

I ST. LAURENCE CHURCH
THE PARISH EUCHARIST
ZOOM SERVICE CELEBRATED IN
CELTIC STYLE
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
28.2.2021



The responder on behalf
of the people is Jackie Collins

Hymn

Tis good, Lord, to be here!
Your glory fills the night;
Your face and garments, like the
sun,
Shine with unborrowed light.

Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Your beauty to behold
Where Moses and Elijah stand,
Your messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past
And hope of things to be,
We hail your body glorified
And our redemption see.

Before we taste of death,
We see your kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright

And make this hill our home.

How good, Lord, to be here!
Yet we may not remain;
But since you bid us leave the
mount,
Come with us to the plain

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

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to

share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

GOSPEL — READ BY SYLVIA WILLIAMS

Mk 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Prayers led by Paula Howlett

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Lord of glory, it is good that we are here. In peace we make our prayer to you. In trust we confirm our faith in you ... Help us to set our faces steadfastly to where you would have us go.

Lord, look with favour.
[Lord, transfigure and heal.](#)

Lord of glory, look with favour on your Church, proclaiming your beloved Son to the world and listening to the promptings of his Spirit ... May she be renewed in holiness that she may reflect your glory.

Lord, look with favour.
[Lord, transfigure and heal.](#)

Lord of glory, look with favour on the nations of the world, scarred by hatred, strife and war ... May they be healed by the touch of your hand.

Lord, look with favour.
[Lord, transfigure and heal.](#)

Lord of glory, look with favour on those in need and distress, suffering as your Son has suffered and waiting for the salvation you promise ... May the day break and Christ the Morning Star bring them the light of his presence.

Lord, look with favour.
Lord, transfigure and heal.

Lord of glory, it is good if we suffer with you so that we shall be glorified with you. According to your promise bring all Christ's brothers and sisters ... to see him with their own eyes in majesty

and to be changed into his likeness from glory to glory. To him be praise, dominion and worship now and for all eternity.

Lord, look with favour.
Lord, transfigure and heal.

We pray for all those who have died: Those recently departed: Colin Attwood

Those whose Years' Mind occur at this month: William Crouch, Michael French, Charles Bladon, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Jane Coleman, Michael Buss, Albert Collins, Victor Botha, Joan Maskell, Brian Kingcome, Martin Chubb, Desna Harries, Christobel Van der Hoeven, Leslie Corfield, Marjorie Addyman, Norman Sheldon, Christian Solari, Bruce Lagden

We keep a time of silence as we offer to God our own particular petitions

(Silence)

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

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

We hail thy Presence glorious,
O Christ our great high Priest,
O'er sin and death victorious,
At thy thanksgiving feast:
As thou art interceding
For us in heaven above,
Thy Church on earth is pleading
Thy perfect work of love.

Through thee in every nation
Thine own their hearts upraise,
Offering one pure Oblation,
One Sacrifice of praise:
With thee in blest communion
The living and the dead
Are joined in closest union,
One Body with one Head.

O living Bread from heaven,
Jesu, our Saviour good,
Who thine own self hast given
To be our souls' true food;
For us thy body broken
Hung on the Cross of shame:
This Bread its hallowed token
We break in thy dear name.

O stream of love unending,
Poured from the one true Vine,
With our weak nature blending
The strength of life divine;
Our thankful faith confessing
In thy life-blood outpoured,
We drink this Cup of blessing

And praise thy name, O Lord.

May we thy word believing
Thee through thy gifts receive,
That, thou within us living,
We all to God may live;
Draw us from earth to heaven
Till sin and sorrow cease,
Forgiving and forgiven,
In love and joy and peace.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Heaven is here, and earth and the
space between them is thin. Dis-
tance may divide, but Christ's prom-
ise 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. Pe-
ter 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 see-
ing 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 be-
side 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 gen-
eralities, for his disturbing presence,
his innocent suffering, his fearless
dying, his rising to life breathing for-
giveness, 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.

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.

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

Post Communion Collect

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; 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 people, 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

God, who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ, keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory; and the blessing ...

Hymn

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.

Unresting, unhasting, 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.

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 all those who have died:
Those recently departed: Colin Attwood

Those whose Years' Mind occur at this month: William Crouch, Michael French, Charles Bladon, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Jane Coleman, Michael Buss, Albert Collins, Victor Botha, Joan Maskell, Brian Kingcome, Martin Chubb, Desna Harries, Christobel Van der Hoeven, Leslie Corfield, Marjorie Addyman, Norman Sheldon, Christian Solari, Bruce Lagden

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: Kevin