



St John's Church Farsley

The Service of Licensing
of the Revd Gareth Howles
as Priest in Charge

by the Right Revd Paul Slater
Bishop of Kirkstall

Thursday 3rd December 2020
7.30pm

www.stjohnsfarsley.org.uk

The Churchwardens would like to welcome you to this special service for the licensing of the new Priest in Charge for St John's Church in Farsley, Rev Gareth Howles.

In the service Gareth will declare his faith in Christ, as uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and make promises of allegiance to the Queen and obedience to the Bishop. It is also the time when both he and the people promise to uphold the ministry of word and sacrament.

The licensing of a new Priest in Charge is a significant moment in the life of any parish. It is a time of welcome, thanksgiving and celebration as we also look forward to getting to know Gareth and his family.

While the current coronavirus restrictions mean there are fewer people in church for today's licensing service, we hope that those who are here in person and those who are watching from home will all extend the warmest of welcomes to Gareth.

We pray that Gareth's new ministry with us will be a real blessing as a new chapter in the life of the parish begins.

*Members of the congregation are invited to join in with the words in **bold** type.*

- Churchwarden On behalf of the PCC of Farsley I confirm that it is our wish that Gareth be licensed as Priest in Charge of this Benefice.
- Bishop Gareth, in the name of Christ I warmly welcome you. Do you believe that God is calling you to this ministry?
- Priest I do.
- Bishop Are you willing to commit yourself to this new responsibility?
- Priest With the help of God I am.
- Bishop Members of the congregation, after due consultation Gareth has been chosen to be your new priest. Will you care for him and support him in his ministry among you?
- All With the help of God we will.**
- Bishop My brothers and sisters, as we pray that Gareth may be a willing and faithful shepherd of God's people in this place, let us also pray for all who will share in this ministry:

A moment of silence is kept.

- Bishop God our Father, you call the Church of your Son to proclaim the message of salvation to the world. We thank you that Gareth has been called to serve you in this parish. Send your Holy Spirit upon him and upon all who share in his ministry, that through all the life of your Church here your kingdom may be advanced and your name be glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BIBLE READING

Acts 17.22-34 (New International Version) read by Lydia Howles

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴ “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

³² When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, “We want to hear you again on this subject.” ³³ At that, Paul left the Council. ³⁴ Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON

Rt Revd Paul Slater, Bishop of Kirkstall

'My hope is built on nothing less,' sung by Naomi Howles

THE REAFFIRMATION OF ORDINATION VOWS

The Priest in Charge designate stands before the Bishop

Bishop Gareth before you receive this share in our pastoral charge will you, before God and this congregation, renew your dedication to Christ as a priest of the new covenant?

Priest I will

Bishop At your ordination you accepted the responsibility of the priesthood out of love for the Lord Jesus and his church. Are you resolved to unite yourself more closely to him by being diligent in prayer and the study of the Holy Scriptures? Will you continually stir up the gift of God that is within you to make Christ known to all?

Priest With the help of God, I will

Bishop Are you resolved to be a faithful minister of the mysteries of God, to celebrate the Eucharist and other liturgical services with sincere devotion? Will you strive to fashion your own life and that of your household according to the way of Christ?

Priest With the help of God, I will

Bishop Will you promote unity, peace and love among all Christian people, and especially among those whom you serve? Will you do all that is within your power to build up the Church which is the Body of Christ?

Priest With the help of God, I will

THE DECLARATION OF ASSENT AND THE OATHS

The Priest in Charge designate and the Archdeacon stand before the Bishop

PREFACE

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. 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 Priest in Charge designate makes the declaration of assent.

DECLARATION OF ASSENT

(Facing the Bishop)

Priest I, Gareth Harry Howles 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.

The Priest in Charge designate makes the oaths, holding the New Testament in his hand.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

(Facing the congregation)

Priest I, Gareth Harry Howles do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors, according to law: So help me God.

OATH OF CANONICAL OBEDIENCE

(Facing the Bishop)

Priest I, Gareth Harry Howles do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Leeds and his successors in all things lawful and honest: So help me God.

The Bishop and Priest in Charge designate sign the declaration and oaths, and the Bishop signs the Licence

THE LICENSING

The Priest in Charge designate kneels before the Bishop. The Bishop reads the licence and places it in the priest's hands saying

Bishop Receive by this licence the ministry which is both mine and yours: in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Bishop then blesses the new Priest in Charge, saying:

Bishop 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 eternal 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 come down upon you and remain with you always.

Priest Amen.

Bishop: Archdeacon Paul I request you to install Gareth in the seat assigned to the Priest in Charge of this benefice.

Archdeacon Gareth, I place you in the seat of the Priest in Charge of this benefice. Lead and hold this benefice in prayer; and may God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in the ways of truth and peace.

All Amen.

THE WELCOME

Archdeacon People of God, I present to you Gareth as your new Priest in Charge

The Area Dean gives an informal welcome.

Priest Thank you for your welcome. I look forward to sharing the life of this community and will seek to serve God faithfully among you.

The new Priest in Charge responds to the welcome, may give out some notices, and then leads the congregation in prayer

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The new Priest leads the congregation in prayer.

The following response is used:

Priest Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Ending with:

Priest Merciful Father,

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

Priest
All

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
**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.**

'When I survey the wondrous cross' sung by Naomi Howles

THE SENDING OUT

Bishop
All

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

Bishop
All

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

Bishop

Go out into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted, honour everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

All

Amen.

Priest in Charge
All

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

There is a collection plate at the back of church. The money will be used to support our link dioceses in other parts of the Anglican Communion.

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