

The Minster Church of  
**St. Andrew**  
PLYMOUTH



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**The Licensing of  
Tim Partridge  
as  
Team Vicar**

## ***Welcome to this service***

In this act of worship Team Vicar and people come together to commit themselves to a shared vision and partnership in mission, ministry and worship. We rededicate our lives to God who enables us by his Spirit to serve him in thankful obedience for his love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

During the service oaths are made to give assurance that the Team Vicar believes, speaks and acts in the way a Christian minister should, and that he or she is committed to minister in the Church of England. And then the Bishop authorizes and commissions the minister.

# The Gathering

## **PRAISE MY SOUL THE KING OF HEAVEN**

To His feet thy tribute bring  
Ransomed healed restored forgiven  
Who like thee His praise should sing  
Praise Him Praise Him  
Praise Him Praise Him  
Praise the everlasting King

Praise Him for His grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress  
Praise Him still the same forever  
Slow to chide and swift to bless  
Praise Him Praise Him  
Praise Him Praise Him  
Glorious in His faithfulness

Father-like He tends and spares us  
Well our feeble frame He knows  
In His hands He gently bears us  
Rescues us from all our foes  
Praise Him Praise Him  
Praise Him Praise Him  
Widely as His mercy flows

Angels in the height adore Him  
Ye behold Him face to face  
Sun and moon bow down before Him  
Dwellers all in time and space  
Praise Him Praise Him  
Praise Him Praise Him  
Praise with us the God of grace

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## The Greeting

*Bishop* Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The Bishop welcomes the congregation and introduces the service.*

For your goodness to us at all times

**We praise you, O Lord.**

For your blessings on this parish/these parishes

**We praise you, O Lord.**

For all who have served you here in the past

**We praise you, O Lord.**

For the call you have given to each one of us

**We praise you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## The Presentation

*The new minister stands before the Bishop and the Rector says:*

Bishop, Tim has been chosen to be Team Vicar in this benefice. He now comes before you to be admitted to a share in the cure of souls of the parish of the Minster Church in the mission community of St Andrew's, Plymouth and St Paul's Stonehouse.

*Bishop* Tim, do you believe, so far as you know your own heart, that God has called you to share in the leadership of the mission and ministry of the people of God in this place as their minister and pastor?

*Team Vicar* I believe that God has called me.

*Bishop* Churchwardens and people of this parish, will you welcome Tim as your new Team Vicar?  
**We will.**

Will you support and share with him in worship and witness, in mission and pastoral care?

**We will.**

Before admitting Tim to a share in the cure of souls of this parish,  
I call upon each of you to pray  
not only for Tim, but also for yourselves,  
that together you may be given grace to glorify God  
and to serve the people of this community with joy.

*Bishop* God our Father, Lord of all the world,  
we thank you that through your Son  
you have called us into the fellowship  
of your universal Church:  
hear our prayer for your faithful people,  
that in their vocation and ministry,  
each may be an instrument of your love;  
and give to your servant, Tim, now to be installed,  
the needful gifts of grace;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The congregation sits*

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

**Scripture Reading – Ephesians 4:1-16, page 1175**

*At the end the reader says*

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

## **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 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

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*The congregation remains standing for the Gospel*

## **Gospel Reading – John 17:20-26, page 1085**

*When it is announced, the congregation respond*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end the reader says*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **The Declaration and Oaths**

*The Bishop sits and the Rector addresses the new Minister:*

Tim, before you are admitted as Team Vicar, you must declare your assent to the Christian faith as received by the Church of England; and swear your allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, and your canonical obedience to the Bishop of Exeter.

*The Bishop reads the preface to the Declaration of Assent*

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 says*

I, Tim Partridge, 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.

*The Team Vicar then takes the Oaths, holding a New Testament in the right hand.*

*Oath of Allegiance (the Team Vicar turns to face the people)*

I, Tim Partridge 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 (the Team Vicar turns to face the Bishop)*

I, Tim Partridge, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Exeter and his successors in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

## **The Licensing**

*The Team Vicar kneels before the Bishop who stands and reads the Licence to the people. The Bishop then delivers the Licence to the Team Vicar saying:*

Receive the cure of souls which is both mine and yours; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The Bishop blesses the Team Vicar*

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 everlasting 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, rest upon you now and always. **Amen.**

*The new minister and congregation stand.*

# The Installation

*Bishop* Rector, now that we have admitted Tim to the cure of souls, we request you to install him and to support him in this ministry.

*The Bishop may move to the sanctuary.*

*The Churchwardens lead the Rector and new minister to the place where the bell is tolled. The Team Vicar tolls the bell to signify that the licensing has taken place.*

*The Churchwardens then lead the Rector and new minister to the Minister's stall. The Rector places the Team Vicar in the stall. The Team Vicar kneels and the Rector says*

I place you in the stall of the minister of this parish. Pray for these people, lead them in worship, and encourage them in their witness to Christ.

*The congregation remains standing as the new Team Vicar prays for the parish saying:*

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy made glad the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: grant us such knowledge of his presence with us that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The congregation sits.*

# The Act of Dedication

*During the Act of Dedication representatives of the church community present the new minister with symbols of ministry.*

*The Bishop, Rector the new Team Vicar remain standing. All others sit. Representatives of the parish and mission community present symbols of ministry to the new Incumbent.*

*The Team Vicar says*

Gracious God, we praise and glorify you because in your infinite love you have formed throughout the world a holy people for your own possession, a royal priesthood, a universal Church, so that sharing in the ministry of our Saviour Christ we may be his witnesses.

**Gracious God, we praise and glorify you.**

*Water for baptism is presented*

Tim, be among us as one who rejoices to bring new Christians to baptism and to share with them the Living Water, Jesus Christ himself.

**Together, by God's grace,  
we will grow in our faith and discipleship.**

*A Bible is presented*

Be among us as a student of the Scriptures, who proclaims the Word and explores the faith.

**Together, by God's grace,  
we will tell the good news of Christ to the world.**

*A copy of Common Worship is presented*

Be among us as a person of prayer, offering the Church's liturgy and interceding for God's people.

**Together, by God's grace,  
we will worship him in spirit and in truth.**

*Bread and Wine are presented*

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

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

*When all the symbols have been given, the Bishop addresses the Team Vicar as follows*

Tim, will you 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?

*The Team Vicar responds*

With the help of God, I will.

*The Rector says*

People of God, will you seek to serve Christ and make him known?

*The congregation responds*

**Together, by God's grace, we will make this a place where people are encouraged and strengthened for their life and witness in God's world. Amen.**

*Team Vicar* We have affirmed our commitment to serve God and his people in this place. Let us pray for strength in the tasks which lie ahead and build up our common life:

**Eternal God, we offer you ourselves,  
all that we are, all that we have,  
for work in your service.  
Help us to live and work together  
to your praise and glory,  
and live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Bishop*

May Almighty God, who has given you the will to undertake all these things, give you also the grace to perform them, that he may bring to completion the work which he has begun in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

# The Welcome

*The Bishop, the new Team Vicar, the Rector and the Churchwardens assemble on the chancel steps. The Bishop presents the new Team Vicar to the congregation and says*

I present to you Tim, your new Team Vicar.

*The congregation greets the new Incumbent:*

**We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

*The new Team Vicar is welcomed by a Churchwarden on behalf of the parish*

*He or she responds briefly to the welcome and announces the following hymn.*

## Hymn

### **O GREAT GOD OF HIGHEST HEAVEN**

Occupy my lowly heart  
Own it all and reign supreme  
Conquer every rebel power  
Let no vice or sin remain  
That resists Your holy war  
You have loved and purchased me  
Make me Yours forever more

I was blinded by my sin  
Had no ears to hear Your voice  
Did not know Your love within  
Had no taste for heaven's joys  
Then Your Spirit gave me life  
Opened up Your word to me  
Through the gospel of Your Son  
Gave me endless hope and peace

Help me now to live a life  
That's dependent on Your grace  
Keep my heart and guard my soul  
From the evils that I face  
You are worthy to be praised

With my every thought and deed  
O great God of highest heaven  
Glorify Your Name through me

You are worthy to be praised  
With my every thought and deed  
O great God of highest heaven  
Glorify Your Name through me

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## Prayers of Intercession

*The congregation sits or kneels.*

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,  
let us pray to the Father.

We thank you that you have called us to be your disciples.  
Transform our lives by your grace, and as you have called us  
to your service, make us worthy of our calling.

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Bless all who are called to office in this parish, especially our  
Churchwardens, PCC members, staff team and leaders of  
organizations. May we be ambassadors for Christ and bring  
glory to your Name.

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who serve the local community in any way.  
May our neighbourhoods be places of hospitality, peace and  
trust where your love is known.

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

We ask your blessing on our homes and families, on our schools, children and young people, on older people in our community, and especially on the isolated and housebound.

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

We commend to your care the sick and vulnerable, and those who despair. May all who come to this place of prayer, whether in times of joy or sorrow, find it a place of healing and hope.

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord, give us for our hallowing thoughts that pass into words, words that pass into prayer, and prayer that passes into life with you for ever.

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*The Intercessions conclude with 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.**

## **CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS**

The Lamb upon His throne  
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns  
All music but its own  
Awake my soul and sing  
Of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King  
Through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of life  
Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save  
His glories now we sing  
Who died and rose on high  
Who died eternal life to bring  
And lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of love  
Behold His hands and side  
Rich wounds yet visible above  
In beauty glorified  
No angel in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight  
But downward bends each burning eye  
At mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of peace  
Whose power a sceptre sways  
From pole to pole  
That wars may cease  
And all be prayer and praise  
His reign shall know no end  
And round His pierced feet  
Fair flowers of paradise extend  
Their fragrance ever sweet

Crown Him the Lord of years  
The Potentate of time  
Creator of the rolling spheres  
Ineffably sublime  
All hail Redeemer hail  
For Thou hast died for me  
Thy praise shall never never fail  
Throughout eternity

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## The Sending Out

*The Bishop pronounces this or a seasonal blessing*

Almighty God, who gives to his people many gifts and ministries to the advancement of his glory, stir up in you the gifts of his grace and sustain each one of you in your own ministry; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

*Team Vicar* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The Bishop leads the new Team Vicar through the building followed by the rest of the procession in the usual order.*

*The retiring collection at this service is for the Bishop of Exeter's Clergy Fund.  
The fund supports clergy in exceptional need and clergy families which are wholly or mainly dependent on the clergy stipend.*