



Parish of Northaw & Cuffley  
**Service of Confirmation**

St Andrew, Cuffley  
10:30 am, Sunday 8th October, 2023

The Rt Rev'd Dr Rob Munro  
Bishop of Ebbsfleet

*Candidates being confirmed this morning*

Abigail Kilgour

Jemima Kilgour

Edward Watt

Thomas Watt

Please remember to pray for them in the days and weeks ahead.

Refreshments will be served after this service at the back of the church. We hope you will stay and enjoy some hospitality.

There is no collection taken during this service. If you would like to support the work of the church, please use the yellow envelopes, and place them in the plate or bowl near the door.

## Welcome

The Rev'd Chris Kilgour

## Hymn

### **Holy, holy, holy!**

Lord God Almighty!  
early in the morning  
our song shall rise to thee;  
holy, holy, holy!  
merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons,  
blessèd Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!  
all the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns  
around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim  
falling down before thee,  
which wert and art  
and evermore shall be

### Holy, holy, holy!

though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinful man  
thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy,  
there is none beside thee  
perfect in power,  
in love, and purity.

### Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God almighty!  
all thy works shall praise thy name  
in earth and sky and sea;  
holy, holy, holy!  
merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons,  
blessed Trinity.

Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

### *The Bishop leads the service*

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 liturgy and the Collect*

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 Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-4*

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. <sup>3</sup>The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup>So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

*The reading ends with:*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### *Hymn*

#### **God has spoken – by his prophets**

Spoken his unchanging word;  
Each from age to age proclaiming  
God the one, the righteous Lord;  
In the world's despair and turmoil  
One firm anchor holds us fast:  
God eternal reigns for ever,  
God the first and God the last.

God has spoken – by Christ Jesus,  
Christ, the everlasting Son;  
Brightness of the Father's glory,  
With the Father ever one:  
Spoken by the Word incarnate,  
Life before all time began,  
Light of Light, to earth descending,  
God, revealed as Son of Man.

God is speaking – by his Spirit  
Speaking to our hearts again;  
In the ageless Word declaring  
God's own message, now as then.  
Through the rise and fall of nations  
One sure faith is holding fast:  
God abides, his word unchanging,  
God the first and God the last.

George Wallace Briggs

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*Please remain standing for the Gospel reading.*

*The Gospel: John 1:1-18*

*Before the reading:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup>He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—<sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

<sup>15</sup>(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

*The reading ends with:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**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,  
The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry 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 pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home—  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend Copyright © 2002 Thankyou Music

## *Presentation of Candidates*

*The candidates for confirmation are presented, and stand as their names are called.*

*The Bishop asks the candidates:*

Have you been baptised 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 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*

*The Bishop addresses 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.

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 the strength to continue in the Way.

**All: Amen**

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.**

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptised 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.**

### *The Confirmation*

*The Bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed:*

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**All Who has made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord,

**All: Now and for ever. Amen.**



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 says to each candidate:*

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

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

**All: Amen.**

**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 Commission*

*The Congregation stands and the Bishop says:*

Those who are baptised 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 praying 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.

**All: Amen.**

### *Prayers*

#### *The Peace*

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 us the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*We share a sign of peace with those near us.*

### *Hymn*

#### **Before the throne of God above**

I have a strong, a perfect plea:  
A great High Priest, whose name is Love,  
Who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on His hands,  
My name is written on His heart;  
I know that while in heaven He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,  
And tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look, and see Him there  
Who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Saviour died,  
My sinful soul is counted free;  
For God, the Just, is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me,  
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! the risen Lamb!  
My perfect, spotless Righteousness,  
The great unchangeable I AM,  
The King of glory and of grace!  
One with my Lord, I cannot die;  
My soul is purchased by His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ, my Saviour and my God,  
With Christ, my Saviour and my God.

Charitie Lees Bancroft (1841-1923)

### *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.**

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*A Proper Preface may be used, or*

For he is our great high priest,  
who has loosed us from our sins  
and has made us to be a royal priesthood to you,  
our God and Father.

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.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,  
who, in your tender mercy,  
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;  
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered  
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for  
the sins of the whole world;  
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.  
Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,  
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,  
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,  
in remembrance of his death and passion,  
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;  
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,  
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,  
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension  
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise  
and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,  
and through faith in his blood,  
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins  
and all other benefits of his passion.  
Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,  
to offer you any sacrifice,  
yet we pray that you will accept this  
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,  
and fill us all who share in this holy communion  
with your grace and heavenly blessing;  
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**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**All: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

## *Receiving Communion*

*If you would normally receive communion, you are welcome to do so here. If not, or you would rather not, do come up to the rail, bringing this sheet with you, and we will say a prayer of blessing with you.*

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

## *Prayer after Communion*

**All: Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

## *Notices*

### *Hymn*

#### **Amazing grace! how sweet the sound**

That saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil  
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.

John Newton (1801-1890)

### *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.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

