



Fleet & Beacon Hill, Hindhead  
United Reformed Churches

Service of Celebration & Thanksgiving  
for the Ministry of  
Reverend Ruth Dillon



*Sunday, 27 June, 2021 at 3.00 p.m.  
On Zoom*

# Order of Service

**Opening Music:** In Christ Alone *Sung by Kristyn Getty*  
*Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend © 2001 Thank You Music by permission*

**Welcome:** Revd. Clare Downing, URC Moderator

**Hymn:**

Brother, Sister, let me serve you *sung by Salisbury Cathedral Choristers*

At the end of the service there will be the opportunity for social time through Breakout rooms.

**Readings:**

Numbers 6 : 24 – 26	Christine Allen	<i>Beacon Hill, Hindhead URC</i>
John 4 : 1 – 15	Mahima Mathew	<i>Fleet URC</i>
Philippians 4 : 1 – 9	Ellie Wilson	<i>Anna Chaplaincy</i>

**Address:** Revd. Richard Bodle

*Richard is the Vicar of the joint Benefice of Churt and Hindhead. He has overseen St. John's and St. Alban's for 13 years. In recent times he has helped coordinate the local Ministers' Network.*

**Words from Revd. Ruth Dillon**

**Farewell Liturgy**

**Revd. Clare Downing**

Our Church Family is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences and new opportunities. It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage – of endings and beginnings.

In February 2013 Fleet pastorate and Beacon Hill, Hindhead pastorate called Ruth Dillon to serve as Minister.

**Ruth**

I thank Fleet URC and Beacon Hill, Hindhead URC, their members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support shown me these last 8 years.

I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made.

I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted.

As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

**Acknowledgements:**

Service jointly prepared by Ruth Dillon & Karen Smith  
PowerPoint prepared by Karen Smith  
Zoom enabled by Ray Stanyon & Roger Clark

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Fleet URC & Beacon Hill URC YouTube channel.

**Bee Griffiths** (Fleet) & **Hugh Le Fanu** (Beacon Hill, Hindhead) *together:*

We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to retire.

We express our gratitude for your time among us.

We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes.

Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

**Ruth**

I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

## Vows of Release

**Clare Downing** *addressing the congregation*

Do you, the members and friends of Fleet URC and Beacon Hill, Hindhead URC release Ruth Dillon from her duties of Minister ?

**Margaret Armes** *representing the people of the churches responds*

We do, with the help of God.

**Clare Downing**

Do you offer your encouragement for her retirement and future Ministry ?

**Margaret Armes** *responds* We do, with the help of God.

**Clare Downing** *addressing Ruth*

Do you, Ruth release these churches from turning to you and depending on you?

**Ruth** I do, with the help of God

**Clare Downing**

Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry and the relationship between the two churches?

**Ruth** I do, with the help of God.

**Clare Downing** *Let us pray.*

O God, we give thanks for remembered times when we, together, have shared the life of faith. We thank you for the moments we have shared with Ruth in worship, in learning, in service.

We pray that Ruth will be aware of your Spirit's guidance as she moves to her retirement in Exmouth and her future ministry in the name of Jesus the Saviour.

**All** Amen

**Margaret Armes**

God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care.

The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments.

Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other,

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

**Prayers** Revd. Nigel Uden

**Hymn**

God marks no ending, only new beginnings,  
until the consummation of our lives;  
God keeps no count of losses, nor of winnings:  
we move through grace, the holy spirit thrives.

So as we go beyond this time, this setting,  
rememb'ring all the laughter and the tears;  
we go with God in faith, so not regretting  
the moments shared, the hopes, the dreams, the fears.

Though parted for a while, we travel onward,  
not knowing what the future has in store.  
This phase will close, the spirit draws us forward,  
we've tasted love, but God has promised more!

Andrew Pratt

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Piano played by Paul D. Robinson; Video and singing by Ray Stanyon

**Blessing** Revd. Clare Downing

**Closing Music** Praise the Lord *written by Sam Hargreaves*

*Praise the Lord – engageworship by permission*