



St Andrew's & All Saints

Partnering with God in the flourishing of our communities

# Confirmation Service

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**The Rt Revd Martin Gorick  
Bishop of Dudley**

**At St Andrew's Church, Malvern**



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER

# **Welcome to St Andrew's for this morning's Confirmation service.**

It is great to welcome you all to celebrate together at today's confirmation service. A special welcome also to Bishop Martin, the Bishop of Dudley, who will lead our service today.

It is so encouraging to see all of our candidates choosing to take this step of faith. Some have only recently joined us in here, some have been brought up in here and are now wanting to step out in faith for themselves. Thank you to all of you who have been part of their journeys over recent months and years, and please continue to pray for them in the weeks ahead. I hope that today will be an encouragement to us all, as we once again recognize the grace of God at work in their lives and our lives.

The retiring collection today, will go to the Bishop of Worcester's Discretionary Fund, which give grants in support of the mission of the Church and to those in need.

## **Those being confirmed**

Matthew Allen  
Peter Allen  
Hannah Chapman  
Megan Jones  
Tim Jones  
Daisy Oakley  
Denise Preston  
John Roe  
Russell Tomlinson  
George Wharton

# Welcome & Introduction

*The Revd Dave Bruce, Rector*

## Hymn How Great Thou Art

*Chosen by Denise*

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*

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

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

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

Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

© 1949 and 1953 Stuart K. Hine Trust (Admin. by Integrity Music)

## The Greeting

*The Bishop greets the people.*

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

There is one body and one spirit.

*All* **There is one hope to which we were called;**

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

*All* **one God and Father of all.**

Peace be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

*The Bishop introduces the service.*

## The Collect

Almighty God,  
whose Holy Spirit equips the Church with a rich variety of gifts,  
grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ  
by lives built on faith and love.  
Make us ready to live His Gospel and eager to do his will,  
that we may share with all your Church  
in the joys of eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## Presentation of the Candidates

*The candidates may be presented to the congregation. Where appropriate, they may be presented by their godparents or sponsors.*

*The Bishop asks the candidates*

Do you wish to be baptized?

**I do.**

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.**

## Testimonies

*An opportunity for some of the candidates being confirmed to give a brief testimony....*

*The Bishop addresses the whole congregation*

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

*All* **With the help of God, we will.**

## Song Reckless Love

Chosen by Russell

Before I spoke a word you were singing over me  
You have been so, so good to me  
Before I took a breath you breathed your life in me  
You have been so, so kind to me

*Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God  
Oh it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it  
Still you give yourself away  
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God*

When I was your foe, still your love fought for me  
You have been so, so good to me  
When I felt no worth, you paid it all for me  
You have been so, so kind to me

*Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God  
Oh it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it  
Still you give yourself away  
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God*

There's no shadow you won't light up  
Mountain you won't climb up  
Coming after me  
There's no wall you won't kick down  
No lie you won't tear down  
Coming after me

There's no shadow you won't light up  
Mountain you won't climb up  
Coming after me

There's no wall you won't kick down  
No lie you won't tear down  
Coming after me

*Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God  
Oh it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it  
Still you give yourself away  
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God*

Songwriters: Ran Jackson / Cory Asbury / Caleb Culver  
Reckless Love lyrics © Bethel Music Publishing, Watershed Worship Publishing, Cory Asbury Publishing

## **The Decision**

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.**

*The Bishop says*

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

*All* **Amen.**

*The Bishop leads the following prayer of thanksgiving for baptism*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, sovereign God of all,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.

You are our light and salvation.

From the deep waters of death

you have raised your Son to life in triumph.

Grant that all who have been born anew  
by water and the Spirit

may daily be renewed in your image,

walk by the light of faith,

and serve you in newness of life;

through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ,

to whom with you and the Holy Spirit

we lift our voices of praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**



# Profession of Faith

*The Bishop addresses the congregation*

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?

*All* **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

*All* **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?

*All* **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 Bishop says*

**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.

*All*    **Amen.**

## **Song   Our God Saves**

In the name of the Father in the name of the Son  
In the name of the Spirit Lord we come  
We're gathered together to lift up Your name  
To call on our Saviour to fall on Your grace  
Hear the joyful sound of our offering  
As Your saints bow down as Your people sing  
We will rise with You lifted on Your wings  
And the world will see that

*Our God saves our God saves  
There is hope in Your name  
Mourning turns to songs of praise  
Our God saves our God saves*

Brenton Brown | Paul Baloche

© 2007 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Leadworship Songs (Admin. by Integrity Music)

*The younger children go out to their groups*

## **The First Reading: I Corinthians 12:12-31a**

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading: Mark 1:14-20**

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness  
but will have the light of life.

**All Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*And after*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*A time of Silence may be kept after the Sermon.*

## Confirmation

*The Bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed, and says*

*All* Our help is in the name of the Lord  
**who has made heaven and earth.**

*All* Blessed be the name of the Lord  
**now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and says*

Almighty and ever-living God,  
you have given these your servants new birth  
in baptism by water and the Spirit,  
and 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.  
*All* **Amen.**

*Each candidate looks into the eyes of the Bishop who addresses them by name, and anoints them, saying*

**N,** God has called you by name and made you his own.

*Each candidate bows their head and prays for the gift of the Holy Spirit as the Bishop lays his hands on the head of each, saying*

Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*The Bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those who have been confirmed*

**All**    **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 Bishop may invite the congregation to greet them with applause.*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*The Bishop introduces the intercessions with the words*

As a royal priesthood, let us pray to the Father  
through Christ who ever lives to intercede for us.

*A member of the Congregation leads the prayers*

Reveal your kingdom among the nations;  
may peace abound and justice flourish.  
In particular, we pray for...  
Your name be hallowed.

**All**    **Your kingdom come.**

Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit  
and renew your Church with power from on high.  
In particular, we pray for...  
Your name be hallowed.

**All**    **Your kingdom come.**

Deliver the oppressed, strengthen the weak,  
heal and restore your creation.  
In particular, we pray for...  
Your name be hallowed.

**All**    **Your kingdom come.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Church on earth,  
we join our prayers with all the saints in glory.  
Your name be hallowed.

**All Your kingdom come.**

*The Bishop concludes the prayers with the following*

Hasten, Lord, the day when people will come  
from east and west, from north and south,  
and sit at table in your kingdom  
and we shall see your Son in his glory.  
Merciful Father

**All accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## **The Peace**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and  
said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they  
saw the Lord. Alleluia. *John 20.19,20*

**All The peace of the Lord be always with you  
and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## **Song In Christ Alone**

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This cornerstone this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My comforter my all in all  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
His arms of love were opened wide  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend © 2001 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

*The holy table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

# Holy Communion

*The Bishop takes the bread and wine.*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread to set before  
you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered  
together  
from the corners of the earth  
into your kingdom.

*All* **Amen.**



## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness  
to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks  
because through him you have given us eternal life  
and delivered us  
from the bondage of sin and the fear of death  
into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

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

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

*All* **Great is the mystery of faith:  
Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins  
of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice  
of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*Silence may be kept.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

*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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

*All* **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **Giving of Communion**

*The Bishop says the invitation to communion*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

*All* **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*During communion you are invited to join in the worship songs that will be played that will appear on the screens*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

God of mercy,  
by whose grace alone we are accepted  
and equipped for your service:  
stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit  
and make us worthy of our calling;  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*Followed by*

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body  
live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## The Commission

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?

*All* **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?

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

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

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

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

*All* **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?

*All* **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.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

God the Father,  
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,  
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All*    **Amen.**

## **Giving of a Lighted Candle**

*When all the candidates have received a candle, 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.

*All*    **Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

## **The Dismissal**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

*All*    **Thanks be to God.**

## **Song Ten Thousand Reasons**

*The Bishop leads the newly confirmed through the church.*

*Bless the Lord O my soul  
O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before  
O 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

*Bless the Lord...*

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

*Bless the Lord...*

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

*Bless the Lord...*

*Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman*

© 2011 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers of the Church of England and Christian Initiation*, material from which is included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2000, 2006, and used with permission in the Diocese of Worcester.

Scripture readings are taken from The New Revised Standard Version (Anglicized Edition), copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

CCLI License Number: 225152