

**DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY  
changed lives - Changing  
lives**

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**St. Laurence Parish  
Church Hawkhurst, Parish  
Eucharist Service. The Ser-  
vice is also relayed  
through Zoom  
13.12.2020 - The Third Sun-  
day of Advent**

Please ensure that you are  
all wearing your face masks.  
Thank you.

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*As we gather and prepare to  
join in worship together, mu-  
sic is played on the organ.*

**Welcome**

**Music throughout the ser-  
vice (Although we may not  
join in to sing, the words of  
some verses of hymns are  
printed here to help you re-  
flect on them as you listen)**

**Make way, make way  
For Christ the King  
In splendour arrives**

**Fling wide the gates and  
welcome Him  
Into your lives**

*Make way! (Make way!)  
Make way! (Make way!)  
For the King of kings  
(For the King of kings)  
Make way! (Make way!)  
Make way! (Make way!)  
And let His kingdom in*

**He comes the broken  
hearts to heal  
The prisoners to free  
The deaf shall hear, the  
lame shall dance  
The blind shall see**

**And those who mourn with  
heavy hearts  
Who weep and sigh  
With laughter, joy and royal  
crown  
He'll beautify**

**We call you now to worship  
Him  
As Lord of all  
To have no gods before  
Him  
Their thrones must fall!**

In the Name of God: Father,  
Son and the Holy Spirit .  
**Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

**The lighting of the Third  
Candle on the Advent  
Wreath.**

**THIRD WEEK** The joyful  
Sunday in Advent (known as  
"Gaudete") is represented by  
rose (or pink) instead of the  
penitential purple colour.

O Lord, we beg You, incline  
your ear to our prayers and  
enlighten the darkness of our  
minds by the grace of Your  
visitation. Through Christ our  
Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Collect for Purity**

**Almighty God to whom all  
hearts are open all desires  
known and from whom no  
secrets are hid cleanse the  
thoughts of our hearts by  
the inspiration of your Holy  
Spirit that we may perfectly**

**love you and worthily mag-  
nify your holy Name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

**Penitence**

In silence let us call to mind  
our sins against God, others  
and ourselves.. We confess  
together:

**Almighty God, our heav-  
enly Father in penitence we  
confess that we have  
sinned against you through  
our own fault in thought,  
word, and deed and in what  
we have left undone. For  
the sake of your Son, Christ  
our Lord forgive us all that  
is past and grant that we  
may serve you in newness  
of life to the glory of your  
Name.**

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

### **The Collect of the Day**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Prayer before receiving the Word of God — Before we read, we pray together*

**Eternal God, in the reading of the Scriptures, may your Word be heard;  
In the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known; and**

**In the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. Amen.**

### **First Reading - Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11 read by Peter Wyllie**

**The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor,  
to heal the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and release to the prisoners,  
to announce a year of favour from the LORD  
and a day of vindication by our God.**

**I rejoice heartily in the LORD,  
in my God is the joy of my soul;  
for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation  
and wrapped me in a mantle of justice,  
like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem,**

like a bride bedecked with her jewels.

As the earth brings forth its plants,  
and a garden makes its growth spring up,  
so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

This is the word of Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54.**

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
for he has looked upon his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
R. My soul rejoices in my God.

**Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28**

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you  
And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

A man named John was sent from God.  
He came for testimony, to testify to the light,  
so that all might believe through him.  
He was not the light,  
but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John.  
When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?"  
He admitted and did not deny it,  
but admitted, "I am not the Christ."  
So they asked him,  
"What are you then? Are you Elijah?"  
And he said, "I am not."  
"Are you the Prophet?"  
He answered, "No."  
So they said to him,  
"Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us?  
What do you have to say for yourself?"  
He said:

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,  
'make straight the way of the Lord,'"  
as Isaiah the prophet said."  
Some Pharisees were also sent.  
They asked him,  
"Why then do you baptise if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?"  
John answered them,  
"I baptise with water;  
but there is one among you whom you do not recognise,  
the one who is coming after me,  
whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."  
This happened in Bethany across the Jordan,  
where John was baptising.

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

## The Reflection

### The Creed - said together

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the

living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### The Prayers of the Church - led by Andrea Higgins

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for Bishop Justin and Bishop Rose and your church in

our parish and Diocese...Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for the nations of the world especially those nations where there is conflict and war...We continue to pray for Elizabeth our Queen and all the members of the Royal family .....Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter. We pray for those known to us who suffer, especially those who are suffering from Covid19. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember those recently departed, and all those whose years' mind occur at this time *Michael Roger Fisher-Barham, David Colvin, Alice Mary Bennett, Diana Jones, Leslie Richardson, Hebert Fautly, Elizabeth Jones, George Longley, Millicent Butler, Lilian Guest, Sarah May Scrivener, Mark Ryan, Sylvia Doreen Gould, Audrey May Fautly, Irene Nora Reed*

Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with Our Lady, St. Laurence and all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**We keep a time of silence  
as we offer our own partic-  
ular petitions**

**Come, Lord Jesus, do not  
delay; give new courage to  
your people, who trust in  
your love. By your coming,  
raise us to share in the joy  
of your kingdom on earth  
as in heaven, where you  
live and reign with the Fa-  
ther and the Spirit, one God  
for ever and ever. Amen.  
Maranatha: Amen. Come,  
Lord Jesus.**

Merciful Father  
**Accept these prayers for  
the sake of your Son, our  
Saviour Jesus Christ,  
Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Blessed are the peacemak-  
ers: they shall be called chil-  
dren of God. We meet in the  
name of Christ and share his  
peace.

The peace of the Lord be al-  
ways with you

**And also with you.**

*Whilst the altar is being pre-  
pared, music for the following  
hymn is played on the organ.*

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,  
great David's greater Son!  
Hail in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppres-  
sion,  
to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.

2. He comes with succour  
speedy  
to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sigh-  
ing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and  
dying,  
are precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like  
showers  
upon the fruitful earth;  
love, joy, and hope, like flow-  
ers,  
spring in his path to birth.  
Before him on the mountains,  
shall peace, the herald, go,

and righteousness, in fountains,  
from hill to valley flow.

4. To him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.  
The tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand forever;  
that name to us is love.

### **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

**Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.**

**Blessed be God for ever.**

**Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.**

**Blessed be God for ever.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give thanks and praise**

*The Vicar leads us in the proper preface for today, after which the congregation joins in saying together:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord  
God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of  
your glory  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in  
the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Vicar continues with the rest of the Eucharistic Prayer ending with the words:*

by whom, and with whom,  
and in whom, in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit, all honour and

glory be yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**Amen**

As Christ has taught us we are bold to say:

**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.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

**A Prayer for those joining us on Zoom who are making their Spiritual Communion**

**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.**

**Post - Communion Prayers**

Give thanks to the Lord for

God is gracious  
God's mercy endures for  
ever.

**We give you thanks, O  
Lord, for these heavenly  
gifts; kindle in us the fire of  
your Spirit that when your  
Christ comes again we may  
shine as lights before his  
face; who is alive and  
reigns now and for ever.  
Amen.**

**Father almighty we offer  
ourselves to you as a living  
sacrifice in Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Send us out into  
the world in the power of  
the Holy Spirit to live and  
work to your praise and  
glory. Amen**

### **The Blessing**

**Christ the Sun of Right-  
eousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from  
before your path, and make  
you ready to meet him  
when he comes in glory;  
and the blessing ...  
Amen.**

Music for the following hymn  
is played on the organ as we  
prepare to go out into the

world to serve the Lord.

1 O for a thousand tongues to  
sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and  
King,  
the triumphs of his grace!

2 My gracious Master and my  
God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread thro' all the earth  
abroad  
the honours of your name.

3 Jesus! the name that  
charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease,  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life and health and peace.

4 He breaks the power of can-  
celled sin,  
he sets the prisoner free;  
his blood can make the foul-  
est clean;  
his blood availed for me.

5 To God all glory, praise, and  
love  
be now and ever given  
by saints below and saints  
above,  
the Church in earth and  
heaven.

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.  
Amen.

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*The organ is played as we end our time of worship together.*

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**THOSE RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Gill South, Malcolm Mason

**THOSE WHOSE YEAR'S MIND OCCURS AT THIS TIME:** Michael Roger Fisher-Barham, David Colvin, Alice Mary Bennett, Diana Jones, Leslie Richardson, Hebert Fautly, Elizabeth Jones, George Longley, Millicent Butler, Lilian Guest, Sarah May Scrivener, Mark Ryan, Sylvia Doreen Gould, Audrey May Fautly, Irene Nora Reed

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**Details for the Zoom Service if you wish to follow on Zoom (Please note change of details)**  
**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82638193697?pwd=d3daS3gyTXBDMmRLMm9yeUt3RTEzUT09>**

**Meeting ID: 826 3819 3697**

**Passcode: 332531**

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### **Notices**

There will be a **Confirmation Service** here on the 26th of January 2021 at 7pm. We have four candidates already. If you would like to be confirmed in the faith of the Church by Bishop Rose during this service, please speak to Fr. Rodney. We look forward to welcoming Bishop Rose on her first visit to our parish.

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As many of you will have read in the press, charities and food banks have been finding things very difficult during the pandemic, with a

far greater call on their services.

With this in mind, at St. Laurence we will be running 2 different projects to help those in need.

### **1. The Sightsavers International Advent Giving Tree**

will be at the back of the church as usual this advent from Sunday 29th November. If you are visiting the church and would like to make a donation please take an envelope from the table, place your donation in it and tie it on the tree at the back of the church. Each envelope will be replaced by a star so that by Christmas the tree will be covered.

Sightsavers is a member of Vision 2020 - The Right to Sight. A collaboration of eye agencies committed to eradicating avoidable blindness by the end of 2020.

### **2. The Reverse Advent Calendars**

In order to take part in this project please take a cardboard box and with effect from Friday 19th November place a non perishable food item or an item for the hygiene bank in the box each day so that by Saturday 12th December you have 24 items to donate to the foodbank. We will then collect these boxes at St. Laurence on Sunday 13th and the items will be given to the local foodbank in time for distribution by Christmas. If you would like to you can do this project with a friend donating 12 items each. Please see below a list of items and suggestions for your box.

If you have any queries please ring Alison Jones on 01580 755705. Many thanks and please stay safe and well.

### **Christmas Services**

After considering the latest guidance relating to the Covid 19 pandemic with the

churchwardens, our final decisions about Christmas services are listed below. One of the services will be ticketed in order for seats to be allocated appropriately. The 8am will not require tickets.

The three services that will be ticketed and which will require the socially distanced choir to sing are as follows:

**Village Carol Service** will be on youtube from 6pm on Sunday 20th December at 6.00pm

**Christmas morning - Friday** 25th December, 8am. Holy Communion Family Eucharist at 10 am - to reserve a place please ring Alison Jones. Leave your name and number so she can call you back.

All Christmas services will be advertised in The Wealden Advertiser, on the Church website, in the three schools and on the ASL noticeboard. We will also advertise them on Facebook (St Laurence page, Hawkhurst Community

page and Next Door Hawkhurst).

There is a box on the table in the church for any used postage stamps you may have which will be going to the RNIB.

### **AT YOUR SERVICE**

**Vicar:** Fr. Rodney Dreyer  
01580 754459

### **Churchwardens:**

Alison Jones  
01580 755705  
Liz Hatcher  
01580 712099

### **Organists:**

Dr. Charlotte O' Neill  
01580 753817  
Mr. Richard O' Neill  
01580 753817

