



ST LAURENCE CHURCH
THE PARISH EUCHARIST
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A
12TH MARCH 2023

*Welcome to St Laurence, whether you regularly worship here or are here for the first time. If you have children, they are welcome to use the area at the back of the church under **Parental** supervision. There are toilet facilities at the back of the church*

*The Zoom details are :
Meeting ID: 457 244 0784
Passcode: 5i1UCa*

Sides people today are: Sarah and Charles Vernede

INTROIT HYMN: (CH 187)

Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone,

still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
more than all in thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am;
thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound,
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart;
rise to all eternity.

WE GATHER

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The Priest welcomes the congregation and introduces the theme of the Service.

(Silence is kept)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and

from whom no secrets are hidden:
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.

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

*The Priest introduces the Prayer of
Penitence*

My brothers and sisters,
as we prepare to celebrate the
presence of Christ in word and sac-
rament, let us call to mind and con-
fess our sins.

(Silence is kept)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and
against our neighbour in thought
and word and deed, through negli-
gence, through weakness, through
our own deliberate fault. We are
truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus
Christ, who died for us, forgive us
all that is past and grant that we
may serve you in newness of life to
the glory of your name. Amen.

We say:

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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 OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

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: mer-
cifully 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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

(Please sit)

read by Clive Dewing

A reading from the book of Exodus

In those days, in their thirst for wa-
ter, the people grumbled against
Moses, saying, "Why did you ever
make us leave Egypt? Was it just to
have us die here of thirst with our

children and our livestock?” So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? a little more and they will stone me!” The LORD answered Moses, “Go over there in front of the people, along with some of the elders of Israel, holding in your hand, as you go, the staff with which you struck the river. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb. Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink.” This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel. The place was called Mas-sah and Meribah, because the Is-raelites quarrelled there and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD in our midst or not?”

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after you
You alone are my heart's desire.
And I long to worship you

Refrain - You alone are my
strength, my shield
To you alone will my spirit yield
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship you

I want you more than gold or silver
Only you can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver

And the apple of my eye - Refrain

You're my friend and you are my
Father
Even though you are my King
I love you more than any other
So much more than anything - Re-
frain

THE GOSPEL READING

John 4:5-42

Speak, Lord, for you servant is lis-
tening.
You have the words of eternal life.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, “How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?” —For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.— Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift

of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink, ' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself, with his children and his flocks?"

Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go call your husband and come back." The woman answered and said to him, "I do not have a husband." Jesus answered her, "You are right in saying, 'I do not have a husband.' For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true." The woman said to him, "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus

said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one speaking with you."

At that moment his disciples returned, and were amazed that he was talking with a woman, but still no one said, "What are you looking for?" or "Why are you talking with her?" The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Christ?" They went out of the town and came to him. Meanwhile, the disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of

which you do not know.” So the disciples said to one another, “Could someone have brought him something to eat?”

Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work. Do you not say, ‘In four months the harvest will be here’? I tell you, look up and see the fields ripe for the harvest. The reaper is already receiving payment and gathering crops for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. For here the saying is verified that ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for; others have done the work, and you are sharing the fruits of their work.” Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me everything I have done.” When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, “We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the saviour of the world.”

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

SERMON

BAPTISM OF JACOB JOHN LEWIS
HORWOOD

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION.

*Prayers led by Claire Roberts
(Please sit/kneel)*

Let us pray in spirit and in truth to God, our loving Father in faith that he will hear our prayers and respond to the needs of those for whom we pray.

Holy Father, we pray that you will pour out the living water of your Spirit upon your Church in the world. Give us the humility and courage to seek unity where we are divided.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

We pray for Jacob baptised today that all things belonging to the Holy Spirit may continue to live and grow in him.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

Give us the grace to exclude no-one from fellowship because we disapprove of the expression of their faith. Remind us always that it is only through your gracious love that we can find peace with you.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

We pray for all members of the Royal Family, especially King Charles III as he prepares for his coronation.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

Holy Father we pray that you will pour out the living water of your Spirit upon the nations of the world. Help us to find new non-violent ways of seeking peace and reconciliation.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

Give grace, wisdom and insight to the powerful that they may surrender some of their power; to the rich that they may surrender some of their wealth; and to those who express hatred and prejudice through violence to learn that there are better ways to be.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

Holy Father we pray that you will pour out the living water of your Spirit upon our communities and our families. Help us to allow that living water to flow through us enabling us to reach out to those around us.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

Help us not to be afraid to show kindness to strangers or to stand

alongside those on the edges of our society. Give to us the Spirit that was in Jesus, drawing people to him and uniting them in their common experience of his compassion and love.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

Holy Father we pray that you will pour out the living water of your Spirit upon all who are in need. We pray for those who face another day of pain, fear, loneliness, depression or anxiety. We pray for: *Geraldine Nurney and Jill Fitzpatrick*, Gillian Robinson, Robbie Robinson, Eleanor Ash, Colin White, David Winston, Christian Jervis-Read, Cressida Jervis-Read, Nigel Barter, John Tanner, Jan Edwards. Let them find in you refreshment, hope and comfort for their spirit and the peace of mind that comes with the assurance of your presence alongside them.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

We pray for those recently departed: Doris Ringer, Norma Fogarty, We remember those whose years mind falls at this time: 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, John Else.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Heavenly Father we offer these prayers to you and ask that you use them, and us, to further the work of your Kingdom here on earth and so that all people will know that you, our Lord, are indeed among us today.

Silence is kept

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

We stand and the Priest introduces the peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

WE PRESENT OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN (CH 301)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the
Ancient of Days,

almighty, victorious, thy great name
we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou
rulest in might -
thy justice like mountains high-
soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of
goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great
and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of
all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves
on the tree,
and wither and perish - but nought
changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father
of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling
their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us
to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth
thee.

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.**

The bread and wine are placed on the altar.

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 our spiritual drink.

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 EUCHARIST 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.

The Priest continues with the Eucharistic Prayer Preface and then all say:

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.

(Sit/kneel)

The Priest continues, recalling and remembering with us the Last Supper..... then we say:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

*At the End of the next Prayer we respond **Amen**.*

(Silence is kept)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 BREAD

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

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

We say:

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.

WE SHARE IN HOLY COMMUNION

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 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 rea-
sons not to do so. It has been de-
cided 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 are: Andrea
Higgins and Alison Parsons*

HYMN DURING COMMUNION
(Please remain seated)

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's Son;

Cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in;
Jesus, our love for you we sing,
Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
now and every day
teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you
Into our lives your power breaks
through,
living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us, born as one
of us,
Mary's Son.
Led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see
you are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
I would come to you,
live my life for you,
Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your pow'r breaks
through,
living Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

Almighty God, we thank you for
feeding us with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ. Through
him we offer you our souls and bod-
ies to be a living sacrifice. Send us
out in the power of your Spirit to live
and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.

WE GO IN CHRIST'S PEACE

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The Priest pronounces a Blessing.
We respond *Amen*

Go in peace to love and serve the
Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please sit for the Notices

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

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.

We sit for the Organ Voluntary

19 TH.MARCH
FAMILY COMMUNION CELTIC SERVICE
- MOTHERING SUNDAY