# THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF ST PETER IN YORK



Confirmation of the Election of Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell as the 98th Archbishop of York

Thursday 9 July 2020 at 11.00 am

# Music for Organ

played by Robert Sharpe, Director of Music, York Minster, and recorded on the organ of Truro Cathedral

Andante Sostenuto (from Symphonie Gothique)

Charles-Marie Widor

Psalm Prelude, Set 1, No 3

Herbert Howells

# Welcome and Opening Prayer

## The Archbishop of Canterbury says:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

Welcome to this service of Prayer with the Confirmation of the Election of Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell as Archbishop of York.

We gather together during a time of uncertainty when many are suffering, many are fearful and the foundations of our society have been shaken to their core by the ravages of the coronavirus. The whole church is committed to pray for all those who have been affected and continue to be affected by this pandemic; Jesus told us to keep on praying and not to lose heart.

Into this world of challenge and change this service seeks to offer encouragement and hope. A new ministry is begun: a ministry of service and leadership, a ministry of prayer and proclamation, a ministry centred in the North of England but with national and global reach.

Even though this ministry begins today in a digital environment, it will be earthed in the world that Christ came to save.

# Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably upon your whole church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence carry out the work of our salvation; and let the whole world feel and see that things which were cast down are being raised up; and those things which had grown old are being made new; and that all things are returning into unity through him by whom all things were made, even your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

from the Gelasian Sacramentary, 5th century

# Hymn

sung by the Choir of York Minster, directed by Robert Sharpe



Ye that know the Lord is gracious, ye for whom a Corner-stone stands, of God elect and precious, laid that ye may build thereon, see that on that sure foundation ye a living temple raise, towers that may tell forth salvation, walls that may re-echo praise.

Living stones, by God appointed each to his allotted place, kings and priests, by God anointed, shall ye not declare his grace?
Ye, a royal generation, tell the tidings of your birth, tidings of a new creation to an old and weary earth.

Tell the praise of him who called you out of darkness into light, broke the fetters that enthralled you, gave you freedom, peace and sight: tell the tale of sins forgiven, strength renewed and hope restored, till the earth, in tune with heaven, praise and magnify the Lord.

Words C A Alington (1872–1955)

Tune Rustington, Hubert Parry (1848–1918) ♦ Descant Benjamin Morris

# The Affirmation

## The Archbishop of Canterbury says:

My brother in Christ, it has pleased God to call you to be the shepherd and chief pastor of the Diocese and Province of York. I am sure that long before now you have laid to heart the high trust and weighty obligations of this office. But, in order that we may know your commitment to fulfil this trust, I remind you of those things given at your consecration and call upon you to re-affirm the promises that you made when you were ordained and consecrated a bishop.

Bishops are called to lead in serving and caring for the people of God and to work with them in the oversight of the Church. As chief pastors, they share with their fellow bishops a special responsibility to maintain and further the unity of the Church, to uphold its discipline, and to guard its faith. They are to promote its mission throughout the Diocese. It is their duty to watch over and pray for all those committed to their charge, and to teach and govern them after the example of the apostles, speaking in the name of God and interpreting the gospel of Christ. They are to know their people and be known by them. They are to ordain and to send out new ministers, guiding those who serve with them and enabling them to fulfil their ministry.

Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading holy Scripture, and in all studies that will deepen your faith and fit you to uphold the truth of the Gospel against error?

# The Archbishop-Elect responds:

By the help of God, I will.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury:

Will you strive to fashion your own life and that of your household according to the way of Christ?

# The Archbishop-Elect:

By the help of God, I will.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury:

Will you promote unity, peace, and love among all Christian people, and especially among those whom you serve?

## The Archbishop-Elect:

By the help of God, I will.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury:

Will you then be a faithful witness to Christ to those among whom you live, and lead your people to obey our Saviour's command to make disciples of all nations?

## The Archbishop-Elect:

By the help of God, I will.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury says:

# Almighty God,

who has given you the will to undertake all these things, give you also the strength to perform them; that he may complete that work which he has begun in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

# The Legal Process

The Vicar-General of the Province of York introduces the legal proceedings, explaining their origin and purpose, and how they have been adapted in the unusual circumstances of the coronavirus so that they can be held 'virtually' with the participants taking part via Zoom.

## The Vicar-General says:

We now commence the legal process by which the Election of the new Archbishop of York is to be confirmed.

There are three stages in the appointment of a bishop.

- ¶ The first is the selection. That process involved the Crown Nominations Commission which, after consultation in the Diocese and in the wider province of York, recommended that the Prime Minister should submit Stephen Cottrell's name to Her Majesty The Queen for appointment as the 98th Archbishop of York.
- ¶ The second stage involved the Queen giving permission to the College of Canons of the Cathedral to elect the next Archbishop of York and recommending to them the person they should elect. The Queen then by her Letters Patent commissioned the bishops who have come together today to confirm that Election.
- ¶ The third stage is usually the enthronement of the Archbishop in the cathedral which marks the effective commencement of the new ministry. In the present circumstances that cannot take place, and the commencement of the new Archbishop's ministry will be marked in a video which will be released at the conclusion of these proceedings.

The act of confirmation involving the Archbishop of Canterbury and other senior bishops from the Provinces of both York and Canterbury reflects the fact that since at least the fourth century it has been a fundamental principle that confirmation of an episcopal election on behalf of the wider church is necessary.

The act of confirmation is legally very important because it confers upon the Archbishop the spiritual jurisdiction over the Diocese by committing to him 'the care, government and administration of the spirituals' of the Archbishopric. It is, therefore, the confirmation of the election which makes the Archbishop-Elect into the Archbishop of the Diocese.

The wording used in the process of confirmation has a long history. Before the eighteenth century it was in Latin, but in about 1733 an English translation was introduced. Today a somewhat modernised version is used which has been adapted to deal with the restrictions that prevent us being together in one physical space.

Sitting as a court of law (as Commissioners of Her Majesty The Queen, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England), the Archbishop of Canterbury and other bishops have to decide whether the procedural steps have been properly carried out so that the election of the new Archbishop can be confirmed.

There are several stages in the proceedings.

- ¶ First, in accordance with the Appointment of Bishops Act 1533, there is the direction from Her Majesty to the Commissioners in the form of Letters Patent calling them together to confirm the Archbishop's election.
- § Secondly, the Advocate will introduce the Archbishop-Elect, and the Proctor will prove to the Commissioners that all the necessary procedures have been complied with and that no objections should be permitted to be heard.
- ¶ Thirdly, the Archbishop-Elect will take the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, as required by the Canons of the Church of England and make his Declaration of Assent.
- ¶ Fourthly and finally, His Grace, if the Commissioners are so satisfied, shall read the sentence or decree of the Court, which confers upon the Archbishop the spiritual jurisdiction over the Diocese.

In the unusual circumstances that have prevailed by reason of the coronavirus, His Grace, having the conduct of the Court within his discretion, has directed that the proceedings will take place through a video conferencing facility.

To the extent that such a novel approach might raise questions of validity or identification, I can confirm that the Vicars-General of both Provinces, along with other senior legal officials in the Church of England, have expressed themselves satisfied that in these circumstances, this approach using electronic means to fulfil the requirements of the historic legislation is entirely appropriate; and, I might add, the Archbishop-Elect, who has been the Bishop of Chelmsford and before that was Bishop of Reading is well-known to all those taking part in these proceedings today.

I will ask him to acknowledge his presence and identity on screen now.

# Archbishop-Elect:

I am Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell, until today the Bishop of Chelmsford.

## The Vicar-General says:

There are a number of documents that are presented to and examined by the Commissioners and I am going to ask the Provincial Registrar to confirm that the originals of all the documents to be referred to have been supplied to the Archbishop of Canterbury (or whoever else has original documents in front of them) and that additionally he has supplied certified copies of each of those documents to the other members of the Commission.

## Provincial Registrar:

I do so confirm.

## The Vicar-General says:

With those preliminaries performed, the Commissioners will now proceed with the Confirmation of Election.

# The Confirmation of Election

#### Proctor:

Archbishop Justin, I have the honour of appearing on behalf of the College of Canons of the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Saint Peter in York. My name is Lionel Patrick Madill Lennox.

#### Advocate:

Archbishop Justin, I have the honour of appearing on behalf of the Archbishop-Elect. My name is Louise Mary Connacher.

The law requires that the Proctor (the representative) of the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Saint Peter in York produce a certificate of the Archbishop's Election by the College of Canons of the Cathedral, and that the Archbishop-Elect should give his consent to his Election being confirmed.

## *The Proctor addresses the Archbishop of Canterbury:*

Archbishop Justin, I respectfully ask that this Court shall witness the formal consent of the Archbishop-Elect.

## The Archbishop of Canterbury responds:

You may proceed.

# *The Proctor addresses the Archbishop-Elect:*

Bishop Stephen, I have formally exhibited my Proxy of the College of Canons of the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Saint Peter in York, and have presented to you a Certificate of your being elected to be Archbishop and Pastor of the See of York and pray that you will be pleased to give your consent to the said Election.

The Archbishop-Elect reads the Schedule of Consent. The Schedule is signed by the Archbishop-Elect, in the 'virtual presence' of the Advocate and the Provincial Registrar who will subscribe their signatures as witnesses in due course.

The Proctor puts into evidence the document authorising him to act for the College of Canons and the Letters Patent.

#### Proctor:

Archbishop Justin, there is before you and I now formally exhibit my proxy for the College of Canons of the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Saint Peter in York, and I make myself a party for them. There are before you the Letters Patent of Our Sovereign Lady The Queen issued under the Great Seal of the Realm requiring the Confirmation of the Election of the Right Reverend Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell, presently Bishop of Chelmsford, to be Archbishop and Pastor of the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Saint Peter in York. I pray that a copy of these Letters Patent which are before you may be read.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury:

Let the Letters Patent be read.

The Letters Patent are then read by the Provincial Registrar.

#### Proctor:

I humbly pray that you will be pleased to take upon you the duty of this Confirmation. I request you to decree that it be proceeded with according to the form of the said Letters Patent and in accordance with the Law.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury:

In obedience to the Command of Our Sovereign Lady The Queen we do take upon us the duty of the Confirmation of this Election. We do decree that it be proceeded with according to the form and effect of the said Letters Patent in the presence of the Provincial Registrar of the Province of Canterbury, a Notary Public.

#### Advocate:

Archbishop Justin, it is my privilege to identify and present to you The Right Reverend Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell as the person elected Bishop and Pastor of the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Saint Peter in York and I do here judicially produce His Lordship.

#### Proctor:

As Proctor for the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Saint Peter in York, there is before you and I formally produce to you as an exhibit the original Mandate requiring public notice to be given and stating that anyone wishing to oppose the election should do so at an appointed time and place prior to the date of the Confirmation, or else would be debarred from pursuing any objection. Endorsed on this Mandate is a certificate which verifies that public notice was duly given as required and that no person has appeared in opposition to the Confirmation.

## The Archbishop of Canterbury:

Full opportunity having been given for opposers to appear whose objections could be lawfully received and none having appeared as ordered, we now proceed with the process of Confirmation of the Election.

#### Proctor:

I have submitted my Summary Petition in writing which I pray to be admitted in Court and that you will decree that I should proceed immediately to prove the matters recited in this Petition.

The Archbishop and the other Commissioners consider in silence the Summary Petition, which has previously been signed by the Proctor, Advocate and the Provincial Registrar.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury then continues:

We do admit your Summary Petition so far as the same may by Law be admitted and do decree that you prove the matters recited in your Petition immediately.

#### Proctor:

In supply of proof of the matters contained in my Summary Petition, there have been provided for the Commission the following documents, each of which I have formally exhibited.

- ¶ First, a Certificate touching and concerning the Election of the Right Reverend Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell to be Bishop and Pastor of the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Saint Peter in York, made by the College of Canons of the said Cathedral Church and issued under their Common Seal.
- ¶ Secondly, you saw and heard the Archbishop-Elect consent to the said election and sign a Public Instrument containing his said consent as Archbishop-Elect to the said Election.

¶ Thirdly, I refer to Her Majesty's Letters Patent which have already been read.

I submit that all the matters set forth in these exhibits are true and were done as therein described. I pray that all of them shall be admitted and accepted by the Commissioners.

## The Archbishop of Canterbury:

We do admit all these documents and accept their validity and the truthfulness of all that is contained in them.

#### Advocate:

The Lord Archbishop-Elect is ready to take the Oath of Allegiance to The Queen and make the Declaration of Assent as required.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury:

Let the Oath be taken and the Declaration made.

The Archbishop-Elect produces a Bible and takes the Oath.

The Archbishop of Canterbury reads the Preface to the Declaration of Assent and the Archbishop-Elect makes and subscribes the Declaration.

#### Proctor:

I pray that the Court shall now proceed to make an Order confirming the Election. I have submitted and porrected a definitive Sentence or Final Decree in writing which I pray to be read and declared.

The Archbishop of Canterbury addressing his fellow Commissioners says:

Are we satisfied that all has been done that is required to be done for us to confirm this Election?

#### Commissioners:

We are so satisfied.

The Archbishop of Canterbury then reads the Sentence or Final Decree of the Court that the Election was carried out in due form, that the Election is confirmed, and that 'the care, government and administration of the Spirituals' of the Archiepiscopal See of York are committed to the Archbishop.

The Sentence or Final Decree is then signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and will subsequently also be signed by the other Commissioners, the Provincial Registrar, and countersigned by the Advocate and the Vicar-General.

#### Proctor:

The Archbishop, now having been Elected and Confirmed, I pray that a Public Instrument and Letters Testimonial shall be made and issued by the Court as a record of these proceedings.

## The Archbishop of Canterbury:

We do decree as prayed.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will sign the document which will subsequently be signed by the other Commissioners.

# The Mandate

#### Vicar-General:

The business of the Confirmation of Election of the Most Reverend Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell as Archbishop of York is now complete. I now ask the Archbishop of Canterbury formally to deliver his Mandate to the Dean of York.

# The Archbishop of Canterbury:

I mandate you to admit and induct the Most Reverend Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell into the actual and corporeal possession of the Archbishopric of York. I further require you to certify in writing to the Provincial Registrar when that has been done.

# The Dean of York:

I accept your Mandate, and will so do.

Let us now hear the Charge.

Before the Charge, this music is sung by York Minster Choir, directed by Robert Sharpe:

Tu es Petrus et super hanc petram aedificabo ecclesiam meam.

You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.

Words Matthew 16.18 ♦ Music Maurice Duruflé (1902–86)

# A Charge

# to The Most Reverend Stephen Cottrell Confirmed Archbishop Of York

Our well-beloved brother in Christ, Stephen, now Archbishop of York.

Recalling God's mission entrusted by Christ to His Church to proclaim God's Kingdom, to heal the sick and to make disciples of all nations, we share with you the tasks and ministries discerned in consultation, prayer and reflection by those called to serve on the Crown Nominations Commission for the See of York. We hope these will guide you as you take up your new office and ministry.

# Leadership and oversight

Bishops are ordained to be shepherds of Christ's flock and guardians of the faith of the apostles, proclaiming the gospel of God's kingdom and leading his people in mission.

Archbishop Stephen, you are called:

- ¶ To work alongside me as a partner in the Gospel in sharing the good news with all, exercising leadership of the Church of England, in its mission to the nation and in its spiritual and numerical growth, that together we might enable the collegial leadership of our fellow bishops in God's mission for this land and in promoting the unity of the Church.
- ¶ To encourage and care for the Bishops of the North and to draw us together in our shared vocation to serve here, and in our accountability to the communities we serve, to each other and to the Church.
- ¶ To create with your fellow bishops, officers and staff a pattern of leadership and governance which ensures the sustainability of our calling to share the Gospel and serve the communities across the Diocese of York.

# Refreshing the mission and witness of the Church

In the book of Acts we are told that those who were baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and good and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day, the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Acts 2.42-47

## Archbishop Stephen, you are called:

- ¶ To deepen the theological engagement of us all by rooting us in our Christian story yet casting a vision for a future which remains unknown; to give us Gospel-inspired confidence to be transformational in our life together in obedience to the Holy Spirit; to encourage and stimulate fresh ideas about models for existing and new worshipping communities and to bring life and shared purpose to our governance bodies as they discharge their responsibilities.
- ¶ To build our confidence in our own prayer life, evangelism and discipleship; to have a particular care for the flourishing of the vocations and formation of lay and ordained people across the province and to equip them for ministry in the northern context.
- ¶ To prioritise sharing the love and good news of Jesus Christ with those whom we never see in Church, particularly families, young people and those living in challenging social and economic circumstances across the Diocese.
- ¶ To bring energy to our vision for change, to our aspirations for our life together as a Diocese, to open us up to fresh possibilities and to inject hope and realism into a challenging context.

# Safeguarding

Jesus said, I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

John 10.10

and

Let the children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.

Matthew 19.14

Archbishop Stephen you are called:

¶ To lead, with fellow bishops across the Church of England, the Northern Province and Diocese of York, in creating a culture which is safe for children and vulnerable adults and in alerting wider society to the dangers of abuse of power.

# Promoting the Unity of the Church

From the letter to the Ephesians:

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 1.4-6

# Archbishop Stephen you are called:

- ¶ To work for the unity of our Church by deepening the links between the Church of England and the Anglican Communion, encouraging dialogue across difference, and enabling us as we live within the Five Guiding Principles.
- ¶ To deepen relationships with other Christian churches and with your brother and sister Church leaders to speak out for those in need across the province, the nation and the world.

# Living the Gospel in the world

## From the Gospel of Matthew:

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

Matthew 25.35-36

# Archbishop Stephen you are called:

- ¶ To be an advocate for those whose voices are not heard and to connect with those whom society can exclude; to engage in public debate and legislative bodies to shape the life of the nation.
- ¶ To contribute to the emerging social, community and economic agenda of northern England through working in partnership with wider community, business and elected leaders.
- ¶ To welcome and support colleagues of other faiths, their voice in public discourse and their role in community life.
- ¶ To build connections and partnerships with key community leaders to improve the quality of life of the marginalised and young people across our cities, towns and rural areas.

So may the Lord of heaven, who gives you the will to undertake these things, give you also the strength to perform them, and by his divine providence may his holy angels succour and defend you on earth; and may his Grace and Blessing be with you at all times.

#### Amen

# The Archbishop of York says:

I accept your Charge. By the help of God, with trust in Our Lord Jesus Christ and in the strength of the Holy Spirit, I will faithfully endeavour to honour this mission.

# Hymn

sung by members of the Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields, directed by Andrew Earis



I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast:'
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live:'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright:'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

Words Horatius Bonar (1808–89)
Tune KINGSFOLD, traditional English melody

# **New Testament Reading**

read by the Rt Revd James Newcome, Bishop of Carlisle

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Colossians

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3.12-17

# The Address

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby Archbishop of Canterbury

# The Prayers

led by the Rt Revd Dr Jonathan Frost, Dean of York

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

Hear our prayers, O Lord our God: Hear us, good Lord.

Form and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will. **Hear us, good Lord.** 

Renew our calling to proclaim the Good News, to make disciples of all the nations. Hear us, good Lord.

Draw close to Archbishop Stephen: that he may serve you in joy and faithfulness, all his days. **Hear us, good Lord.**  For Stephen, Rebecca and their household: **Hear us, good Lord.** 

Guard and strengthen Elizabeth our Queen: that she may seek your honour and glory. Hear us, good Lord.

Endue the High Court of Parliament, and all ministers of the Crown, with wisdom and understanding.

Hear us, good Lord.

Give us the will to use the fruits of the earth to your glory, and for the well-being of all creation.

Hear us, good Lord.

For our neighbours in the faith communities: that society may be served and friendships abound. Hear us, good Lord.

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit. Lord, have mercy.

For those afflicted by the coronavirus and those who seek a vaccine. Lord, have mercy.

Show pity on prisoners and refugees; hear the cry of the homeless, hungry and destitute. Lord, have mercy.

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone. Lord, have mercy.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## The prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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 Blessing

The Most Revd Stephen Cottrell Archbishop of York

May the love of our good and generous God guide and protect you; may the hope of the gospel sustain you and bring you joy; when you are lost or lonely, when the road ahead seems hard, or when the darkness gathers, may the light and peace of Christ be yours; and the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

# Music for Organ

played by Benjamin Morris, Assistant Director of Music, York Minster, and recorded on the organ of York Minster

Final (Symphonie III)

Louis Vierne

