



**ST. LAURENCE CHURCH  
THE PARISH EUCHARIST  
SERVICE CELEBRATED IN CELTIC  
STYLE  
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT- YEAR C  
20.3.2022**



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**The Zoom details for this service are:**

**Meeting ID: 457 244 0784  
Passcode: 5i1UCa**

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**Wearing masks is now optional.  
Thank you.**

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**Hymn (Please stand if you are able)**

Christ is made the sure foundation,  
And the precious corner-stone,  
Who, the two walls underlying,  
Bound in each, binds both in one,  
Holy Sion's help for ever,  
and our confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,  
Dearly loved by God on high,  
In exultant jubilation  
Pours perpetual melody,  
God the One, in Threefold glory,  
Singing everlastingly.

To this temple, where we call thee,  
Come, O Lord of hosts, today;  
With thy wonted loving-kindness,  
Hear thy people as they pray;  
And thy fullest benediction  
Shed within its walls for ay.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants  
Gifts of grace by prayer to gain;  
Here to have and hold for ever,  
Those good things their prayers  
obtain,  
And hereafter, in thy glory,  
With thy blessed ones to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,  
Laud and honour to the Son,  
Laud and honour to the Spirit,  
Ever Three and ever One,  
One in love, and One in splendour,  
While unending ages run. Amen.

**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 - Luke 13:1-9**

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means!

But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them— do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!"

And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?' He said to him in

reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'"

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.**

#### **The Prayers of the Church led by Mary Tanner**

Almighty God, help us to thirst for you, first and foremost in our lives,

and recognise that your loving-kindness is better than life itself. Bearing this amazing love in mind we raise our hearts and voices to proclaim and sing your praise.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Faithful God, we pray for the Church, that through its prayers, actions and public statements it may continue to work towards a world where all are free from the pain of hunger and the terror of war. Help us to be true disciples of Jesus, living the gospel and bringing social change in an unjust world. Give us courage to challenge unfair trade systems and pray for those who have the power to make far-reaching decisions affecting the world's poor.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Creator God, we pray for world leaders, that they may be inspired to work together to tackle the causes of poverty, injustice and ignorance that lead to such horrendous violence as seen in Ukraine, and to use their power, not for their own glory but for the good of all, and peace for all, whatever the creed, colour or gender.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Father God, we pray for ourselves, that we may have the courage to be witnesses to the power of sharing and to the values of global community. As we eat and drink, help us to pray for those who have laboured to bring the food to our table. Fill our hearts with compassion for our brothers and sisters around the world, so that we acknowledge our common humanity and dignity.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Loving God, help us to love more generously and speak up more loudly for those who are treated unjustly. We pray for people in our own community – those who live on very little, children who are vulnerable and older people who are lonely. We pray for those who are unwell and for those who are of special concern to us at this time: Robbie Robinson, Don Buckle, Ivor Hatcher, Steven Stone

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Merciful Lord, your son Jesus Christ wept at the grave of Lazarus his friend. Be with us in our mourning as we pray for all who are coming to the end of their journey here on earth and for all those who have

died and now rejoice in the fullness of eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

We pray for those recently departed:  
Jean King, Francianne Vaughan

We pray for 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

As we go out into the world help us to live in the warmth of God's love, to listen to the cries of hurt, to speak words of compassion and to know that we are surrounded by the eternal God.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

**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 (Please stand if you are able)**

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

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
save in the death of Christ my God:  
the very things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down:  
when did such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were an offering far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all!

**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.**

**A Prayer as we join with those  
watching and worshipping with  
us on Zoom**

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above `all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

## The Distribution of Communion

Please come up for Communion.  
Please hold out your open hands  
and the sacrament will be gently  
dropped into them by the Vicar in  
silence. This is the only way you are  
allowed to receive communion at  
present. At this time of infectious  
disease, Communion is distributed  
IN ONE KIND ONLY. The Church  
of England, together with the whole  
Catholic Church, teaches that, in  
receiving in one kind, the entirety of  
the Sacrament of our Lord's Body  
and Blood is received.

## Communion Hymn

Be still for the presence of the Lord,  
The Holy One is here  
Come bow before Him now,  
With reverence and fear  
In Him no sin is found  
We stand on holy ground  
Be still for the presence of the Lord,  
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord,  
Is shining all around  
He burns with holy fire,  
With splendour He is crowned  
How awesome is the sight  
Our radiant King of light  
Be still for the glory of the Lord,  
Is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord,  
Is moving in this place  
He comes to cleanse and heal,

To minister His grace  
No work too hard for Him  
In faith receive from Him  
Be still for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place  
Be still for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place

## 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**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

### **Hymn (Please stand if you are able)**

Glorious things of you are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;

he whose word cannot be broken  
formed you for his own abode.

On the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake your sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded,  
you may smile at all your foes.

See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply your sons and daughters  
and all fear of want remove.

Who can faint while such a river  
ever will their thirst assuage?

Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,  
never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring,  
see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a cov'ring,  
showing that the Lord is near.

Thus deriving from their banner  
light by night and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna  
which he gives them on their way.

Saviour, since of Zion's city  
I thro' grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in your name.

Fading are the world's vain  
pleasures,  
all their boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasures  
none but Zion's children know.

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.**

## AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar: Fr. Rodney Dreyer

01580 754459

Churchwardens:

Miss Alison Jones

01580 755705

Mrs. Liz Hatcher

01580 712099

Organists:

Dr. Charlotte O' Neill

01580 753817

Mr. Richard O' Neill

01580 753817

Safeguarding:

Mrs Jane Cooper

07825044877

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## NOTICES

**Wednesday Eucharist at Bowles Lodge ~ 10.00a.m.** Please do join us.

**Coffee After Church** - If possible, please bring your own coffee cups/mugs to church on Sundays.

**LENT LUNCHESES 2022** -12 Noon to 1.30pm organised by Hawkhurst Churches Together. Lunches will take place on the following dates:

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March- Hosted by the Methodist Church

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April- Hosted by St Laurence Church

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April- Hosted by St Barnabas Church

Good Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April- Hosted by All Churches together.

The Good Friday lunch will take place after the Walk of Witness, which starts at 11:30am at St Barnabas Church.

All lunches will be held at the Baptist Church Hall, Cranbrook Rd, Hawkhurst. (There is a free car park behind the church). Proceeds to be shared between local charities.

**ELECTORAL ROLL** - if you would like to be registered on the Electoral Roll of St Laurence or wish to know more about being a member, please speak to Stephen Ringer. Names can be added up to the date of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which will be held on Sunday 24 April. Application forms are available on the table at the back of the church.

**EASTER LILIES** – if you would like to purchase an Easter lily in remembrance of a loved one, please make a cheque payable to **St Laurence Flower Guild** and send it to Mrs Gwen Brown, Anescote, Stream Lane, Hawkhurst, Kent TN18 4RD. The cost of a lily is **£3.50** and orders are required by **April 10<sup>th</sup>**.

Please also clearly print the person's name and give/send it to Gwen.

**MEMORIAL PLAQUES** - for the new chairs can now be ordered. If you would like to purchase a small brass plaque which will be fixed onto a chair in memory of a loved one, please put your request in writing and give to Ali or Liz. The cost will be £50 per plaque, including fixing. The size will be 5" x 2" . Engraving will be up to 250 characters split across 5 lines. i.e. 50 characters per line.

**LENT STUDY** - The study book we will be using this Lent is called "Lent with Saint Augustine".

Kindle Edition which is available for immediate download from Amazon for less than £10.

The film about St. Augustine we will be following is available free of charge on You tube. It is called "The restless heart." You can start watching it now!

We will be discussing this during Compline on Zoom on Wednesdays in Lent at from 6pm to 7pm. starting on March 9th.

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022-**

A very big "thank you" to those who supported the World Day of Prayer on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Next week we hope to inform you of the total

raised. Any further donations to be included may be given to Sandra.

## **PRAYER FOR UKRAINE**

10am–4pm

Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> March,

**St Laurence CE Church  
or Hawkhurst Baptist Church,  
Cranbrook Road**

will be open for quiet prayer.

Please drop in for a few minutes to pray for the people of Ukraine.

Everyone welcome.

**Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
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