



order of service

The ORDINATION and INDUCTION of

Cristina Cipriani

to the Joint Pastorate of
Digbeth-in-the-Field United Reformed Church and
The Church at Carrs Lane Local Ecumenical Partnership,
Birmingham

Saturday 21st July 2018 at 2pm

Worship led by

Revd Steve Faber

Moderator of the West Midlands
Synod of the United Reformed Church



Service of Ordination and Induction
of
Cristina Cipriani
to the Joint Pastorate of
The Church at Carrs Lane
and
Digbeth-in-the-Field United Reformed Church

The service will be conducted by Revd Steve Faber, West Midlands' Synod Moderator, and will proceed unannounced.

Introit: I Was Glad

I was glad when they said unto me,
let us go into the house of the Lord:
Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

*Psalm 122, vv. 1-2
Music: Eric Thiman (1900-1975)*

Processional Hymn - All my hope on God is founded

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| 1. All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he
guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own. | 2. Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil we fashion,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower. |
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3. God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of nought.
Evermore
from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

4. Daily doth the almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand
at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

5. Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges (1844-1930) (alt.)

Based on Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

Tune: 'Michael' - Herbert Norman Howells (1892-1983)

Greeting and Opening Sentences

Prayers of Praise, Confession and Forgiveness

Welcome and Introduction

Hymn – There's a spirit in the air

1. There's a spirit in the air,
telling Christians everywhere:
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world!'

2. Lose your shyness, find your tongue;
tell the world what God has done:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today.

3. When believers break the bread,
when a hungry child is fed,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

4. Still the Spirit gives us light,
seeing wrong and setting right:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today.

5. When a stranger's not alone,
where the homeless find a home,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

6. May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today.

7. There's a Spirit in the air,
calling people everywhere:
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

Music: John Whitridge Wilson (1905-1992)

The Ordination and Induction

Statement of the Call

June Johnson on behalf of Digbeth-in-the-Field URC

Julie Grove on behalf of The Church at Carrs Lane

Statement on behalf of Westminster College

Alison Gray

Statement by the Ordinand

Cristina Cipriani

Statement of the Nature Faith and Order of the United Reformed Church

Margaret Marshall

With the whole Christian Church
the United Reformed Church believes in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**The living God, the only God,
ever to be praised.**

The life of faith to which we are called
is the Spirit's gift
continually received
through the Word, the Sacraments
and our Christian life together.

**We acknowledge the gift
and answer the call,
giving thanks for the means of grace.**

The highest authority
for what we believe and do
is God's Word in the Bible
alive for his people today
through the help of the Spirit.

**We respond to this Word,
whose servants we are,
with all God's people
through the years.**

We accept with thanksgiving to God
the witness to the catholic faith
in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds.
We acknowledge the declarations
made in our own tradition
by Congregationalists, Presbyterians
and Churches of Christ
in which they stated the faith
and sought to make its implications clear.

**Faith alive and active:
gift of an eternal source,
renewed for every generation.**

We conduct our life together
according to the Basis of Union
in which we give expression to our faith
in forms which we believe contain
the essential elements of the Church's life,
both catholic and reformed;
but we affirm our right and readiness,
if the need arises,
to change the Basis of Union
and to make new statements of faith
in ever new obedience to the Living Christ.

**Our crucified and risen Lord,
who leads us in our faith,
and brings it to perfection.**

Held together in the Body of Christ
through the freedom of the Spirit,
we rejoice in the diversity of the Spirit's gifts
and uphold the rights of personal conviction.
For the sake of faith and fellowship
it shall be for the church to decide
where differences of conviction
hurt our unity and peace.

**We commit ourselves
to speak the truth in love,
and grow together
in the peace of Christ.**

We believe that
Christ gives his Church a government
distinct from the government of the state.
In things that affect obedience to God
the Church is not subordinate to the state,
but must serve the Lord Jesus Christ,
its only Ruler and Head.
Civil authorities are called
to serve God's will of justice and peace for all humankind,
and to respect the rights of conscience and belief.

**While we ourselves
are servants in the world,
as citizens of God's eternal kingdom.**

We affirm our intention
to go on praying and working,
with all our fellow Christians,
for the visible unity of the Church
in the way Christ chooses

so that people and nations
may be led to love and serve God
and praise him more and more for ever.

**Source, Guide, and Goal
of all that is:
to God be eternal glory.**

Amen.

Affirmations by the Minister-elect

Cristina Cipriani

Promises

The congregation is asked:

Do you confess again your faith in one God, Father, Son and Spirit?

Response: **“We do.”**

*Do you receive Cristina Cipriani as from God as a minister of Word
and Sacrament of the United Reformed Church?*

Response: **“We do.”**

*Will you pray for Cristina Cipriani in this ministry, giving her due
honour, support and encouragement?*

Response: **“We will.”**

Members of the two churches in the pastorate are asked:

*Members of The Church at Carrs Lane and of Digbeth-in-the-Field
United Reformed Church, do you receive Cristina Cipriani as from
God, to serve among you and to lead you in your ministry?*

Response: **“We do.”**

Members of the West Midlands Synod are asked:

Do you, the appointed representatives of West Midlands Synod, welcome Cristina Cipriani into membership, and promise to support her ministry?

Response: **"We do."**

Hymn – I, the Lord of sea and sky

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord...

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will send the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord...

Words and music: Daniel L. Schutte (b. 1947)

Ordination and Induction Prayer

Laying on of Hands

Steve Faber, Neil Johnson, Tim Meadows,
Francesca Nuzzolese, Derek Duffield, Ian Thomson

Declaration of Ordination / Induction

Steve Faber

Hymn – Lord, you gave the great commission

1. Lord, you give the great commission:
‘Heal the sick and preach the word’.
Lest the Church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity;
with the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.
2. Lord, you call us to your service:
‘In my name baptize and teach’.
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervour, draw us
closer in community;
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

3. Lord, you make the common holy:
‘This my body, this my blood’.
Let us all, for earth’s true glory
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children’s liberty;
with the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.
4. Lord, you show us love’s true measure:
‘Father, what they do, forgive’.
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society;
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.
5. Lord, you bless with words assuring:
‘I am with you to the end’.
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity;
with the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

Jeffery Rowthorn (b. 1934)

Tune: ‘Abbot’s Leigh’ - Cyril V. Taylor (1907-1991)

The Welcome

Steve Faber, John Lines, Margaret Marshall, Graham Sweeney,
Anne Smith, Tony Malcolm, Fr Andrew, Jayson Wildman, Ruth Yorke

Presentation of gifts from the two churches

June Johnson & Julie Grove

Anthem: Thy Perfect Love

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest, thy perfect love close in my breast.
That I thee love and never rest; and make me love thee all things best,
and wounde my heart in thy love free, that I may reign in joy evermore with
thee.

Words: 15th cent.
Music: John Rutter (b. 1945)

Scripture Readings:

- 1 Samuel 3: 1-21
- John 10: 7-21

Jack Butcher
Liz Cummings

Sermon

Tim Meadows

Prayers of Intercession

Francesca Nuzzolese

Hymn – Thy hand, O God, has guided

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|---|---|
| 1. Thy hand, O God, has guided
thy flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page;
our forebears owned thy goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness:
one Church, one faith, one Lord. | 2. Thy heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they summoned all to hasten
and share the great King's feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming
one Church, one faith, one Lord. |
| 3. Thy mercy will not fail us,
nor leave thy work undone;
with thy right hand to help us,
the victory shall be won;
and then, by all creation,
thy name shall be adored,
and this shall be our anthem:
one Church, one faith, one Lord. | |

Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)
Tune: 'Thornbury' - Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

Sung Blessing

May God's blessing surround you each day
As you trust Him and walk in His way
May his presence within guard and keep you from sin,
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

Words and music: Cliff Barrows (1923-2016)

Dismissal

Revd Cristina Cipriani

Closing music: Sortie, from *Suite Liturgique*

Denis Bédard (b. 1950)

You are welcome to listen to the music at the end of the service as part of the worship. Please join us for tea when you are ready. Refreshments will be served both on the foyer on this level and upstairs, for those who are able.

There is a book at the back of the church for anyone who would like to record their reflections on today's service.

We are pleased to have **Councillor John Lines**, the Deputy Lord Mayor of Birmingham, in attendance today, and we welcome everyone who is participating in the service:

Revd Steve Faber, Moderator of the West Midlands Synod;

Revd Tim Meadows, Minister, Allerton United Reformed Church, Liverpool;

Revd Dr Francesca Nuzzolese, Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counselling at Methodist Theological School in Ohio, USA;

Dr Alison Gray, Tutor in Old Testament Language, Literature & Theology, and member of the Senatus of Westminster College, Cambridge;

Mrs Margaret Marshall, Synod Clerk, West Midlands Synod;

Revd Graham Sweeney, URC Birmingham Area Minister;

Revd Anne Smith, former Deputy Chair of Birmingham Methodist District;

Revd Tony Malcolm, Co-Superintendent of Birmingham Methodist Circuit;

Revd Dr Neil Johnson, Methodist Presbyterian at The Church at Carrs Lane;

Deacon Ruth Yorke, Methodist Deacon at The Church at Carrs Lane;

Fr Andrew, Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church, Stechford;

Mr Jayson Wildman, City Centre Churches Together;

Mrs June Johnson, Church Secretary, Digbeth-in-the-Field URC;

Mrs Julie Grove, Joint Church Secretary, The Church at Carrs Lane;

Mr Derek Duffield, Joint Church Secretary, The Church at Carrs Lane;

Mr Ian Thomson, Elder at Digbeth-in-the-Field URC;

Mr Jack Butcher, Elder at Digbeth-in-the-Field URC;

Mrs Liz Cummings, Elder at The Church at Carrs Lane.

The Choir comprises representatives from:

- Carrs Lane Choir & Friends
- The Optimists, Digbeth-in-the-Field, & Friends
- Broadway URC, Walsall

Carrs Lane Choir & Friends:

Francesca Clayton; Liz Cummings; Chris Grove; Sue Hill; Andrew & Kate Leo; Phil Parkin; Donald Payne; Peter Searle; Richard & Gill Silk; Martin & Amina Stokes; Jill Veitch; Eunhee Zoe Wang.

Church Musician: **Dr Tim Batty.**

The Optimists, Digbeth-in-the-Field, & Friends:

Sue Fielding; Marjory Fisher; Shirley Hill; Keith Malyn; Aaron Niblett; Hazel Thomson; Ian Thomson; Howard Tyres; Mary Wheeler.

Pianist: **Mr Mark Whittacker.**

Broadway URC, Walsall:

Kathleen Blackburn; Pat Lomax; Alan Taylor; Anne Timmins.

