

[H] ST. LAURENCE CHURCH
THE PARISH EUCHARIST
ZOOM SERVICE CELEBRATED IN
CELTIC STYLE
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
7.3.2021



The responder on behalf of all is
Alison Jones

Hymn

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after you
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship you

Chorus: you alone are my strength
, my shield

To you alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship you

I want you more than gold or
silver

Only you can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye

Chorus: you alone are my
strength, my shield
To you alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship you

You are my friend and you are my
brother

Even though you are king
I love you more than any other
So much more than anything.

Chorus: you alone are my
strength , my shield
To you alone may my spirit
yield
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship you

Welcome/The Gathering

Gather us in, the lost and the lonely,
the broken and breaking, the tired
and aching, who long for the
nourishment 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 stirrers, 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, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Gospel John 2:13-22 read by Clare Roberts

13 When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. 15 So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16 To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my

Father's house into a market!" 17 His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me." [a]

18 The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"

19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."

20 They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

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 led by Sandra Dreyer

The Church of Christ

Lord, your presence is known in the structures we build, and also in their collapse. Though your people need places to gather, it is not the buildings or works of art alone that form your legacy. Fill us with the desire to search for your truth, that we may transform the world, becoming fools for your sake. Establish in us a community of hope, not to contain your mystery but to be

led beyond security into your sacred space.

Lord, teach us to live simply that others might simply live: [in your mercy, hear our prayer](#)

Creation, human society, the Sovereign and those in authority

Creator God, yearning and striving to bring harmony out of chaos, so fill every fibre of our being with your wisdom, and so blow as a mighty rushing wind among the landscapes of our world, that the earth may reflect the wonder of the universe, in the glory of the transfigured Christ, who shared with you in the cost of creation.

Lord, teach us to live simply that others might simply live: [in your mercy, hear our prayer](#)

The local community

Lord, we thank you for the gift of friendship. For our companions on the journey with light enough to show us the fruit where brambles grow; and warmth enough to feed the grain of daily need, we thank you. For those who, in times of adversity, welcome us in and clang shut the door on the wolves outside; and for those who in times of happiness share a double joy, where each is glad for both, we thank you. Lord,

help us to treasure such relationships and, through them, grow ever closer to you.

Lord, teach us to live simply that others might simply live: [in your mercy, hear our prayer](#)

Those who suffer

Lord, who binds up the broken-hearted, who proclaims freedom to the captive and promises justice to all who mourn its absence or loss, look with compassion on those who suffer. Bless them with beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness in place of grief, and instead of the miasma of despair, enfold them in a garment of unending praise.

Lord, teach us to live simply that others might simply live: [in your mercy, hear our prayer](#)

The communion of saints

Lord, we pray for those who have enjoyed the sun here on earth for a while, who have lived light in the spring, who have loved, who have thought, and are now done.... May flights of angels sing them to their rest in your eternal home.

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

Those whose Years' Mind occur

this month: Spencer Charles Edwards, Douglas Brown, Kathryn Louise Bembridge, William Bennett, Joseph William Ringer, Kitty Weguelin, William David Potter, Peter Lewis, Winifred Richard, Brian Lawrence, Lily Collins, Gillian Appelbe

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.

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

**All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he
guideth, only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone calls my
heart to be his own.**

**Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he
buildeth, tower and temple, fall to
dust. But God's power, hour by
hour, is my temple and my tower.**

**God's great goodness aye en-
dureth, deep his wisdom, passing
thought: splendour, light, and life
attend him, beauty springeth out
of naught. Evermore from his
store new-born worlds rise and
adore.**

**Daily doth th' Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.**

**Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done, high
above all praises praising for the
gift of Christ his Son. Christ doth
call one and all: ye who follow
shall not fall.**

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!

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.

**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

**In union, O Lord, with the faithful
across the Church who cannot
gather around the altar at this
time, I desire to offer you praise
and thanksgiving. I present to you,
my soul and body, with the earnest
wish that I may always be united to
you. And since I cannot now re-
ceive you sacramentally, I implore**

you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate us. May I live and die in your love. **Amen.**

A musical offering

Post Communion Collect

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; 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

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me
most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his
feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown

Were the whole realm of nature
mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

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 de-
parted 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
this month: Spencer Charles Ed-
wards, Douglas Brown, Kathryn
Louise Bembridge, William Ben-
nett, Joseph William Ringer, Kitty
Weguelin, William David Potter,
Peter Lewis, Winifred Richard,
Brian Lawrence, Lily Collins,
Gillian Appelbe**

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 vol-
unteers, and the governors.

Pray for the PCC and its new mem-
bers

We pray for the sick, and those un-
named living in the village and for
those known to You (Lord) in the si-
lence of our hearts: Kevin

EASTER LILIES.

If you would like to donate a lily in memory of some one, these will form part of the church flower arrangements over Easter weekend. Each lily costs £3.50.

Please make your cheque payable to The St. Laurence Flower Fund and send it to Gwen Brown at :- Anescote, Stream Lane, Hawkhurst TN18 4ND together with the name of the person in whose memory it is given.

Thank you

Alison Jones.