

Celebration for a New Ministry

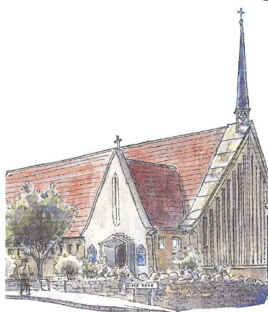
of Reverend Annabel Louise Stott

as Vicar for the Benefice of
St Andrew and St Peter Clevedon

by The Right Reverend Michael Beasley
Bishop of Bath and Wells
and The Venerable Charlie Peer
Archdeacon of Bath

in St Andrew's Church, Clevedon

on Monday 11th August 2025
at 7pm



Welcome to this celebration for a New Ministry

You will all know Annabel for a variety of different reasons. It may be that you are welcoming her as your new parish priest, or it may be that you are saying farewell one last time to her. It may be that you are a friend of Annabel, or she is a member of your family, and you have come to support her as she begins a new stage of her life. Whatever your relationship with Annabel, we are delighted that you are here.

The service has a number of different phases. After an initial welcome, the newly appointed priest is presented to the Bishop by the Patron, a person who has an historic right to help the Bishop to appoint new priests to the Benefice, or by the Lay Dean of the Deanery. There may also be someone who represents a past phase of ministry.

We pray for the inspiration of God's Holy Spirit on both priest and people in these communities. We listen to the Scriptures and the Bishop will preach an address to help us reflect on the nature of ministry both in this place and in the wider world. Next the newly appointed priest will make solemn declarations and oaths of allegiance to the King and canonical obedience to the Bishop as required by law. Then comes the Institution, when the Bishop formally licenses the priest to the task to which she has been called using those classic words, "receive the cure of souls which is yours and mine," reflecting the fact that ministry is something shared between the priest and their Bishop.

The Bishop then asks the Archdeacon to admit the newly appointed priest to their office, which is done by a variety of symbolic actions involving the church door, the church bell and being placed in the stall or prayer desk.

The newly appointed priest is then welcomed and we commit ourselves with her to God's work in this benefice.

As their first official act, the priest will lead the Prayers of Intercession and the Bishop then concludes the service by asking for God's blessing on all present.

Please pray for your new priest, Annabel, not only in these early days, but throughout her ministry in this place. May you be a blessing to each other and through your ministry together may God's love be made known.

+ Michael Bar & Wells.

**Rt Revd Michael Beasley,
Bishop of Bath and Wells**

Celebration for a New Ministry

The Gathering

All stand to sing as the procession enters.

Worship Songs -

How Great is Our God

The splendour of the King
Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice
All the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
And trembles at His voice

*How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God*

And age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End
Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

*How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God*

Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God

Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God

*How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God (repeat)*

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all
The works Thy hand hath made
I see the stars
I hear the mighty thunder
Thy pow'r throughout
The universe displayed

*Then sings my soul
My Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art*

And when I think
That God His Son not sparing sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died
To take away my sin

When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then shall I bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art

Until that day
When heaven bids us welcome
And as we walk
This broken warring world
Your kingdom come
Deliver us from evil
And we'll proclaim
Our God how great You are
With hope we'll sing
Our God how great You are

The Greeting

The Bishop greets the people by saying:

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

All: and also with you.

The Bishop invites all those present to sit and welcomes them informally.

Bishop:

We are gathered together today to welcome Annabel. She comes to share with the community here, the ministry and proclamation of God's love. As we worship, let us ask for God's grace and blessing on our work that with strong faith the task committed to our charge may prosper and bear much fruit; and let us pray for Annabel as she comes to serve God in this place.

Silence is kept.

The Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset, Mr Ted Allen DL, led by the Churchwardens of St Andrews and St Peters Churches, process to the South Door. The Bishop invites everyone to stand and turn to face the South door, asking the Churchwardens to open the door and welcome their new Vicar.

Churchwardens: We greet you in the name of the Lord

All: In the name of Christ we welcome you!

The churchwardens lead the procession to the Chancel step.

The congregation sits.

The Presentation

The Vicar designate is led to the Bishop by the Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset, Mr Ted Allen DL, on behalf of the Patron, the Lord Chancellor, and by a previous colleague. The Vice Lord-Lieutenant, presents the Vicar designate to the Bishop and reads the Letters Patent.

A representative from the previous parish or ministry:

Bishop Michael, I have shared in the ministry of Annabel as Curate in Sheffield Diocese and warmly commend her to you and to the people of these parishes.

Bishop:

I thank you for your presentation and commendation. Annabel, you have been chosen as Vicar for the Benefice of St Andrew and St Peter. Do you believe that you have been called by God and his church to serve in this ministry?

Vicar designate: I do.

Bishop:

I welcome you and will gladly institute you to this church and to this service. Churchwardens, is it your will and that of the people of the parishes you represent that Annabel should be instituted as Vicar of this Benefice?

Churchwardens: It is.

The Bishop addresses the whole congregation:

Will you uphold and support Annabel constantly in her ministry?

All: We will.

Bishop:

Before admitting Annabel to the care of the people of these parishes, let us now pray, not only for Annabel but also for ourselves, that together we may be given grace to glorify God and serve the Body of Christ in the world and in these parishes.

The priest and the Bishop kneel together, recalling their Ordination and shared ministry.

The people pray in silence for themselves and their new priest.

Bishop:

Almighty Father, Saviour of the world and giver of all that is good; hear our prayers for your servant Annabel and her family as she is called to serve in these parishes.

By your Holy Spirit may she be strengthened in your service and filled with love for your people.

As a faithful priest and true disciple of your Son, the Good Shepherd, may she preach your Word, minister the sacraments, care for your people and lead them in prayer and mission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

All:

**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 us, your faithful people
that in our vocation and ministry
we each may be an instrument of your love,
and give to your servant Annabel
the needful gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Worship Song - And Can it Be

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me who caused His pain
For me who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou my God should die for me?

He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace
Emptied Himself of all but love
And bled for Adam's helpless race
'Tis mercy all, immense and free
For O my God, it found out me
'Tis mercy all, immense and free
For O my God, it found out me

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light
My chains fell off, my heart was free
I rose, went forth and followed Thee
My chains fell off, my heart was free
I rose, went forth and followed Thee

No condemnation now I dread
Jesus and all in Him is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head
And clothed in righteousness divine
Bold I approach the eternal throne
And claim the crown through Christ my own
Bold I approach the eternal throne
And claim the crown through Christ my own

Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou my God should die for me?

The Ministry of the Word

Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

"For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

At the end of the passage from Scripture the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

The Rt Revd Michael Beasley

Worship Song - Holy Forever

A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry Holy
All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy
Holy forever

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

And the angels cry Holy
All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy
Holy forever
Hear Your people sing Holy
To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all
Jesus Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry Holy
All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy
Holy forever
Hear Your people sing Holy
To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

You will always be Holy
Holy forever

The Declaration of Assent and Oaths

The Archdeacon, with the authority of the Bishop, calls upon the new Incumbent to affirm her loyalty to the Anglican inheritance of faith and to swear Allegiance to the King and Canonical Obedience to the Bishop.

Archdeacon:

Annabel, 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?

Vicar designate:

I, Annabel Louise Stott, 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 congregation stands.

Taking the Bible, the Vicar designate faces the people and swears the Oath of Allegiance to the Sovereign:

I, Annabel Louise Stott, swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles the Third, his heirs and successors according to law; so help me God.

She faces the Bishop and swears the Oath of Canonical Obedience:

I, Annabel Louise Stott, swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, and his successors, in all things lawful and honest, so help me God.

The Institution

The congregation sits.

Annabel stands before the Bishop who reads the Deed of Institution and hands it to her.

Bishop:

Annabel, receive this cure of souls, which is both yours and mine, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Annabel kneels and is anointed by the Bishop with the Oil of Chrism.

Bishop:

Annabel, remember your baptism into Christ.

Remember your ordination into the Church of God.

May God who anointed Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit, anoint and empower you for the blessing of God's people. May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Archdeacon:

May the Lord look upon you in mercy

stir into flame the gift that is in you,

guide and go with you,

inspire you to know his will and strengthen you to fulfil it,

that, working together in God, we may change lives in this place. **Amen.**

The Bishop and the new Vicar share a personal greeting before the Bishop invites the congregation to welcome their new Vicar with applause.

Bishop:

Archdeacon, I have instituted Annabel to the care of the people of these parishes, I ask you now to induct her.

Archdeacon:

I will do so gladly.

The Induction and Installation

The congregation stands.

The Bishop moves to his place in the Sanctuary;

The Archdeacon and Vicar move to the main church door.

All turn to face the door. The new Vicar takes hold of the church door handle.

Archdeacon:

Annabel, I induct you as Vicar of the parishes of St Andrews and St Peters and into the shared stewardship of it with all the responsibilities belonging to this office.

The Vicar then moves to toll the bell to signify her arrival in the parish.

The Archdeacon leads the Vicar to the Chancel step.

Archdeacon:

Annabel, at your Ordination you promised to proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As you prepare to work in partnership with the people of the parishes of St Andrews and St Peters, I invite you to recall your Ordination.

Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures and in public and private prayer?

Vicar: I will.

Archdeacon:

Will you persevere in ministering the reconciling love of Christ in Word and Sacrament?

Vicar: I will.

Archdeacon:

Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom you are called to serve, working with them and your fellow ministers to build up the people of God?

Vicar: I will.

Archdeacon:

May the Lord who has given you the will to do these things give you the grace and power to perform them.

All: Amen.

She is then led to the Incumbent's stall and is seated.

Archdeacon:

I place you in the stall of the Minister of these parishes. May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with all joy and peace that you may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Dedication to Ministry

The Area Dean and Lay Dean together welcome the new Vicar:

On behalf of the Deanery we welcome you among us and pray that through fellowship and by working together we may promote the kingdom of God in this place.

Representatives of the churches and community informally welcome the new Vicar.

We then commit ourselves, with the new incumbent, to share together in God's ministry in this benefice. The Bishop introduces this prayer:

All:

**We pledge ourselves to pray and care for
the communities in this place:
to share the Word of God,
to celebrate the sacraments of the new covenant,
to encourage discipleship.
Together, may we make this a place where we are empowered for witness in
God's world. Amen.**

Notices

Notices are given by the new Vicar before she invites those gathered to kneel or sit for Prayers.

The Prayers

As we pray we use the response:

Lord, meet us in the silence.

Give us strength and hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**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 forever. Amen.**

Worship Song - Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone
During the hymn, a collection may be taken

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm 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

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

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

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Blessing and Dismissal

The Bishop gives the Blessing, and then says:

Go in peace and joy to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen!

All stand to sing as the procession leaves:

The Churchwardens leading the Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset, Mr Ted Allen DL, the Bishop and the Vicar, the Archdeacon and the Area Dean.

Worship Song -

The Blessing

The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make his face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn his
Face toward you
And give you peace
(repeat x2)

Amen (repeated)

May his favour
Be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family
And your children
And their children
And their children
(repeat x4)

May his presence
Go before you
And behind you
And beside you
All around you
And within you
He is with you
He is with you

In the morning
In the evening
In your coming
And your going
In your weeping
And rejoicing
He is for you
He is for you

He is for you (repeated)

Amen (repeated)

May his favour
Be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family
And your children
And their children
And their children

May his presence
Go before you
And behind you
And beside you
All around you
And within you
He is with you
He is with you

In the morning
In the evening
In your coming
And your going
In your weeping
And rejoicing
He is for you
He is for you



Introducing myself...

Hello!

I, along with my family; husband Matt and son Rupert, are incredibly excited to be joining this benefice and community, and all that God is doing here in Clevedon. We want to take a moment to thank you for your generous welcome and prayers as we begin this new season here.

There is for us all, but especially myself, a sense of 'coming home' as I am returning to the area I grew up in, being raised in Bath, and having trained for ordained ministry at Trinity College in Bristol. There have of course been many moments in between, and our journey has seen us spending much time in the North, where I most recently served my curacy and other roles in the Diocese of Sheffield; a time we are very grateful for.

I have formally spent time studying theology at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, as well as training in counselling and psychotherapy for a time; and spent many years working on the ground in parish youth ministry as well as helping to train and recruit other youth and children's workers. The younger generations are certainly on my heart, as are the wider church, and I look forward to the ways in which, together, we will seek to grow younger and wider through our shared ministry here.

As a family we love to explore and find new places, spending our times together on little adventures. The outdoors is our happy place; whether it's gardening or on a dog walk with our Spaniel Shadow, you know where you can find us!

There is plenty more I could say, I'm sure, but we look forward to getting to know you all in the coming months and hearing your stories as well as sharing ours.

Reverend Annabel Stott



Our Diocesan Vision

As Christians across our Diocese of Bath and Wells, we want all people to know that they are loved by God, as part of a world created by God, which is why our vision is:

**In response to God's immense love for us, we seek to be God's people
living and telling the story of Jesus.**

We seek to joyfully live out and tell the story of Jesus in all aspects of our lives in a wealth of different ways. We worship and share the light, which is God's love for us, in our cherished churches, communities, schools, workplaces, and even our wild spaces. And core to our Christian faith, we help serve those in need, aim to stand with those who call for justice and play our part in caring for creation.

All are invited to join us and share in this story.

Loving God

You alone bring growth to your Church and transformation to our communities. We give thanks for the ways in which you are already at work in our lives and world. As we look to the future, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, and grace in living and telling your story. Help our churches to grow in commitment to you, in numbers and diversity, and in partnership with our local communities in all that gives life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Common Worship; prayers and Services for the Church of England material which is included in this service by copyright © The Archbishop's Council 2000
Hymns and songs Copyright CCLI no 1160546

**Please take this service booklet with you
and continue to pray for Reverend Annabel Stott.**