

## **Revd Dr. Jonathan Hunter Dunn**

rector@sheptonbenefice.org

01749 342420

11 Naisholt Road  
Shepton Mallet  
Somerset  
BA4 5GD

Born January 1969. Raised in rural Wiltshire and Devon. Read Pure Physics at University of Sussex. After brief stint in the oil and gas survey industry, completed PhD in Experimental Physics at Uppsala University, Sweden. Following post-doctoral work at Stanford, California, returned to Sweden as Assistant Professor at the University of Lund.

In 2006, moved back to the UK to train for ministry at Oak Hill Theological College, London. Ordained deacon in 2010, priest in 2011 while curate in the Burford Benefice, Oxfordshire.

Since September 2015, Rector of Shepton Mallet Benefice, serving the three parishes of Cranmore, Doultong and Shepton Mallet in the heart of Somerset.



### **Church background**

Earliest memory of church is of BCP services in tiny villages. As an undergrad', briefly attended a New Frontiers church. In America, attended Menlo Park Presbyterian Church. In Sweden, a member of the International Church in Lund. (An inclusive and diverse Methodist congregation operating under the auspices of Lund Cathedral.) Enjoyed a wide variety of placements:

- St. Thomas' Oakwood (traditional evangelical with robed choir),
- Westminster Abbey (traditional, high church)
- RAF Coningsby (liberal Anglo-Catholic chaplaincy) and
- Trinity Church Islington (a contemporary evangelical church plant).

Given these varied experiences, I delight in true spiritual life wherever it is encountered, rather than any one tradition.

### **Personal Statement**

The most important thing you need to know about me is that I am a sinner saved by grace through the atoning death of Jesus. He rescued me, is restoring me and I love Him.

Beyond that, I am a bit of a coffee geek, 'petrol head learning to appreciate electric vehicles' and restorer of broken things. My workshop is where I relax, machining, welding, fettling, creating and repairing whatever comes along.

The point is **rescue** and **restoration** are central to who I am. I live and share what I have experience and know to be true: God is amazing and '*...able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*'

### **General Synod**

With this in mind, I am excited by the way God will enable the Church of England to bear witness to Him and His love shown most clearly in Christ Jesus. As we grow in confidence in God: in His love, the wisdom and wonder of His truth and so trust and follow His way for us, we will know rescue and restoration, hope and a future.

Looking ahead, areas of particular interest include:

**Mission** - the draw of Jesus. People of all sorts were drawn to Jesus and few, if any, were left unchanged. I love to explore and share what this means in practice in the life of the local and national church today.

**Climate** – the world of Jesus I was pleased that the Church of England committed to carbon neutrality for all buildings by 2030. I would like to encourage and support a roadmap for us to achieve this goal.

**Relationships** – the embrace of Jesus. None of us relates perfectly. Jesus calls each of us to learn and grow in how we love and care for one another. The *Living in Love and Faith* resources raise important questions for the Church which we must face humbly, with grace and confidence in God and His way for us.

**Communion** – the world-wide church of Jesus As we consider the above issues and more, we need to be mindful of our place in the wider context of the Anglican Communion. We live on an island, but we don't live in isolation. How can we preserve our unity in Jesus with our sisters and brothers around the world remembering that their struggles are as pressing, if not more so, than our own?

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further any of the above or, indeed, any other issues.

Humbly, I ask you to consider me for your first, or hight preference, vote.

In Christ, Jonathan