



**St. Laurence Church,
Hawkhurst
The Parish Eucharist
Service Celebrated in Celtic
Style
The Eighteenth Sunday
after Trinity
Year C
16th October 2022**

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

Meeting ID: 457 244 0784
Passcode: 5i1UCa

**The sideman today are: Norma
cox and Diana Ringer**

Hymn (Please stand if you are
able)

All hail the power of Jesus'
name!

Let angels prostrate fall,
bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him Lord of all.

Crown him you martyrs of our
God,
who witnessed to his call;
exalt the one whose path you
trod,
and crown him Lord of all.

Descendants of his chosen race
you ransomed from the Fall,
hail him who saves you by his
grace,
and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love cannot
forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your offering at his
feet
and crown him Lord of all.

Let every people, nation, tribe,
on this terrestrial ball,
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

O that in heaven with that great
throng,
we at his feet may fall,
join in the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

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 and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind

and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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.

The word of God is living and effective, discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.' For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just

decision for her lest she finally come and strike me."

The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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 Rachel Elliott

Hidden and mysterious God, we seek you in our darkness and our unknowing, so come to us with tender love as we raise before you our prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.

Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

Father God, as church leaders spend time in prayer and preparation, fill them with divine inspiration and revelation, so that when they speak, it will be your word which comes in power to challenge, convict and empower. As they plan ahead, let them be led by you.

Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

Mighty God, we pray for all who carry civic and political responsibilities throughout the world. Help the leaders of the nations put aside all selfish ambition as they seek to be the instruments of your will for humanity and carry out your

desire for the welfare of all people which will culminate in glory to you and in happier human lives.

Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

Compassionate God, your love for humanity was revealed in Jesus, whose earthly life began in the poverty of a stable and ended in the pain and isolation of the cross. We hold before you those who are homeless. Draw near and comfort them in spirit and bless those who work to provide for them.

Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

Living God, where there is sickness turn weakness into strength, suffering into compassion, sorrow into joy, and pain into comfort. Help all who suffer to trust in your goodness and hope in your faithfulness, even in the middle of their suffering. Let them be filled with patience and joy in your presence as they wait for your healing touch. We pray for Robbie Robinson, Gillian Robinson, Eleanor Ash, Colin White, David Winston, Christian Jervis-Read, Cressida Jervis-Read

Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

Everlasting God, we remember all those who have gone before,

walked the same path that we tread, and, by their example, encouragement, wise words and teaching led others into your Kingdom and so we offer our grateful thanks particularly for those whose anniversary falls at this time. Michelle Berge, Mary Howarth, Raymond John Denney, John Velvick, Tim Morton, Janusz Kent, Janina Misayat, Christopher Denne, Pat Bassant, Philip Sheldon, Arthur Horner, Patricia Travers, Janet Attwood, Alan Collins, Dorothy Heady

Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

Faithful God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Thank you that we can live in Your light and walk in Your truth. May the things that you have revealed and thoughts that we have shared dwell in our hearts and stir us to action.

Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

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)

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.

Him serve with fear, His praise
forth tell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God
indeed;
Without our aid He did us make;
We are His folk, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us
take.

O enter then His gates with
praise;

Approach with joy His courts
unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His name
always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is
good;
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age
endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God whom Heaven and
earth adore,
From men and from the angel
host
Be praise and glory evermore.

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:
Mike Appelbe and Peggy Stone**

Communion Hymn

Father, hear the prayer we offer:
Nor for ease that prayer shall be,
But for strength, that we may
ever
Live our lives courageously.

Not forever in green pastures
Do we ask our way to be,
But the steep and rugged
pathway
May we tread rejoicingly.

Not forever by still waters
Would we idly, quiet stay;
But would smite the living
fountains
From the rocks along our way.

Be our strength in hours of
weakness,
In our wanderings be our Guide;
Through endeavour, failure,
danger,
Father, be Thou at our side.

Post Communion Collect

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. 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 ...

Notices

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

We have a gospel to proclaim
Good news for men in all the earth;
The gospel of a Saviour's name,
We sing His glory, tell His worth.

Tell of His birth at Bethlehem,
Not in a royal house or hall
But in a stable dark and dim,
The Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of His death at Calvary,
Hated by those He came to save,
In lonely suffering on the cross,
For all He loved His life He gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn,
Empty the tomb, for He was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
That we might share His victory.

Tell of His reign at God's right hand,
By all creation glorified,
He sends His Spirit on His Church,
To live for Him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name Him King,
Jesus is Lord of all the earth,

This gospel message we
proclaim,
We sing His glory, tell His worth.

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**

NOTICES

WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST at
Bowles Lodge ~ 10.00a.m.

DIOCESAN ROAD SHOW, to be
held at Headcorn Church on
Tuesday 18th October, at 7.30pm.
Please come and support this.

PARISH LUNCH - Sunday 20th
November at 12.30pm.

This will be held at the back of
the church.

Adults £8.00 Children welcome,
no charge for 12yr olds and
under.

Please bring your own crockery
and cutlery.

A sign- up sheet will be available
from next week. If anyone is
able to provide a desert this will
be most welcome.

SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER –
Concert by The Bodiam Concert
Band at 7.30pm in St Laurence
Church.

SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER -
Concert by Cranbrook Symphony
Orchestra in St Laurence Church
at 7.30pm.

AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar: Fr. Rodney Dreyer
01580 754459

Churchwardens:
Miss Alison Jones
01580 755705
Mrs. Liz Hatcher
01580 712099

Organist:
Dr. Charlotte O' Neill
01580 753817

Safeguarding:
Mrs Jane Cooper
07825044877