures and expound their wisdom.

All Together, by God's grace, we will tell the good news of Christ to the world.

AD With you I seek to be an ambassador for Christ

A copy of The Book of Common Prayer or a volume of Common Worship is presented by the Chair of the House of Clergy Rev'd Preb Mike Partridge

Hear the words of the apostle Paul: "Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication for all the saints." Accept this book, wellspring of our worship, faith and prayer.

All Together, by God's grace, we will worship him in spirit and in truth.

AD I will faithfully bring before God the needs of this Archdeaconry entrusted to me.

The oil of healing is presented by Carol Wyatt, Reader

Hear the words of the apostle James: "Are there any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the Church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord." Receive this oil for the healing of the sick and the wellbeing of all God's people.

All As a true pastor bring comfort, reconciliation and wholeness in Christ.

AD I shall joyfully do this.

A stole is given by Stephen Hancock the Diocesan Secretary who says:

Hear the words of the apostle Peter: "I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it - not for shameful gain but eagerly."

All Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock

AD Thank you for these signs of ministry.

May they remind us all of our common vision to grow in prayer, make new disciples and serve the people of Devon with joy.

All Thanks be to God.

Please stand

THE WELCOME

The Bishop of Exeter presents the new Archdeacon of Barnstaple to the congregation and says:

Bishop Friends in Christ, I present to you Verena, your new Archdeacon. Will you support her in her ministry and uphold her in your prayers?

All With the help of God, we will.

Bishop Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The congregation greet the new Archdeacon with applause.

The Bishop of Crediton, The Rt Rev'd Jackie Searle; Archdeacon of Exeter Ven Andrew Beane; Chair of the House of Laity, Annie Jeffries; Chair of the House of Clergy The Rev'd Preb Mike Partridge and Diocesan Secretary, Stephen Hancock all welcome Venerable Verena Breed, Archdeacon of Barnstaple.

HYMN - The Lord's my shepherd- (Stuart Townsend)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

Chorus

And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights. *Chorus*

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know. *Chorus*

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SERMON

The Archdeacon of Barnstaple

Please stand

HYMN - Longing for Light (Bernadette Farrell)

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Chorus

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Chorus*

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Chorus*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Chorus*

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. *Chorus*

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Please remain standing

THE COMMISSION

The Bishop of Crediton says:

Bishop Hear the words of the Apostle Paul: 'Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, and all were made to drink of one Spirit.' As Verena begins her ministry as archdeacon, I invite all of you who have been baptized into the Body of Christ to proclaim the Christian faith into which we were baptized and in which we live and grow, and to affirm our commitment to serve Christ together in the world.

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

All **With the help of God, I will**

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

All **With the help of God, I will**

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

All **With the help of God, I will**

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

All **With the help of God, I will**

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

All **With the help of God, I will**

Bishop 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.

HYMN Be thou my vision

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

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

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me Heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, be first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, thou bright Heaven's Sun,
grant me its joys, after vict'ry is won;
heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my Vision, O ruler of all.

<https://www.music-ministry.org/hymns/be-thou-my-vision/> 'The Poem Book of the Gael' tr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931), edited by Eleanor Henrietta Hull (1860-1935) Originally published by Chatto & Windus Used by permission

Please remain standing

CONCLUSION *The Archdeacon of Barnstaple says*

All In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
All a light no darkness can quench.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening:
All and the day is almost over.

The darkness is not dark to you:
All the night is as bright as the day.

Let your light scatter the darkness:
All and fill your church with your glory. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Bishop God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

ORGAN

Concluding Voluntary

Nun danket alle Gott J S Bach

Everyone is warmly invited to stay for refreshments after this service at the back of Church

A retiring collection will be made for the Bishop of Exeter's Discretionary Fund and expenses of this service.

Many thanks to the churchwardens and Reverend Prebendary Claire Rose-Casemore, Team Rector, for their kind hospitality and organisation of this service.

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