



*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

of  
The Reverend David Payne

as  
Priest in Charge  
of  
Silsoe, Flitton and Pulloxhill

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.30pm  
Via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88240458877?pwd=dWlCc2RReXkIQVpwUERXODRlaEtYUT09>

Passcode: 836108

Meeting ID: 882 4045 8877

# Introduction

Welcome to this service, which marks both a new sphere of ministry in the life of your new Priest in Charge and a new chapter in the worship and life of this benefice. 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 new Priest in Charge 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 new Priest in Charge designate and blesses him together with all who minister here. Following the installation of the new Priest in Charge, 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 Priest in Charge is described sometimes as an evangelist or a teacher or as president during this act of commitment. These titles emphasize the differing gifts that are needed by the people of God in their Christian witness. Because your Priest in Charge is described as 'among the people', it emphasizes 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 Priest in Charge 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 Priest in Charge 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 Priest in Charge 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 Priest in Charge and lay people. The service concludes with the blessing by the Bishop of the people and parish.

# Order of Service

## **The Gathering**

*The Rural Dean welcomes the congregation.*

*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**

## **The Greeting**

## **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 David Payne and his wife Jo to this benefice and license David at the  
beginning of his ministry among us.  
Together we dedicate ourselves to the service of God  
in this community 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.

*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 David 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**

## **The Presentation**

*Bishop* I now invite the Archdeacon to bring forward your new Priest in Charge for presentation.

*Archdeacon*

Right Reverend Father in God,  
I present to you David Payne  
who, after prayerful consideration and due consultation,  
has been chosen to serve as Priest in Charge in this benefice,  
and I present him to be licensed.

*Revd Peter Hooper*

Right Reverend Father in God, I, Peter Hooper,  
who have shared David's ministry in the Framland Deanery, warmly commend him to you  
and to the people of this benefice.

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

*The Bishop addresses the Priest in Charge designate*

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

You have been chosen as Priest in Charge designate of Silsoe, Flitton and Pulloxhill.

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

*Priest in Charge designate*

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

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

**All** **It is**

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

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

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

*Bishop* In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
I shall now license David Payne Clerk in Holy Orders,  
as Priest in Charge of this benefice,  
but first let Declaration of Assent be made and subscribed,  
and the Oaths be taken according to law.

*The Bishop addresses the Priest in Charge 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 Priest in Charge designate affirms, saying*

I, David Payne, 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, David Charles Payne, 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, David Charles Payne, 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 Priest in Charge designate shows the signed Declarations*

## **The Collect**

*Bishop*            The Lord be with you

**All**                **And also with you**

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 David, 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 Liturgy of the Word**

## **Reading**

*Silsoe*            A reading from Matthew 5 13-20  
*Headteacher*

*At the end of the reading*

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

## **Sermon**

*A sermon is preached by the Bishop of St. Albans.*

## **The Licensing**

*We pray together*

**Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
and lighten with celestial fire.  
Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.**

**Thy blessèd unction from above  
is comfort, life, and fire of love.  
Enable with perpetual light  
the dullness of our blinded sight.**

**Anoint and cheer our soilèd face  
with the abundance of thy grace.  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home:  
where thou art guide, no ill can come.**

**Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
and thee of both, to be but one;  
That through the ages all along  
this may be our endless song:**

**Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen**

*Words: Latin, ninth century*

*Trans: John Cosin, 1627*

*The Bishop reads the Licence and hands it to the Priest in Charge designate*

*Bishop* David, 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.

*Priest in  
Charge* Amen.

### **The Blessing of the Priest in Charge**

*The Lay Readers join the new Priest in Charge 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 Welcome**

*Bishop* I present to you, your new Priest in Charge.

*The Priest in Charge is welcomed with applause*

*The Priest in Charge gives the Notices*

### **The Peace**

*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.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

**All And also with you**

*The Priest in Charge says*

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

*All are invited to greet each other by waving*

### **An Act of Commitment by Priest in Charge and People**

*The Bishop addresses the Priest in Charge 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.

*A Flitton PCC member holds up a flagon of water as these words are read:*

*Flitton:* David, be among us as an evangelist who rejoices to bring new Christians to  
*Reader* Baptism and to share with them the Living Water, Jesus Christ himself.

*The Priest in Charge responds*

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 Pulloxhill PCC member holds up a Bible as these words are read:*

*Pulloxhill* David, be among us as a teacher who studies the Scriptures,  
*Reader:* proclaims the Word and teaches the faith.

*The Priest in Charge responds*

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 Silsoe PCC member holds up bread and wine, as these words are read:*

*Silsoe* David, be among us as a President at the Eucharist,  
*Reader:* presiding among us when we celebrate the Lord's death and resurrection.

*The Priest in Charge responds*

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.**

*Priest in Charge* 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***

*Priest in Charge*            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 benefice, 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.**

*Silsoe Church Warden:*            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 David our Priest in Charge, 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.**

*Greenfield 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.**

*Priest in Charge*

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.**

*Priest in Charge*

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**

*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 Blessing of the Parishes**

*The Bishop blesses the parishes*

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.

**All**            **Amen.**

*We would have welcomed the opportunity to celebrate David's licensing with you following the service, but in these challenging days, we are unable to do this. We will try to organise a proper welcome as soon as we feel safe to do so, and David will be Installed at a service when churches are open again.*

**If you would like to make a donation to the Ordination Fund,**  
please donate online at

<https://3churches.uk/licensing-of-rev-payne/>

or send a cheque (made payable to Silsoe Parochial Church Council) to  
Mrs G Chapple, Treasurer  
Silsoe PCC  
Rydale House, 7 Vicarage Road  
Silsoe, Bedfordshire  
MK45 4ED