



## **Hannah Fytche**

Cambridge North Deanery  
St Andrew's Church, Chesterton

**Proposed by Patricia Abrey:** Cambridge North Deanery

**Seconded by Janet Perrett:** Lay Chair, St Neot's Deanery

I am the Youth Worker and Pastoral Assistant at St Andrew's, Chesterton, having enjoyed a Ministry Experience Scheme placement at the same church, alongside contributing to the ministry of Christ the Redeemer, Barnwell. In October 2021, I will become part-time Youth Worker and full-time PhD student (in New Testament Theology) at the University of Cambridge. I am a writer, having published two books (with BRF) that

seek to equip people in their faith. I am driven by God's joyful and transformative call to proclaim the love of Christ to all, and to nurture the church of today so that it continues to be relevant, accessible, and fruitful in its mission.

**As your General Synod representative,** I will use my experiences and training, from both practical church ministry and academic theology, to **listen** openly, **contribute** as fruitfully as I can to discussion, and **amplify** key voices in the conversation.

### **Listen**

During this upcoming quinquennium major conversations will include, amongst others, the continuing process surrounding Living in Love and Faith; our response to the climate crisis; and our use of resources for the mission of the church and the common good. Whilst holding to my own convictions, I am committed to listening well to all voices in these conversations, seeking to discern God's voice of love and justice in all matters of General Synod.

A key commitment that I hold is to equality for everyone, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health or sexuality. I firmly believe that transparency and clarity on the matter of equality is essential to good listening and corporate decision-making.

### **Contribute**

I will ask questions and speak on topics where I have relevant experience and insight. My training in theology, and particularly in biblical studies, is a strength: my PhD research will investigate Paul's use of the phrase 'the body of Christ' and its contribution to our understanding of individual and corporate church identities. 'Identity' is key to many decisions faced by the Church of England at this time, and informs how we approach decision-making as Christ's 'body'.

In addition to my research, my experiences as a young (age 24) woman in the Church of England, and my experiences attending and holding leadership roles in a variety of local churches – both rural and Cambridge-based; of evangelical/Anglican tradition – lend me a voice and perspective that I again will use to contribute to our Synod discussions.

### **Amplify**

Good governance requires the opportunity for all people to have a seat at the table. At Synod, I will work to amplify the voices of young adults and young people – we are not just the future of the Church, but we are a *present* part of the Church. Ours are voices that can and should contribute.

I will work to communicate the processes of Synod to those whose voices I represent, seeking to encourage wider interest and participation in the decisions that shape our mission and life together.