

**St. Laurence Parish Church,**  
**Hawkhurst in the Diocese of**  
**Canterbury**  
**The Fourth Sunday of**  
**Epiphany - 29.1.2023**

**The Sidespeople today are**  
**Judy Elliott and Diana Ringer**

The Zoom details or this service  
are:  
Meeting ID: 457 244 0784  
Passcode: 5i1UCa

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

**Welcome**

**Entrance Hymn:**

Christ is made the sure  
foundation,  
Christ, our head and cornerstone,  
chosen of the Lord and precious,  
binding all the Church in one;  
holy Zion's help forever  
and our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you,  
come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;  
come with all your lovingkindness,  
hear your people as they pray;  
and your fullest benediction  
speak within these walls today.

Grant, we pray, to all your faithful

all the gifts they ask to gain;  
what they gain from you forever  
with the blessed to retain;  
And hereafter in your glory  
evermore with you to reign.

Praise and honour to the Father,  
praise and honour to the Son,  
praise and honour to the Spirit,  
ever three and ever one:  
one in might and one in glory  
while unending ages run!

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**

Seek the Lord while he may be  
found,  
**Call upon him while he is near.**

Let the wicked abandon their ways

**And the unrighteous their thoughts.**

Turn back to the Lord, who will have mercy;

**To our God who will richly pardon.**

A time of silence and self-examination is kept.

**Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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**

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness

of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of 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 read by Sandra Dreyer**

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Consider your own calling, brothers and sisters.

Not many of you were wise by human standards,

not many were powerful,

not many were of noble birth.

Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise,

and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong,  
and God chose the lowly and despised of the world,  
those who count for nothing,  
to reduce to nothing those who are something,  
so that no human being might boast before God.  
It is due to him that you are in Christ Jesus,  
who became for us wisdom from God,  
as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption,  
so that, as it is written,  
"Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord."

This is the word of the Lord

### **Thanks be to God**

#### **Gradual Hymn**

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch; like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

The Lord hath promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.

#### **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Rejoice and be glad;  
your reward will be great in heaven.

#### **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

#### **And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John Chapter Two beginning at the first verse

#### **Glory to Christ our Lord**

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." "Woman,[a] why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he

tells you.” Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.” They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, “Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.” What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise be to you, O Christ**

### **Reflection**

#### **The Nicene Creed**

**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 Peter Wyllie**

Almighty God, as we journey through this coming week, take away all partiality and prejudice and whatever else may hinder us in our witness as Christians. We pray especially for our Church of England bishops and Synod as they meet next month to debate their recommendations after five years of consultation on the Church's position on sexuality. Help us to recognise there is one Lord, one faith, one church, one God and Father of us all and so unite us in one holy bond of peace, faith and charity.

Lord in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, your son Jesus Christ, called ordinary people to be transformed in him and by him. Help us to respond to the same call unreservedly and wholeheartedly. Help us to proclaim your gospel of hope and salvation here in Hawkhurst and wherever we find ourselves this week.

Lord in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

Creator God, we pray for our troubled world and ask that all people might work together to bring to an end the suffering caused by war, injustice, disease and poverty. We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine and we pray for those whose lives are being affected by global warming and climate change both here in the UK, and in the wider world. Strengthen them in their hour of need and grant them perseverance and courage to face the future and be to them a firm foundation on which to rebuild their lives.

Lord in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, as we pray for all those who are ill in body, mind or spirit, we ask that you may comfort and strengthen them through their illness. We pray also for those who care for the sick, especially all those in the caring professions, as many of them may be struggling with tiredness, over work and the pressures of the rising cost of living.

In a moment of silence, we bring before you those known personally to us. We pray for: Gillian Robinson, Robbie Robinson, Eleanor Ash, Colin White, David Winston, Christian Jervis-Read, Cressida Jervis-Read, Nigel Barter, John Tanner, Jan Edwards, Doris Ringer In your goodness and mercy, grant them health of body, soundness of heart and peace of mind. Lord in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, your love reaches beyond the grave. At the end of our days on earth be with us and with those we love. We pray now for those who have recently been bereaved and those who have an anniversary at this time. Jack Travers, Evelyn Waghorn, Eleftheria Corfield, William Butler, Hilary Wood, Cecille Mallinson,

Lily Collins, Malcolm Dreyer, Richard Dyke, Jane Barker, Olaf Phillips, Doris Bird, Gilbert French, Rosaline Beeny, William Fawcett, Stephen Barker, Isoline Vaughan, Hylda Reynolds, Kathleen Wood, Sheila Maugham, Sylvia Smith, Prudence Bilsby, Leila Wood Lord in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, as we leave this place, we pray that we may be your people in your world. Teach us to accept humbly the gifts of your Spirit and that through these gifts we might be changed and transformed to become, day by day, more and more like your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Lord in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

In silence we bring to Almighty God our own particular prayers

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

**The Peace** Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace. The

peace of the Lord be always with you

**And also with you.**

### **Offertory Hymn**

Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the Magi from afar,  
branch of royal David's stem,  
in your birth at Bethlehem.  
Anthems be to you addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King  
supreme,  
and at Cana, wedding guest,  
in your Godhead manifest;  
manifest in pow'r divine,  
changing water into wine.  
Anthems be to you addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole  
palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill:  
Anthems be to you addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee.

Christ will then like lightning shine;

all will see his glorious sign.  
All will then the trumpet hear,  
all will see the judge appear.  
You by all will be confessed,  
God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see you, Lord,  
mirrored in your holy Word.  
May our lives and all we do  
imitate and honor you  
that we all like you may be  
at your great epiphany  
and may praise you, ever blest,  
God in man made manifest.

### **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.**

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and

formed us in your own image. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high. Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

And now we give you thanks because, in the incarnation of the Word, a new light has dawned upon the world, that all the nations may be brought out of darkness to see the radiance of your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power

of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

**Great is the mystery of faith:  
Christ has died: Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest this our sacrifice of

thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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.**

### **The Fraction**

We break this bread to share in  
the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are  
one body**

### **The Agnus Dei**

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.**

### **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.**

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.**

### **The Distribution of Communion**

#### **The Chalice bearers today are: Brian Elliott and Alison Jones**

*Updated C of E guidance states  
that Holy Communion should now  
be offered in both kinds, so we  
advise those who do not wish to  
receive the wine to indicate this by  
raising their hand when offered it.*

#### **Communion Hymn**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the sceptre, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus, out of ev'ry nation  
has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Bread of heaven,  
here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! here the sinful  
flee to you from day to day.  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, hear our plea  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! Not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us;  
faith believes, nor questions how.

Though the cloud from sight  
received him  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his  
promise:  
"I am with you evermore"?

### **Post - Communion Prayers**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is  
gracious  
**His mercy endures for ever.**

Generous Lord, in word and  
eucharist we have proclaimed the  
mystery of your love: help us so to  
live out our days that we may be  
signs of your wonders in the  
world; through Jesus Christ our  
Saviour. **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**

### **Notices**

#### **The Blessing**

Christ the Son of God perfect in  
you the image of his glory and  
gladden your hearts with the good  
news of his kingdom; and the  
blessing .....**Amen.**

#### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the

Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen**

#### **Hymn**

Immortal Love for ever full,  
for ever flowing free,  
for ever shared, for ever whole,  
a never-ebbing sea.

Our outward lips confess the  
name  
all other names above;  
love only knoweth whence it came  
and comprehendeth love.

We may not climb the heavenly  
steeps  
to bring the Lord Christ down;  
in vain we search the lowest  
deeps,  
for him no depths can drown:

But warm, sweet, tender, even yet  
a present help is he;  
and faith has still its Olivet,  
and love its Galilee.

The healing of his seamless dress  
is by our beds of pain;  
we touch him in life's throng and  
press,  
and we are whole again.

Through him the first fond prayers  
are said  
our lips of childhood frame;  
the last low whispers of our dead  
are burdened with his name.

Alone, O Love ineffable,  
thy saving name is given;  
to turn aside from thee is hell,

to walk with thee is heaven.

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.**

**Organ Voluntary - Please be  
seated for the organ voluntary**

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AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar: Fr. Rodney Dreyer  
01580 754459

Churchwardens:

Miss Alison Jones  
01580 755705

Mrs. Liz Hatcher  
01580 712099

Organist:

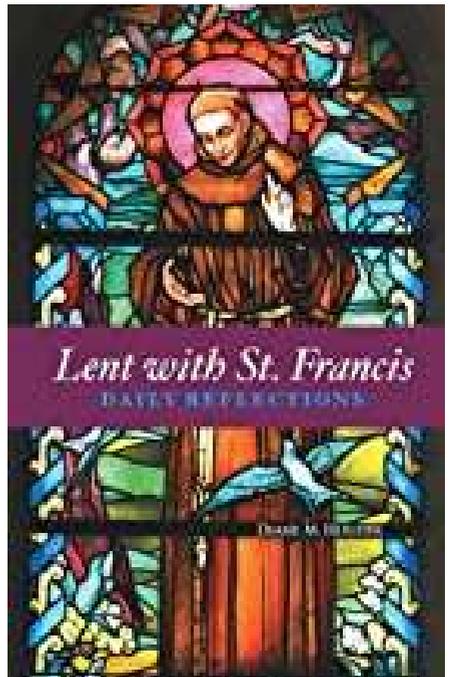
Dr. Charlotte O' Neill  
01580 753817

Safeguarding:

Mrs Jane Cooper  
07825044877

NOTICES

This Lent we will be using the  
book below. If you would like  
to be part of our parish Lenten  
Course, please do purchase  
the book below for our journey  
through Lent. Thanks.



**Lent with St Francis – Daily  
Reflections**

**PAPERBACK £10.03**

**KINDLE EDITION £2.24**