



The Eucharist
and
The Commissioning
of
Felicity Hawke
as
Provincial President
of



Wednesday 5th May 2010 at 11am

Welcome to Coventry Cathedral

Felicity writes

I would like to welcome you to this service to celebrate the Mothers' Union in the Province of Canterbury and to commission me as its Provincial President.

The Mothers' Union is a charity within the Anglican Communion, whose vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. A network of 3.6 million members worldwide work to support and encourage marriage and family life.

The role of the Provincial Presidents in Britain and Ireland is to be a bridge between members, dioceses and the central Board of Trustees, and a point of contact and support for members in the dioceses. Canterbury Province covers the 30 dioceses from Derby to the Channel Islands and from Truro to Canterbury, and also includes the Diocese in Europe.

Since joining the Mothers' Union in Luton in 1985, I have been involved at many levels, and worked with Toddler Groups, Junior Church, Prayer Groups and Parenting Groups. As Canterbury Provincial President I want to build on my experience as a Christian, a member and a trustee in three dioceses, to help and encourage all the members to carry forward the work of Mothers' Union more effectively and in a way that reflects family life and conditions in society as they are today. Support for families is as important now as when Mary Sumner founded the movement in 1876, and I believe that the voice and work of Mothers' Union could make a significant difference to the lives of many.

A collection will be taken which will be shared between the work of the Cathedral and the Mothers' Union Relief Fund. If you are a UK taxpayer, please use a Gift Aid envelope which will enable us to claim an extra 28p for every £1 you give, at no cost to you.

The Gathering

At 11am the clock strikes, and the Peace Bell is sounded three times

Everyone STANDS to sing as the procession of Diocesan Chaplains, the Bishop, and other clergy moves to the chancel, followed by the Provincial and Diocesan Banners

Hymn

**Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
brothers and sisters with one voice
tell the whole world he is your choice.
Alleluia!**

**O magnify the Lord, and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.
Alleluia!**

**O Christian women, Christian men,
all the world over, seek again
the Way disciples followed then.
Alleluia!**

**Christ through all ages is the same:
place the same hope in his great name,
with the same faith his word proclaim.
Alleluia!**

**So shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,
and the whole church at last be one.
Alleluia!**

G.K.A. Bell 1883-1958

Tune CP 165 Gelobt sei Gott melody from Vulpinus' Gesangbuch 1609

The Greeting

The Bishop of Coventry, presiding, greets the people

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Bishop adds further words of welcome, before introducing the

Mothers' Union Prayer

Everyone says

**Loving Lord,
We thank you for your love so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world.
Bless the work of the Mothers' Union
as we seek to share your love
through the encouragement,
strengthening and support of marriage and family life.
Empowered by your Spirit,
may we be united in prayer and worship,
and in love and service reach out as your hands
across the world.
In Jesus' name.
Amen**

The Reverend Dr Hilary Iredale, deacon, introduces

The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,

Father Forgive.

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,

Father Forgive.

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,

Father Forgive.

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

Father Forgive.

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,

Father Forgive.

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,

Father Forgive.

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

Father Forgive.

The president says

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ forgave you.

Amen.

Everyone remains STANDING to sing

The Easter Proclamation



**Sing choirs of heaven!
Let saints and angels sing!
Around God's throne exult in harmony.
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave.
Salute your King in glorious symphony.**

**Sing choirs of earth!
Behold, your light has come!
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly.
Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death.
The night is past; the day of life is here.**

**Sing Church of God!
Exult with joy outpoured!
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won.
Your Saviour lives: he's with you evermore.
Let all God's people shout the long Amen.**

Tune CP 156 Scampston Richard Shephard b1949

The president introduces a time of silent prayer, before he prays

The Collect

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Everyone SITS

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Reading

*read by Reg Bailey
Chief Executive Officer of Mothers' Union*

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, 'Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.' Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighbourhood gave him a name, saying, 'A son has been born to Naomi.' They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Ruth 4.13-17

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

Everyone STANDS

Gospel Acclamation



The Precentor sings

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

Revelation 1.17, 18

Everyone repeats

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel Reading

The deacon says

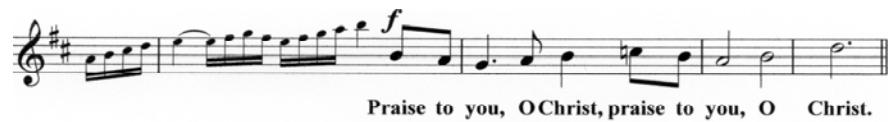
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.



While he was saying this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, 'Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!' ²⁸But he said, 'Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!'

Luke 11. 27-28

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The organist improvises on an Easter theme as the procession returns to the Chancel

Sermon

The preacher is the Bishop

He leads us in prayer, and invites us to be SEATED

After the Sermon everyone STANDS to sing

Hymn

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.**

**In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.**

Brian A. Wren b.1936

Tune CP 140 Truro Psalmodia Evangelica 1789

Admission to Membership

Rosemary Kempzell, Worldwide President, says

The purpose of the Mothers' Union is to be specially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life. The Aim of the Society is the advancement of the Christian religion in the sphere of marriage and family life. In order to carry out its Aim, its Objectives are

- To uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and promote its wider understanding.
- To encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the Church.
- To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service.
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

Membership of the world wide Mothers' Union is open to all who have been baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and who declare support for the Aim and Objectives of the Mothers' Union. I ask both new and present members to join in affirming their commitment to the Mothers' Union. Do you reaffirm your baptism promises?

I do, with God's help.

Will you try to uphold and support the Aim and Objectives of the Mothers' Union?

I will, with God's help.

Will you continue to plan your life to include prayer and Bible reading and worship in Church?

I will, by the grace of God.

I admit you to membership of the Mothers' Union, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Worldwide President greets each new member and they are given their membership card and badge, before she says

Members of the Mothers' Union, will you welcome, support and pray for each other?

We will, in the power of the Spirit.

The Commissioning

The past Provincial President presents the new Provincial President to the Bishop

Bishop Christopher, Felicity Hawke has been elected to the office of President for the Province of Canterbury.

We ask you to commission her to this work, and to invest her with this badge of office.

The Bishop replies

I thank you for your presentation. Felicity, the office of Provincial President for Canterbury is a solemn trust carrying great responsibility. Are you willing to commit yourself to this office and ministry?

Felicity replies

I am, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop invites the congregation to pray for Felicity in a time of silence

He then takes Felicity by the hand and says

Felicity, I commission you as Mothers' Union President for the Province of Canterbury, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

He places the badge of office around Felicity's neck, and she prays words of Mary Sumner

All this day, O Lord,
let me touch as many lives as possible for thee;
and every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken,
whether through the word I speak,
the prayer I breathe, or the life I live.
Amen.

He then blesses Felicity in these words

May the Lord give you
wisdom, courage, strength and love to do his will,
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
rest upon you, and on your work done in his name,
now and always.
Amen.

Everyone remains SEATED or KNEELS for

Prayers of Intercession

The president introduces the intercessions, which are led by the Provincial President

The intercessions include this response

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The intercessions end with a Collect which the president prays, and all respond

Amen.

Everyone STANDS

The Presentation

The Bishop presents the Provincial President to the congregation saying

My sisters and brothers in Christ, Felicity Hawke has been
duly elected and commissioned to her office.
Will you welcome her in the name of the Lord?

Everyone replies

Felicity, we welcome you in the name of the Lord!

Everyone applauds

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president says

Jesus said 'Whoever does the will of my Father
is my brother, my sister, and my mother'.
Let us work for the peace and good of all,
especially within the household of faith.

Matthew 12.50; Galatians 6.10

Alleluia! The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you. Alleluia!

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Everyone shares a sign of peace with those around them

*Everyone remains STANDING to sing the offertory hymn, during which a collection
is taken for the work of the Cathedral and the Mothers' Union Relief Fund*

Hymn

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
his the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia, bread of angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia, here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia, King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia, born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the Eucharistic feast.

William Chatterton Dix 1837-98

Tune CP 278 Hyfrydol melody by R.H. Pritchard 1811-87

The Eucharistic Prayer

The president says, and everyone replies

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.
You give us breath and speech,
that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

Everyone sings

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly
ho - ly ho - ly Lord. Ho-ly ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of
po - wer, God of might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in_ the_ high - est.

The president continues

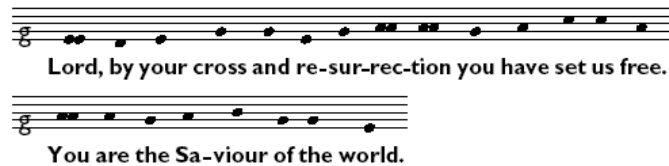
How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

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

The deacon says

Jesus Christ is Lord

Everyone replies



Lord, by your cross and re-sur-rec-tion you have set us free.
You are the Sa-viour of the world.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.
Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Michael and Benedict, Mary Sumner and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord:

by whom and with whom and in whom,
with all stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

Everyone sings

**All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
While endless ages run.**

Alleluia! Amen!

Everyone KNEELS, and SILENCE is kept

The Lord's Prayer

The president says

As our Risen 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

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.
Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us,
that we may live in you.

Invitation to Communion

The president says

Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Giving of Communion

The ministers give communion to the people: please wait in your seat to be directed by a churchwarden or steward

Communicant members of all churches are invited to receive communion

Those who do not intend to receive communion, but wish to receive a blessing, are asked to carry this booklet as an indication to the ministers

During communion you are invited to sing

Hymns

**Brother, Sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

Brother, Sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

CP393 words and music Richard Gillard b.1953

O God in heaven, whose loving plan
ordained for us our parents' care,
and, from the time our life began,
the shelter of a home to share,
our Father, on the homes we love
send down thy blessing from above.

May young and old together find
in Christ, the Lord of every day,
that fellowship our homes may bind
in joy and sorrow, work and play.
Our Father, on the homes we love
send down thy blessing from above.

The sins that mar our homes forgive;
from all self-seeking set us free;
parents and children, may we live
in glad obedience to thee.
Our Father, on the homes we love
send down thy blessing from above.

O Father, in our homes preside,
their duties shared as in thy sight;
in kindly ways be thou our guide,
on mirth and trouble shed thy light.
Our Father, on the homes we love
send down thy blessing from above.

Hugh Martin 1890-1964

Tune CP413 Melita John Bacchus Dykes 1823-76

Prayer after Communion

When the distribution of communion is ended the president and the deacon move to the Chancel step

Then the president introduces the following prayer: please join in at the text in bold type

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament
with the food and drink of eternal life:
**help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Everyone STANDS

The Dismissal

The Blessing

The president says

Alleluia! Christ is risen:
he is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The president continues

May the God who gave birth to all creation
and became incarnate by an earthly mother
keep you in his loving care:
May almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and for ever.
Amen.

Everyone remains STANDING to sing as the procession of Diocesan Chaplains, the Bishop, and other clergy moves to the West End, followed by the Provincial and Diocesan Banners

Hymn

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting;

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

E.L. Budry 1854-1932

translated R.B. Hoyle 1875-1939

Tune CP160 Maccabaeus G.F. Handel 1685-1759

The Dismissal

The deacon dismisses the congregation, saying

We know that we are raised to new life in Christ.
So let us go in his peace. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England,
and Common Worship: Times and Seasons
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