



ST. LAURENCE CHURCH
THE PARISH EUCHARIST
ZOOM SERVICE CELEBRATED IN
CELTIC STYLE
THE SOLEMNITY OF JESUS CHRIST THE
KING OF THE UNIVERSE
22ND. NOVEMBER 2020



**Hymn to reflect on as the music for
the hymn is played**

1 Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem
drowns
all music but its own.

Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

2 Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

3 Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;

no angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends their burning
eye
at mysteries so bright.

4 Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

WELCOME / THE GATHERING

Gather us in, the lost and the lonely,
the broken and breaking, the tired
and aching, who long for the nour-
ishment found at your feast.

Gather us in

The done and the doubting, the
wishing and wondering, the puzzled
and pondering, who long for your
company, found at your feast.

Gather us in

The proud and pretentious the sure
and superior the never inferior who
long for the levelling found at your
feast

Gather us in

The bright and the bustling, the stir-
rers, the shakers, the kind laughter
makers who long for the deeper
joys found at your feast

Gather us in

From corner or limelight, from mansion or campsite, from fears and obsession, from tears and depression, from untold excesses, from treasured successes; to meet, to eat, to be given a seat; be joined to the vine; be offered new wine; become like the least; be found at the feast

Gather us in!

Confession

Create a clean heart within me, O God, so that it may become your chosen shelter and the resting place of the Holy Spirit. I take the cross upon me, over the tablet of my heart, and I beseech the living God of the universe, may the light of lights come to my dark hard heart so that I may live in the power of your love. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and

in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

GOSPEL READ BY MIKE APPELBE

**R. ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA.
BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!
BLESSED IS THE KINGDOM OF OUR FATHER DAVID THAT IS TO COME!
R. ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA.
GOSPEL**

MT 25:31-46

JESUS SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES: "WHEN THE SON OF MAN COMES IN HIS GLORY, AND ALL THE ANGELS WITH HIM, HE WILL SIT UPON HIS GLORIOUS THRONE, AND ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE ASSEMBLED BEFORE HIM. AND HE WILL SEPARATE THEM ONE FROM ANOTHER, AS A SHEPHERD SEPARATES THE SHEEP FROM THE GOATS.

HE WILL PLACE THE SHEEP ON HIS RIGHT AND THE GOATS ON HIS LEFT. THEN THE KING WILL SAY TO THOSE ON HIS RIGHT, 'COME, YOU WHO ARE BLESSED BY MY FATHER. INHERIT THE KINGDOM PREPARED FOR YOU FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD.

FOR I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME FOOD, I WAS THIRSTY AND YOU GAVE ME DRINK, A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME, NAKED AND YOU CLOTHED ME, ILL AND YOU CARED FOR ME, IN PRISON AND YOU VISITED ME.' THEN

THE RIGHTEOUS WILL ANSWER HIM AND SAY, 'LORD, WHEN DID WE SEE YOU HUNGRY AND FEED YOU, OR THIRSTY AND GIVE YOU DRINK?

WHEN DID WE SEE YOU A STRANGER AND WELCOME YOU, OR NAKED AND CLOTHE YOU? WHEN DID WE SEE YOU ILL OR IN PRISON, AND VISIT YOU?' AND THE KING WILL SAY TO THEM IN REPLY, 'AMEN, I SAY TO YOU, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THE LEAST BROTHERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.'

THEN HE WILL SAY TO THOSE ON HIS LEFT, 'DEPART FROM ME, YOU ACCURSED, INTO THE ETERNAL FIRE PREPARED FOR THE DEVIL AND HIS ANGELS. FOR I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME NO FOOD, I WAS THIRSTY AND YOU GAVE ME NO DRINK, A STRANGER AND YOU GAVE ME NO WELCOME, NAKED AND YOU GAVE ME NO CLOTHING, ILL AND IN PRISON, AND YOU DID NOT CARE FOR ME.'

THEN THEY WILL ANSWER AND SAY, 'LORD, WHEN DID WE SEE YOU HUNGRY OR THIRSTY OR A STRANGER OR NAKED OR ILL OR IN PRISON, AND NOT MINISTER TO YOUR NEEDS?' HE WILL ANSWER THEM, 'AMEN, I SAY TO YOU, WHAT YOU DID NOT DO FOR ONE OF THESE LEAST ONES, YOU DID NOT DO FOR ME.' AND THESE WILL GO OFF TO ETERNAL PUNISHMENT, BUT THE RIGHTEOUS TO ETERNAL LIFE."

This is the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ.

REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

There is no other God, there never was and there never will be, than God the Father, unbegotten and without beginning, the Lord of the universe, as we have been taught.

And His son Jesus Christ, whom we declare to have always been with the Father in a way that baffles description. He was made man, defeated death and received into heaven by the Father and given power over all names, in heaven, on earth and under the earth.

We believe in Him and look for His coming soon as a judge of all, treating everyone according to their faith and deeds.

He has poured out His Spirit on us in abundance, the gift and guarantee of eternal life.

We acknowledge and adore Him as one God in the Trinity of the Holy Name. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Prayers led by Stephen Ringer

Jesus our King, we praise you for all that you have done for us. We thank you for your willingness to accept victory on a cross, for taking upon yourself the sins of the world and bringing salvation to the world.
Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us

As we celebrate your kingship, forgive us that we are so often reluctant to let your reign over us. Help us to follow your examples of how we should live in your kingdom.

Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us

As you washed your disciples feet, so give us strength to be servants of one another. As you challenged the religious and social conventions which made some people of less worth than others, help us work to ensure that all of your children are valued equally.

Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us

Give us strength to model our lives on your life and so may your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us

We give you thanks for showing your glory in the form of a suffering servant. As we see you hanging on a cross we glimpse your compassion and love for humankind. We pray for those who are victims of violence, refugees and asylum seekers who long for places of safety where they can live in peace and care for their families.

Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us

We remember Christians around the world who are persecuted because they worship and serve you as their King. May those in distress know that as they go through times of suffering that you are with them and hear their prayers.

Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us

We pray for those who have died and whose memory we treasure. Those recently departed ***Gill South***, and those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time: ***Freda Ross-Thomson, Audrey Warren, Alan Vaughan, Niko Vaughan, Lynne Wood and Audrey Buss.***

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory.
Amen.

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

So, in the presence of the Bread of Life who refused food for himself in order to nourish others, we deepen our devotion by praying His words:

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.

Hymn to reflect on as the music for
the hymn is played

**1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the sceptre, His the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by His blood.**

**2 Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! He is near us;
faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget His promise,
"I am with you evermore"?**

**3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
here on earth our food, our stay.
Alleluia! Here the sinful
flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless**

sweep across the crystal sea.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Heaven is here, and earth and the space between them is thin. Distance may divide, but Christ's promise unites those bounded by time, those blessed by eternity. Let heaven be glad;

Let the whole earth cry GLORY!

Heaven is here, and earth, and the Church above and below is one. Peter is here, and Paul, Martha and all the Mary's, the saints from far back and those who left us not long ago. And only sight prevents us from seeing them, one with us on the other side.

Let heaven be glad

Let the whole earth cry GLORY!

Heaven is here, and earth, and the God who made them is present. The lamb, glorious on the throne, sits beside us; the Spirit of God, the Dove makes her resting place among us.

God inhales the breath of our prayers and spreads a table for our satisfaction.

Let heaven be glad.

Let the whole earth cry GLORY!

Blessing and honour and glory and power be to our God for ever and ever.

Amen!

Please stand

THE INVITATION

He was always the guest. In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna. At the meal tables of the wealthy where he pleaded the case of the poor, he was always the guest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people; welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest. But here, at this table, He is the host.

Those who wish to serve Him must first be served by Him, those who wish to follow Him, must first be fed by Him, those who would wash His feet, must first let Him make them clean.

For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished.

This is the time when God can make us new.

So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, a better life, a fairer world. Jesus Christ who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at His.

THE STORY

What we do here, we do in imitation of what Christ first did. To his followers in every age, Jesus gave an example and command rooted in the experience he shared with his disciples in an upstairs room in Jerusalem.

On the night when he was betrayed, as they were sitting at a meal, Jesus took a piece of bread and broke it, he gave it to the disciples saying ‘This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this to remember me.’ Later after they had eaten, he took a cup of wine and said ‘This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink this all of you, to remember me.’

So now, we do as Jesus did. We take this bread and this wine, the produce of the earth and fruit of human labour. In these Jesus has promised to be present; through these, Christ can make us whole.

**All that I am, all that I do,
all that I’ll ever have, I offer now
to you.**

**Take and sanctify these gifts
for your honour, Lord.**

**Knowing that I love and serve
you
is enough reward.**

**All that I am, all that I do,
all that I’ll ever have I offer now
to you.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is indeed right for you made us, and before you made us you made the world we inhabit, and before the world you made the eternal home in which, through Christ we have a place.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you; all that is lovely, all who are loving point to you as their fulfilment. And grateful as we are for the world we know and the universe beyond our ken, we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus.

For his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities, for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to life breathing forgiveness, we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit, who

even yet, even now, confronts us with your claims and attracts us to your goodness. Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

Holy, holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, Lord God almighty!

And we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love:

holy, holy, holy, holy.

**Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,
come and fill our hearts anew,
Holy Spirit.**

**And we lift our voice before you
as a token of our love,
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit.**

And now, lest we believe that our praise alone fulfils your purpose, we fall silent and remember him who came because words weren't enough.

Setting our wisdom, our will, our words aside, emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn for the healing, the holding, the accepting, the forgiving which Christ alone can offer...

Merciful God, send now in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus.

And let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of Him whose food we now share. **Amen.**

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread and broke it, and said, ‘This is my body—broken for you’.

Later he took a cup of wine and said ‘This is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Take it, all of you, to remember me.’

He whom the universe could not contain, is present to us in this bread.

He who redeemed us and called us by name now meets us in this cup. So take this bread and this wine.

In them God comes to us so that we may come to God.

**Hallelujah, hallelujah,
hallelujah, hallelujah,
And we lift our hearts before you
as a token of our love,
hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**We share in a moment of silence as
we prepare to receive the Spiritual
Communion**

We pray

**Lord Jesus, may we, who cannot
now physically receive your
sacrament, receive you more fully
in our heart, mind and soul. Help
us unite ourselves to you in spirit,
so that we may be drawn closer to
those from whom we are isolated**

**in body. Through sharing your life
given up in death for us all, may
we grow together in love into a
richer and more profound
communion of life. Amen.**

**A musical offering from the
O’Neill family**

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

STIR UP, O LORD, THE WILLS OF
YOUR FAITHFUL PEOPLE; THAT THEY,
PLENTEOUSLY BRINGING FORTH THE
FRUIT OF GOOD WORKS, MAY BY YOU
BE PLENTEOUSLY REWARDED;
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.

AMEN

THE PEACE

Christ who has nourished us, is our
peace. Strangers and friends, male
and female, old and young. He has
broken down the barriers to bind us
to him and to each other. Having
tasted His goodness, let us share his
peace.

The peace of the Lord be always
with you.

And also with you.

The Peace is shared.

**In gratitude, in deep gratitude for
this moment, this meal, these peo-
ple, we give ourselves to you.**

Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same.

Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us and encourage many by us. So Lord may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

On our heads and our homes

The blessing of God

In our coming and going

The Peace of God

In our life and believing

The Love of God

Be with us all

Today until the end of time.

Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.
Amen.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace. **Amen.**

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. **Amen.**

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done. **Amen.**

Hymn to reflect on as the music for the hymn is played

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,

most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unceasing, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee!

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God

May the divine assistance remain with us always.

And with all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **And rise in glory. Amen.**

Intercessions

We pray for Elizabeth our Queen and all members of the royal family.

We pray for all the schools in Hawkhurst, particularly for

Hawkhurst's C of E Primary School, for the head teacher Jodi Hacker, the staff, the pupils, the volunteers, and the governors.

Pray for the PCC and its new members

We pray for the sick, and those unnamed living in the village and for those known to You (Lord) in the silence of our hearts

Those recently departed: Gill South

Those whose year's mind occurs at this time:

Freda Ross-Thomson, Audrey Warren, Alan Vaughan, Niko Vaughan, Lynne Wood and Audrey Buss.