



*Going Deeper into God \* Transforming Communities \* Making New Disciples  
leading to Spiritual and Numerical Growth*

Licensing  
by the Bishop of St Albans  
The Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith  
and  
Installation  
by the Archdeacon of St Albans  
The Venerable Dr Jane Mainwaring  
of  
The Reverend Stuart Owen  
as  
Rector  
of St Peter's, Great Berkhamsted  
and  
Team Vicar in the Berkhamsted Team Ministry  
on  
**Saturday 12 September 2020  
at 4.00 pm**

# Introduction

Welcome to this service, which marks both a new sphere of ministry in the life of your new Team Vicar (to be known as Rector of St Peter's) and a new chapter in the worship and life of this parish. It is fitting therefore that we come together with the Bishop and representatives of our partner churches to offer ourselves afresh to God for the work of the Gospel.

We approach God most appropriately at the beginning of worship in praise and confession.

The Team Vicar designate is then introduced and presented to the Bishop and people. The Declaration of Assent and the Oaths to the Sovereign and Diocesan Bishop are required by law and give us assurance of the trustworthiness of his ministry.

A reading from God's word to us from the Bible is followed by a sermon, in which the same word is given relevance for this time and place.

As we pray together for the grace and power of the Holy Spirit, the Bishop licenses the Team Vicar designate and blesses him together with all who minister here. Following the installation of the new Team Vicar, he is welcomed by the community and all are invited to greet one another in the exchange of the Peace.

Because ministry and mission is not the prerogative of one person but the privilege of all the baptised, the following Act of Commitment reflects this collaboration between priest and people. It is meaningful that your new Team Vicar is described sometimes as an evangelist or a teacher or as president during this act of commitment. These titles emphasise the differing gifts that are needed by the people of God in their Christian witness. Because your new Team Vicar is described as 'among the people', it emphasises the responsibility of the whole worshipping community to work together for spiritual and numerical growth.

Water, representing our baptism at the start of our Christian journey, is brought forward to the new Team Vicar and then poured into the font.  
All commit themselves to making new disciples as partners in mission.

The Bible, in which God's word is uniquely revealed to us in Jesus the Word of God, is brought forward to the new Team Vicar and then placed upon the lectern.  
All commit themselves to going deeper into God as partners in mission.

Bread and wine, recalling the Holy Communion, in which Jesus the Bread of Life comes to us, are presented to the Team Vicar and then placed upon the altar.  
All commit themselves to the transformation of our communities by the presence of Christ in us as Christians together.

Prayers are then led by the new Team Vicar and lay people. The service concludes with the blessing by the Bishop of the people and parish.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## Organ Voluntary

Johann Sebastian Bach, 'Komm, Gott Schöpfer, Heiliger Geist' BWV 631

## **The Gathering**

*The Rural Dean, Revd Jonathan Gordon, welcomes the congregation and announces the hymn.*

*Silence is kept.*

*All stand and the choir sings 'All my hope on God is founded', during which the Bishop's procession enters the church.*

*The Bishop is escorted to his seat by the Churchwardens, who then return to the rear of the church in time for the presentation.*

## **The Greeting**

*The Bishop greets the people*

Grace and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

*All*      **And also with you**

## **Preface**

*Bishop*      We have come together to worship God  
and to celebrate the ministry of the whole  
people of God in this place.  
God blesses his people with a rich variety of gifts  
and it is our duty and our joy to use those gifts  
to extend God's kingdom in the world.

Today we welcome Stuart, Susie, James and Barnaby to this  
benefice and license Stuart at the beginning of his ministry  
among us.

Together we dedicate ourselves to the service of God in St Peter's, Great Berkhamsted, and the Berkhamsted Team Ministry, and listen afresh to God's call to each one of us to go deeper into God, make new disciples and transform the community.

So let us first wait humbly upon God, giving thanks for all that He has done to bring us to this moment.

*Silence is kept*

## **Confession**

Mindful of God's blessings, let us now ask forgiveness for those times we have neglected God's call, or failed in our service of one another and our communities:

*Sit or kneel*

*Rural Dean* Christ came in humility to share our lives;  
forgive us when we make it hard for others to share our worship.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy**

*Rural Dean* Christ came to proclaim good news for all people;  
forgive our silence in a world that does not understand good news.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy**

*Rural Dean* Christ came in love to a world of suffering;  
forgive our self-centred hoarding of riches we have received.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy**

*Bishop* 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,

*All* **Amen**

*Silence is kept*

*Bishop* Heavenly Father,  
we gather in your name with thankfulness and praise  
for the continuing ministry of your Church in this place,  
for all who have been raised up in times past to serve you here,  
and for your servant Stuart called by you to this present task.  
Guide and strengthen all your faithful people  
that we may give ourselves in love and service  
to one another and to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen**

*All sit*

## **The Presentation**

*Bishop* I now invite the Churchwardens to bring forward your new Team  
Vicar for presentation

*The new Team Vicar (waiting at the South Door) is led by the Churchwardens to the Bishop,  
escorted by the Team Rector and a representative of his previous sphere of ministry.  
The Churchwardens then return to their places.*

*Team Rector*

Right Reverend Father in God,  
I present to you Stuart James Owen  
who, after prayerful consideration and due consultation,  
has been chosen to serve as Rector at St Peter's,  
Great Berkhamsted, in this parish and in the Berkhamsted  
Team Ministry and I present him to be licensed.

*Dr Charles Okpalanwankwo, Churchwarden of All Saints with St Michael, Edmonton*  
Right Reverend Father in God, I, Charles Okpalanwankwo, on  
behalf of the church and community of All Saints with St Michael,  
Edmonton, who have shared Stuart's ministry in the parish of  
All Saints with St Michael, Edmonton, warmly commend Stuart to  
you and to the people of this parish.

*Bishop* I thank you for your presentation and commendation.

*The Bishop addresses the Team Vicar designate*

Stuart, I greet you and your family in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and welcome you to this Diocese.

Stuart, you have been chosen as Rector of St Peter's, Great Berkhamsted, and Team Vicar in the Berkhamsted Team Ministry.

Do you believe that God has truly called you to this ministry?

*Team Vicar designate*

I believe that God has called me and, with his help, I will serve faithfully in this ministry.

*The people stand*

*The Bishop addresses the people*

*Bishop* People of God, is it your will that Stuart should serve with you in this place?

*All* **It is**

*Bishop* Will you support and uphold him in this ministry?

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

*The Team Rector and other representatives return to their seats*

*The people sit*

## **The Declaration of Assent and the Oaths**

*Bishop* In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I shall now license Stuart James Owen, Clerk in Holy Orders, as Team Vicar of this parish and the Berkhamsted Team Ministry, but first let Declaration of Assent be made and subscribed, and the Oaths be taken according to law.

*The Team Vicar designate, accompanied by the Archdeacon, stands before the Bishop.*

*The Bishop addresses the Team Vicar designate*

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 Team Vicar designate affirms, saying*

I, Stuart James Owen, 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 authorised or allowed by Canon.

*Taking a New Testament, he turns to the people and says*

I, Stuart James Owen, 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.

*Holding the New Testament, he turns to the Bishop and says*

I, Stuart James Owen, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of St Albans and his successors in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

*The Team Vicar designate signs the Declarations*

## The Collect

*All stand*

*Bishop*      The Lord be with you  
*All*            **And also with you**

*Silence is kept.*

*The following Collect is said*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
we thank you that, through your Son,  
you have called us into the fellowship  
of your universal church:  
hear our prayer, which we offer for all your faithful people,  
that each in their vocation and ministry  
may be an instrument of love,  
and give to your servant Stuart, now to be licensed,  
the needful gifts of grace,  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and for ever.

*All*            **Amen.**

*The new Team Vicar moves to a seat near the front of the church and all sit*

### ***The Liturgy of the Word***

### **Reading**

**Mark 9. vv30-37 – Mrs Penny Fray.**

Please remain seated as Bruckner's *Locus iste* is sung by the choir.

### **Sermon**

### ***The Licensing***

*The Bishop invites the congregation to observe a period of silent prayer*

*All kneel or sit*

*The Bishop then kneels besides the new Team Vicar and silence is kept*

*The congregation remains seated as 'Come, Holy Ghost' is sung*

*The congregation stands*

*The new Team Vicar remains kneeling before the Bishop, holding the Licence in his hand*

*The Bishop reads the Licence and hands it to the minister*

**Bishop**      Stuart, receive a share in the cure of souls which is both yours and mine;  
                  in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*Team Vicar Amen*

## **The Anointing**

*The Bishop anoints the hands of the new Team Vicar*

May God, who anointed the Christ with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, anoint and empower you in your new ministry.

## **The Blessing of the Team Vicar and Ministry Team**

*Ministerial colleagues join the new Team Vicar and kneel before the Bishop.*

**Bishop**      Almighty God,  
                  who for the salvation of the world  
                  gives his people many gifts and ministries,  
                  stir up in you the gifts of his grace,  
                  sustain you in your own ministry in this place;  
                  and the blessing of God Almighty,  
                  the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
                  be upon you and remain with you always.

**All**            **Amen**

## The Installation

*Bishop* Archdeacon, I ask you to install Stuart as Team Vicar in this parish.

*The Archdeacon escorts the new Team Vicar to a seat designated for him. The Priest sits.*

*The Archdeacon says*

Stuart, I install you as the Team Vicar in this parish.  
The Lord defend your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth for evermore. Amen

## The Welcome

*The new Team Vicar then stands in his stall and faces the people*

*Bishop* I present to you, your new Team Vicar.

*The new Team Vicar is welcomed with applause*

*The congregation sits*

*The Deanery Lay Co-Chairperson, Mr Ted Oram, welcomes the new Team Vicar on behalf of the deanery. Representatives of the local church and community and local Christians will then welcome the new Team Vicar.*

Each stands in their place and, facing the new Team Vicar says these, or similar words:

As [role] and in the name of the [body/constituency], I welcome you

## The Peace

*The congregation stands*

*Bishop* We are the body of Christ.  
In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
and builds up our common life.

*All* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you**

*A minister says*

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

*All are invited to wave to each other*

*The congregation sits*

*The new Team Vicar gives the Notices*

## **Offertory Hymn**

*The offertory hymn 'Be Thou my vision' is sung by the choir*

*The offertory is for the support of ordination candidates in training. Gift Aid envelopes are available for UK tax payers. Please give generously.*

## **An Act of Commitment by Team Vicar and People**

*All stand*

*The Bishop addresses the Team Vicar and the congregation*

I now invite you to affirm together your commitment to the task of ministry, witness and service to which God is calling you all.

*The Team Vicar stands at the front of the church*

*A flagon of water is held in front of the Team Vicar*

*Lay person* Stuart, be among us as an evangelist who rejoices to bring new Christians to baptism and to share with them the Living Water, Jesus Christ himself.

*The lay person pours the water into the font, as the Team Vicar says*

Will you share with me in the ministry of making new disciples to which we are called?

*All* **Together, by God's grace, we will share the good news of Christ with the world and make new disciples.**

*A Bible is held in front of the Team Vicar*

*Lay person* Be among us as a teacher who studies the Scriptures, proclaims the Word and teaches the faith.

*A lay person places the Bible upon the lectern, as the Team Vicar says*

Will you share with me in the regular study and proclamation of God's word, that together we may bring the light of faith to those in darkness, kindle the fire of love upon earth, and open the door of hope to the world?

**All Together, by God's grace, we will go deeper into God and share the Good News of Christ with the world.**

*A lay person holds Bread and Wine in front of the Team Vicar*

*Lay person* Be among us as a President at the Eucharist, presiding among us when we celebrate the Lord's death and resurrection.

*A lay person places the bread and wine upon the altar, as the Team Vicar says*

Will you share regularly with me in this Sacrament of Holy Communion, that we may grow in unity and love, and together proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes?

**All Together, by God's grace, we will seek to transform communities and be the living body of Christ.**

*Team Vicar* I pledge myself to care for the community that gathers here, to share with them the Word of God and the work of ministry, to celebrate with them the sacraments of the new covenant, and to encourage them in their discipleship.

**All We pledge ourselves to pray and care for our community, to share with all the Word of God and the work of ministry, to celebrate with all the sacraments of the New Covenant and to encourage all in their discipleship. Together we pledge to make this a place where Christian people are equipped for their life and witness in God's world.  
Amen**

## ***Prayers of Dedication and Intercession***

*All sit or kneel*

*Team Vicar* Generous God, we thank you for the gift of faith by which we are called to love and serve you and one another. We give thanks for the life of this parish and for the witness of those who have worshipped before us in this place. We ask for your blessing on us now, as we look to the future with hope.  
Lord, in your mercy.

*All*        **Hear our prayer**

*Lay person* Sustainer God, we pray for all those who have been given responsibility for the ordering of our parish life and we give thanks for the ministry of our churchwardens and PCC members. As we welcome Stuart, our new Team Vicar, help us to grow together in love and trust, and guide us in using our gifts so that our community of faith may flourish and live life in all its fullness. Enable us, by the power of your Holy Spirit, to build on our heritage of faith in this place, so that we may grow in Christian wisdom and your love may reach many more people in this community.  
Lord, in your mercy.

*All*        **Hear our prayer**

*Deanery Lay Chairperson*

Living God, we pray for the people we are called to serve and we bring before you the needs of this church. We pray for the leaders of our community, that they may act with integrity and be given the spirit of wisdom and compassion, so that your kingdom may come in ways which enrich our common life. We ask for your blessing on our homes, on all those who live and work here.  
Lord, in your mercy.

*All*        **Hear our prayer**

*Headteacher*

Creator God, we pray for our places of learning, for our nurseries, schools and colleges, that our young people may learn to see you in the beauty of the world around them and discover your creative spirit in their work and their play. May those who learn and those who teach discover their true value and potential and may we serve one another after Christ's example.

Lord, in your mercy.

*All*        **Hear our prayer**

*Team Vicar* Tender God, as we step out afresh to live your love and serve Christ in the world, we ask that your guiding hand would hold us fast and lead us confidently through all that life has to offer. Bless us as we seek to make new disciples. Inspire us as we worship and ponder your word, so that we might go deeper into God. Encourage us so that our lives might transform the community.

*All*        **Living God,  
draw us deeper into your love;  
Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve;  
Holy Spirit, make us heralds of good news.  
Stir us, strengthen us,  
teach and inspire us to live your love  
with generosity and joy, imagination and courage;  
for the sake of your world  
and in the name of Jesus.  
Amen**

*Team Vicar* 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**

### ***The Dismissal***

### **The Blessing of the congregation**

*(from the altar)*

*All stand*

*Bishop* God the Father draw you deeper into his love;  
God the Son empower you to serve the world;  
God the Holy Spirit strengthen you to proclaim the Gospel;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen**

*The Bishop, preceded by the ministers, moves to the church door*

### **The Blessing of the parish**

*The Bishop blesses the parish at the church door*

Unto God's gracious mercy and protection we commit you.  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace, both now and evermore.  
**Amen**

## **Organ Voluntary**

*Charles-Marie Widor, Finale from Symphony No. 6.*

*Please remain seated and wait to be guided out of the church by the sidespeople, in order to maintain social distancing.*

*Please take your printed Order of Service home with you and do not leave it in the church.*