

[H] ST. LAURENCE CHURCH
THE PARISH EUCHARIST
SERVICE CELEBRATED IN CELTIC
STYLE
THE TENTH SUNDAY
AFTER TRINITY
YEAR C
21ST. AUGUST 2022



The Zoom details for this service are:

Meeting ID: 457 244 0784

Passcode: 5i1UCa

The sideman today are:
Norma Cox and Diana Ringer

Wearing masks is now optional.

Thank you.

Hymn *(Please stand if you are able)*

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Serve him with joy, his praises tell,
come now before him and rejoice!

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
he formed us all without our aid.

We are the flock he comes to feed,

the sheep who by his hand were made.

O enter then his gates with joy,
within his courts his praise proclaim.
Let thankful songs your tongues employ.

O bless and magnify his name.

Trust that the Lord our God is good,
his mercy is forever sure.

His faithfulness at all times stood
and shall from age to age endure.

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

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; 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 Reading

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you O Lord

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath.

And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight.

When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment."

When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day."

But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water?"

And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?"

When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

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 Mike Appelbe

Everlasting God, forgive us for overlooking your power and trying to live in our own strength. Help us to understand that we can't do it on our own, and thank you for providing everything that we need.

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

Holy God, we ask for your blessing upon this congregation and upon this church, praying for your presence to be seen vividly in what we and our brothers and sisters in Christ do each day. We pray that your joy and your love will flow freely in us and through us as we take up our cross and follow wherever you lead us.

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

Creator God, thank you for investing so heavily in us and in the world in which we live. Help us to see that there is no one who can love us like you do. Help us to focus our priorities and our thoughts on

heavenly things, as well as placing our treasures in heaven. May this way of thinking be seen in the leaders of the world, where, so often, we see greed and graft overshadowing the needs of the poor and needy.

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

Father God, thank you for our friends and families. We especially pray for all who visit us, and for all who cater for them as they enjoy their holidays.

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

Gracious God, we pray for those who are sick. As time drags on and answers seem far away, teach them and us, to find help in you and your presence and enable them to endure and to trust in you. We pray for Robbie Robinson, Gillian Robinson, Eleanor Ash

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

Faithful God, when someone we know dies, help us to praise your gracious will, for in Christ Jesus you have saved us from death and opened for us the hidden ways of your love.

We pray for the recently departed:
Carol Anne Larkin

For those whose years mind occurs this month: Olivia Mason, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Douglas Nurney, Eric Warren, Gordon Garwood-Warren, William Livermore, Gerald Abbey, Frederick Skeet.

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

Loving God, receive these prayers and transform us through them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do on your behalf.

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)*

O God of earth and altar,
bow down and hear our cry,
our earthly rulers falter,
our people drift and die;
the walls of gold entomb us,
the swords of scorn divide,
take not thy thunder from us,
but take away our pride.

From all that terror teaches,
from lies of tongue and pen,
from all the easy speeches
that comfort cruel men,
from sale and profanation
of honour and the sword,
from sleep and from damnation,
deliver us, good Lord!

Tie in a living tether
the prince and priest and thrall,
bind all our lives together,
smite us and save us all;
in ire and exultation
aflame with faith, and free,
lift up a living nation,
a single sword to thee.

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

Updated C of E guidance states that Holy Communion should now be offered in both kinds, unless there are clear and objective reasons not to do so. It has been decided to offer Holy Communion in both kinds and to advise those who do not wish to receive the wine to indicate this by raising their hand when offered it.

**The chalice bearers today are:
Brian Elliott and Alison Jones**

Communion Hymn

Bread of heaven, on thee we feed,
for thou art our food indeed.
Ever may our souls be fed
with this true and living Bread,
day by day with strength supplied
through the life of Christ who died.

Vine of heaven, thy love supplies
this blest cup of sacrifice.
'Tis thy wounds our healing give;
to thy cross we look and live.
Thou our life! O let us be
rooted, grafted, built on thee.

Post Communion Collect

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; 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 the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing ...

Banns

Notices

Hymn *(Please stand if you are able)*

Thy hand, O God, has guided
Thy flock, from age to age;
The wondrous tale is written,
Full clear, on every page;
Our fathers owned thy goodness,
And we their deeds record;
And both of this bear witness,
One Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings
To greatest, as to least;
They bade men rise, and hasten
To share the great King's feast;

And this was all their teaching,
In every deed and word,
To all alike proclaiming
One Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Through many a day of darkness,
Through many a scene of strife,
The faithful few fought bravely
To guard the nation's life.
Their gospel of redemption,
Sin pardoned, man restored,
Was all in this enfolded,
One Church, one Faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
Shall we evade the conflict,
And cast away our crown?
Not so: in God's deep counsels
Some better thing is stored;
We will maintain, unflinching,
One church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy mercy will not fail us,
Nor leave thy work undone;
With thy right hand to help us,
The victory shall be won;
And then, by men and angels,
Thy name shall be adored,
And this shall be their anthem,
One Church, one Faith, one Lord.

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.**

We listen to the Organ Voluntary

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY 10th SEPTEMBER - **RIDE AND STRIDE** organized by The Friends of Kent Churches. We are looking for participants and sponsors. Please see Felicity for sponsor forms and further details if you wish to participate. The Friends of Kent Churches gave St Laurence a grant last year towards the handrail to the Church office.

SUNDAY 18th SEPTEMBER - **PARISH LUNCH** will be served in church cooked by the Ringer Family. A hot meal will be provided with vegan option and wine included. If you are able to offer a dessert please speak to Diana. Sign up sheet on the table at the side of the church.
Adults £8, Under 12 £4, Under 5 free. Families by negotiation!

SATURDAY 24th SEPTEMBER

ST. LAURENCE CHURCH SATURDAY PARISH BREAKFAST TALK -

Please do come to the first of our Parish Breakfast Talks on the 24th September, at 9.30am. in the Church. The talk will be given by Bob Ash, one our parishioners. The title of the talk will be -

‘Making Sense of China’.

I commend this talk to you. Please invite your friends. There will be a sign up sheet for catering purposes.

Here is a brief Biosketch of our speaker:

ROBERT ASH

Until his retirement in July 2020 Bob Ash was Professor of Economics with reference to China and Taiwan at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. He is now Professor Emeritus at SOAS. From 1986 to 1995 he was Head of the Contemporary China Institute at SOAS; and during 1997-2001 he was Director of the EU-China Academic Network.

From 1999 to 2013 Bob was Founder-Director of the SOAS Taiwan Studies Programme. In 2012 he received the Freedom Medal of

Diplomacy from the Government of the Republic of China on Taiwan in recognition of his achievements in promoting Taiwan Studies in the UK and elsewhere in Europe.

Bob has held visiting research and teaching positions at universities in Australia, Hong Kong, France and Italy. He has been researching China for more than 40 years and has published widely on development issues relating to China, as well as Taiwan and Hong Kong. From the 1970s until the 2010s he was a frequent traveller to China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, and made conference and research visits to the USA, Australia, Japan, South Korea and many European countries. He has been a consultant on China for international banks and multinationals, and has undertaken work for the European Commission and the International Labour Organisation. He has also given evidence to the House of Lords European Union Committee on relations between the EU and China.

SATURDAY 1ST OCTOBER –
Harvest Supper and Quiz night

SUNDAY 2ND OCTOBER –
Harvest Festival

SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER –
Concert by The Bodiam Concert Band

AT YOUR SERVICE

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