

DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY
Changed lives - Changing lives

St. Laurence Parish Church
Hawkhurst, Parish Eucharist
Service.

3. 4. 2022 - The Fifth Sunday of
Lent, Year C

Please Note: The Zoom details
for this service are:

Meeting ID: 457 244 0784

Passcode: 5i1UCa

The wearing of face masks is now optional.

As we gather and prepare to join in worship together, music is played on the organ.

**PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET
HOME WITH YOU**

Welcome

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner,
and more graces for the good.

There is mercy with the Saviour,
there is healing in his blood.

But we make God's love too narrow

by false limits of our own,
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.

For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple,
we should rest upon God's word,
and our lives would be illumined
by the presence of our Lord.

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

The Lord be with you
And also with you

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 magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Penitence

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come

to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

Kyries (Sung)

**Lord, Have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy**

Almighty God, our heavenly 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.

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins, and restore us in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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**

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 - Philippians 3:3-14 read by Peter Wyllie

For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— though I myself have reasons for such confidence.

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

Lord, thy word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth
light and joy receiveth.

When our foes are near us,
then thy word doth cheer us,
word of consolation,
message of salvation.

When the storms are o'er us,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth,
and our way protecteth.

Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure
by thy word imparted
to the simple-hearted?

Word of mercy, giving
succour to the living;
word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying.

O that we discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
evermore be near thee!

Even now, says the Lord,
return to me with your whole
heart;
for I am gracious and merciful.

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John

Glory to Christ our Lord

Gospel John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

"Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you,[c] but you will not always have me."

This is the Gospel of the Lord
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 Stephen Ringer

Everlasting God, you call us to your service and so we ask that you make us worthy of your calling; and to hear us as we intercede and give thanks to you through Jesus Christ your Son.

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

Holy God, as we gather for worship in this place we thank you for our Ecumenical partners in the mission of the Christian Church Worldwide; teach us all to serve you as you deserve, putting aside sectarianism whilst healing any divisions that keep us on the path towards your kingdom.

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

Creator God, we pray for the nations of the world and for their right dealing one with another, especially between Russia and Ukraine where we pray for a cessation of hostilities and a declaration of peace.

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

May barriers of race, creed, gender and colour be broken down and political freedom established where there is oppression and suppression of new ideas. We pray for educational development and for a more just economic structure which pays people fairly for their labour.

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

Father God, we thank you that no matter how widely spread throughout the world our families may be, our hearts may be joined together in prayer. We also thank you for the means of modern technological communication that enable us to keep so closely in touch with those we love, which means we not only hear our loved ones but also see them.

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

Gracious God, look mercifully upon those whose lives have been changed and affected by illness. Help them and those who care for them to be freed from resentment and give them the strength to seek your will, whatever it might be, in every situation. We pray for: Robbie

Robinson, Gillian Robinson, Don Buckle, Ivor Hatcher, Steven Stone

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

Merciful God, we remember the slenderness of the thread which separates life from death, and the suddenness with which it can be broken. Help us also to remember that whatever occurs in life we are surrounded by your love. Help those bereaved by the loss of a loved one to find in your love peace and reassurance. We pray for -

Those recently departed:
Franciann Vaughan
And all those whose years' mind occur this month:

Thomas William Barker, Olive Fitzpatrick, Breda Bladon, Jimmy Dunlop, Edwin Manser, Roger Smith, Richard Hunt, Eileen Sheldon, Lydia Harttrup, Dick Howarth, Elijah Towner, Sheila Radford, Rebecca Barker, Thomas Heady, Elsie Dodson, Anna Towner.

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

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm

us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim in all that we do and say.

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

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

We sing the praise of him who died,
of him who died upon the cross;
the sinner's hope let men deride,
for this we count the world but loss.

Inscribed upon the cross we see
in shining letters, 'God is love';
he bears our sins upon the tree;
he brings us mercy from above.

The cross! It takes our guilt away;
it holds the fainting spirit up;
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,
and sweetens every bitter cup.

It makes the coward spirit brave,

and nerves the feeble arm for
fight;
it takes its terror from the grave,
and gilds the bed of death with
light:

The balm of life, the cure of woe,
the measure and the pledge of
love,
the sinner's refuge here below,
the angels' theme in heaven
above.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the
power,
the glory, the splendour, and the
majesty;
for everything in heaven and on
earth is yours.

All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.

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**

Extravagant God, you poured out
your life in your covenant with
your chosen people and you
poured out your lifeblood in the
ministry and death of your Son
Jesus Christ. You meet our
meanness with your grace, our
scarcity with your abundance and
our suspicion with your generous
trust. And so we give you thanks,
with angels and archangels and
all the company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your
unending praise.

**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.**

Sharing God, in Jesus you
forgave the woman caught in

adultery and gave her an opportunity of new life, so we gather today to celebrate your resurrection, in faith that even now you are preparing a feast to celebrate our resurrection with you. Sanctify us that even as our flesh and blood decays, our hearts are made ready that we may meet you face to face.

Send down your Holy Spirit, that this bread of sustenance and wine of joy may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread and gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them saying,

‘Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me’

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

‘Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Abundant God, when we know the price of everything and the value of nothing, may this meal remind us of the limitless joy you take in us. When we are full of criticism of others and hatred of ourselves, may this sacrifice show us the goodness you see in us all. Bless all our touching, that we may touch your gifts and one another as if we were touching your body and blood.

Bless all our desire, that in every craving and longing, we may discover a deeper yearning for you. Renew the hearts of all your people, that your whole church, seeking together the justice of your kingdom, may discover in the stranger the gifts that only come from you, through whom and with whom and in whom, comes all honour and glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God, now and for 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.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body

We sing together

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

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

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.

Communion Hymn

And now, O Father, mindful of the love that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree and having with us him that pleads above, we here present, we here spread forth to thee that only offering perfect in thine eyes, the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

Look, Father, look on his anointed face, and only look on us as found in him; look not on our misusings of thy grace, our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim: for lo, between our sins and their reward we set the Passion of thy Son our Lord.

And then for those, our dearest and our best,

by this prevailing presence we appeal:

O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast,

O do thine utmost for their souls' true weal;

from tainting mischief keep them pure and clear,

and crown thy gifts with strength to persevere.

And so we come: O draw us to thy feet,

most patient Saviour, who canst love us still;

and by this food, so awful and so sweet,

deliver us from every touch of ill:

in thine own service make us glad and free,

and grant us never more to part with thee.

Post - Communion Prayers

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious

God's mercy endures for ever.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, 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 give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing..... **Amen**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Notices

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

To God be the glory, great things he has done!

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,

who yielded his life an atonement for sin,

and opened the life-gate that we may go in.

(Refrain)

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,

and give him the glory, great things he has done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives. (Refrain)

Great things he has taught us,
great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

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.**

Retiring Organ Voluntary

It is the custom to remain seated during the organ voluntary because it is part of our act of worship.

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

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 Sunday.

ON EASTER DAY we would welcome your posies to put on the Easter Cross. Please bring a small posy of flowers with you on Easter morning.

THE CHRISTINGLE BOXES for the Children's Society should be brought back to Church on Easter Day. They will be counted and their contents sent off to the Society.

THANKS - We would like to thank Mrs Gwen Brown for providing the lovely Mothering Sunday posies last week. We all

enjoyed receiving them.

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. Cost of a lily is **£3.50**. Orders required by **April 10th**. Clearly print the person's name and give to Gwen.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES - for the new chairs can now be ordered. If you would like to purchase a small brass plaque in memory of a loved one, please put your request in writing and give to Ali or Liz. 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.

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." We will be discussing this during Compline on Zoom on Wednesdays in Lent at from 6pm to 7pm.

REFUGEES FROM THE

UKRAINE - There have been various enquiries as to how we, as a community, are going to support the refugees from the Ukraine. If individuals are interested in providing accommodation they need to register with the government website - **Homes for Ukraine**.

The Church is looking at how we can all work together and the Church of England has produced a toolkit.

In addition we, as a Church, are registering an interest on the **Sanctuary Foundation website**.

We have also liaised with the Clerk of the Parish Council who has put the issue on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting. He is also liaising with the formal routes via the TWBC. We have also contacted the other churches in Hawkhurst. In this way, when we know what may be required we can take a joined up approach to optimise how best we can be a welcoming and supportive community. We need to have a critical mass of refugees coming to the village to take this approach. As soon as we have more information relating to this and how you can become involved, if you wish to, we will let you know. Please speak to **Claire Roberts**.