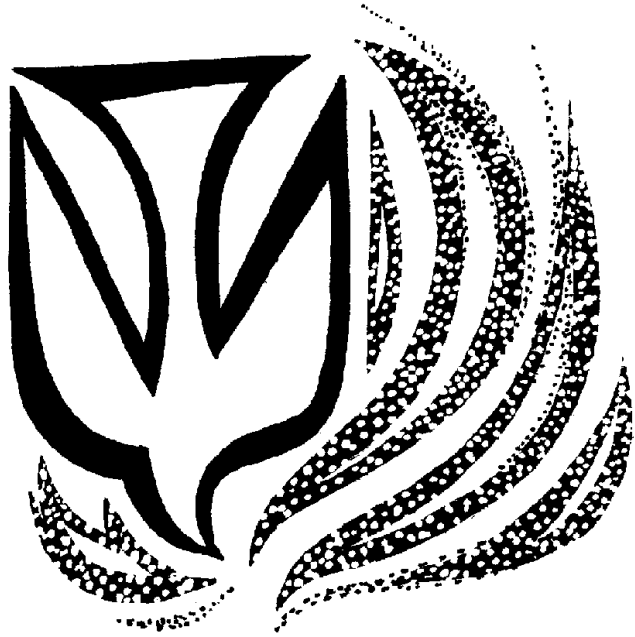


# A Service of Confirmation with Holy Communion

Preparation

*The Rev'd Tulo Raistrick informally welcomes the candidates with their families and friends to St Barbara's Church.*



**'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.'**

**St Barbara's Church Earlsdon  
27<sup>th</sup> June, 2021**

## 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.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.**

## Hymn: Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

*The bishop introduces the service, and he prays*

Heavenly Father,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give to your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.  
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,  
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love,  
and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
now and for ever.

**Amen**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### New Testament Reading

*Acts 1:6-11*

*At the end the reader says*  
This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Reading

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*  
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

*Luke 9:57-62*

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### Sermon - Bishop John

## The Liturgy of Initiation

### Presentation of the Candidates

*The candidates come forward and are presented to the Bishop.*

*The bishop asks the candidates for confirmation:*

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.**

*The bishop addresses the whole congregation*

Faith is the gift of God to his people.  
In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.  
People of God, will you welcome these candidates  
and uphold them in their life in Christ?

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

### The Decision

*A large candle may be lit. The bishop addresses all the candidates.*

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.**

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

**Amen.**

*A bowl of water is brought from the font to remind us of our baptism.*

*The Bishop says*

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 our 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.**

### 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.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord

**All 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.**

*The bishop addresses each candidate by name*

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

*He then lays his hand on the head of each, saying*

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

**All Amen.**

*The bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those on whom hands have been laid*

**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.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

## **The Peace**

*The bishop introduces the Peace in these or other suitable words.*

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us  
and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

**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.*

## **Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, O Lord of My Heart**

## **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

## **Preparation of the Table**

*The bread and wine are presented on the table. The gifts are presented and blessed.*

**All** The Lord be with you.  
**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.**

And now we give you thanks  
because by water and the Holy Spirit  
you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord,  
you raise us to new life in him  
and renew in us the image of your glory.  
And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels 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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is the 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All** **Christ has died**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All** **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

**Lamb of God,**  
**You take away the sin of the world,**  
**Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,**  
**You take away the sin of the world,**  
**Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,**  
**You take away the sin of the world,**  
**Grant us peace.**

## Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**All** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The body and blood of Christ given for you.

**All** **Amen.**

*Communion will be distributed to the candidates, then the choir, and then will be brought to the congregation where they are seated. Please indicate if you wish to receive by holding out your hands in front of you.*

## Prayer After Communion

**All** 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.  
**Amen**

## The Dismissal

### The Commission

*The bishop will use this Commissioning for service*

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?

**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?

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

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

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

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

**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?

**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.

**Amen.**

## The Blessing

The God of all grace,  
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,  
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**All** Amen.

## Giving of a Lighted Candle

*The newly confirmed are given a gift from the church and a candle, lit from the Easter Candle. The Bishop then 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.

## Final Hymn Outside: I Will Offer Up My Life

***You are warmly invited to stay behind for refreshments.***