



The Diocese of Peterborough

2024-25

Certificate for
Lay Worship Leaders



*Come let us sing for joy to the Lord...
Come, let us bow down in worship,
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.
(Psalm 95)*

Certificate for Lay Worship Leaders

This exciting one-year course was relaunched in September 2021.

The aim of this course is
to discover, develop and release
the talents that are already there in the local church.

If you are already involved

in leading worship in your local church and you want to deepen your understanding and improve your practical worship leading skills, then this could be just the right course for you! It is also ideal for church musicians who are regularly involved in choosing music for worship or leading parts of a service from a worship band.

The course covers four key areas

- Biblical history and theology
- History of worship, including liturgy and music
- Practical leadership skills for preparing and delivering worship
- Exploration of church traditions and different worship styles

It is based on the *Worship 4 Today Course* by Helen Bent and Liz Tipple, (published by CHP, 2013/14). This course originated in Sheffield Diocese.

A blended learning approach

The course combines eleven Monday evening sessions from 7 – 9 pm on Zoom with four Saturday mornings 10 am – 2 pm and one full Saturday workshop day 9.30 am – 4.30 pm for face-to-face practical sessions. This avoids driving long distances on dark winter evenings. Saturday sessions use different churches spread evenly across the diocese to provide experience of planning and delivering worship in different contexts.

Comments from course members:

“The course is an excellent blend of historical and academic study with practical exercises to address the who, what and why of worship.” Jeremy Crouch (2023-4 cohort)

“Practical work is always a learning curve! I’ve always enjoyed being part of a team both in secular and church life and we have embarked on something special together. Thank you for your clear teaching.” Corinne Craymer (Participant 2021-22 cohort; Mentor 2022-23)

Course Leaders

The course is overseen by Revd Helen Bent, former Head of Ministerial Training for the RSCM and Transforming Worship. Helen is a respected author who brings expertise in liturgy, church history and music together with a wealth of experience in training worship leaders, ordained and lay, and their musicians across the breadth of tradition and style. Revd Dr Linnet Smith is Assistant Priest at St Mary’s Church, Rushden. Linnet has been involved in training in the diocese for many years. She is an enthusiastic teacher who brings complementary gifts and insights rooted in her love of the Bible and her passion for worship.

Course Overview

Dates: Term 1 - Autumn 2024	Sessions	Topics
Mon 23 September	Session 1	The theology of worship
Sat 12 October 10 am – 2 pm	Practical 1	Working as a worship team
Mon 4 November	Session 2	Who is the God we worship?
Mon 25 November	Session 3	Worship in the Old Testament
Sat 7 December 10 am – 2 pm	Practical 2	Working with the Lectionary
Mon 16 December	Session 4	Leadership Skills
Term 2 - Spring 2025		
Mon 13 January	Session 5	The role of music in worship
Mon 3 February	Session 6	Worship in the Psalms
Mon 24 February	Session 7	Patterns of worship in the Anglican church
Sat 15 March 10 am – 2 pm	Practical 3	Preparing seasonal worship
Mon 31 March	Session 8	Building a worship team
Term 3 - Summer 2025		
Mon 28 April	Session 10	Worship in the New Testament
Sat 10 May Full Day	Practical 4 Session 9	Five Practical Workshops
Mon 2 June	Session 11	The challenge of all age worship
Mon 23 June	Session 12	Worship in a mission context
Sat 12 July 10 am – 2 pm	Practical 5	Alternative worship styles + Final Eucharist

Taster Session

If you would like to know more about the course, there will be an introductory Taster Session on **Monday 20 May at 7 pm on Zoom**. Please use the following link:

Topic: Lay Worship Leader Taster Evening
Time: May 20, 2024 07:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89684449769?pwd=XBVIMfrYrzM3xWE0FhzXs9HAAtZXmDf.1>

Meeting ID: 896 8444 9769

Passcode: 079694

How much time is involved?

Apart from the actual session times

- There are some **preparatory tasks** to be done in your own time. These include: Bible study; service planning; worship audits; church visits
- **Personal Project** - an opportunity to explore an area of worship of personal interest, presented in an appropriate manner for the topic
- **Portfolio** - to aid reflection on the learning experience. This has a carefully structured format. It can be a physical copy or electronic.

Course participants are also expected by the Bishop to complete *Living Faith Module 1: Introduction to the Bible*. This can be done in your own time throughout the year.

Applicants will require:

- the full support of their incumbent and PCC
- an up-to-date DBS Check
- attendance at a diocesan safeguarding training session during the certificate year

Course Cost:

- £110-00 per application paid by the PCC

At the end of the course:

- Successful candidates will receive a Lay Worship Leader's Certificate authorised by the Bishop

Applications

Application forms may be obtained from and submitted to Lesley-Anne Marriott

lesley-anne-marriott@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Application forms can also be downloaded from the Diocesan Website.

Should you have any further queries please contact
Lesley-Anne Marriott on 01604 887048

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: Friday 12 July 2024