



**ST LAURENCE CHURCH
THE PARISH EUCHARIST
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
14.5.2023**

*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*

***The sidesmen are Diana Hunt
and Sylvia Williams***

INTROIT HYMN:

WE GATHER

God is love: his the care,
tending each, ev'rywhere,
God is love, all is there!
Jesus came to show him,
that we all might know him!

Refrain:

***Sing aloud, loud, loud!
sing aloud, loud, loud!
God is good! God is truth!
God is beauty! Praise him!***

None can see God above;
we can share life and love;
thus may we Godward move,

finding him in creation,
holding ev'ry nation. ***[Refrain]***

Jesus lived on the earth,
hope and life brought to birth
and affirmed human worth,
for he came to save us
by the truth he gave us. ***[Refrain]***

To our Lord praise we sing,
light and life, friend and King,
coming down, love to bring,
pattern for our duty,
showing God in beauty. ***[Refrain]***

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 sacrament, let

us call to mind and confess 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 negligence, 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 sing:

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.**

We sing:

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

***Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.***

Glory to God in the highest
And peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

Glory to God

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal 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**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

(Please sit)

'A reading from the first letter of Peter read by Peter Wyllie

Beloved: Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GRADUAL HYMN:

All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
this our song shall ever be;
for we have no hope, nor Saviour,
if we have not hope in thee.

All for Jesus, thou wilt give us
strength to serve thee, hour by
hour;
none can move us from thy pres-
ence
while we trust thy love and power.

All for Jesus, at thine altar

thou wilt give us sweet content;
there, dear Lord, we shall receive
thee

in the solemn sacrament.

All for Jesus, thou hast loved us;
all for Jesus, thou hast died;
all for Jesus, thou art with us;
all for Jesus crucified.

All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
this the church's song must be,
till, at last, we all are gathered
one in love and one in thee.

THE GOSPEL READING

We sing:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

The word of the Lord endures for
ever. The word of the Lord is the
good news announced to you.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

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 said to his disciples: "If you
love me, you will keep my com-
mandments. And I will ask the Fa-
ther, and he will give you another
Advocate to be with you always,
the Spirit of truth, whom the world
cannot accept, because it neither
sees nor knows him. But you know
him, because he remains with you,
and will be in you. I will not leave
you orphans; I will come to you. In
a little while the world will no longer

see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realise that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

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

SERMON

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

We stand to say

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION.

*Prayers led by Stephen Ringer
(Please sit/kneel)*

Gracious God, you are anything but unknown to us for you made us, our world and everything in it and so we pray with one voice, proclaiming your presence to all the earth.

Lord, in your Mercy: **hear our Prayer**

Holy God we pray for your church throughout the world, for sceptics and believers, for Christian leaders. For all those who seek God at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews, for all who search for life. We pray for the stillness to listen to the voice of the Spirit and to recognise what our personal relationship with you has done for us.

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

Creator God, we pray for prime ministers and presidents, for bosses and wardens; for leaders and trendsetters. For those who set the targets at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews. For all who wield power, that they may be guided by the Spirit of Truth. We especially pray for the newly crowned King Charles III, for Queen Camilla and the Royal Family following the wonderful Coronation last weekend.

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

Father God, we pray for colleagues, friends and family, for neighbours and strangers, for those with whom we break bread at home, at work, in the community, and in our church, for all who grow, harvest and prepare the food we eat and for those who cook it and serve it.

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

Loving God, we pray for the sick and troubled, for the fearful and alone, for those in pain at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews. We pray that all who suffer, may feel the Spirit's healing presence. We especially ask for healing for Gillian Robinson, Robbie Robinson, Eleanor Ash, Colin White, David Winston, Christian

Jervis-Read, John Tanner, Jill Fitzpatrick, Geraldine Nurney, Don Buckle.

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

Merciful God, we pray for those kept fresh in our memory and for those long forgotten, for all who ever took the breath of life at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews. We pray for mercy and forgiveness for the dead and those who mourn them, may they find rest in the Spirit's embrace and we commend them to your keeping for ever.

We pray for the recently departed:
Roy Pringle

We pray for those whose years' mind falls at this time:

Simon Edwards, Davis Cutmore, Stella Keaney, Alfred Scrivener, Anthony Smith, Sheila Pope, Thomas Weguelin, Henry Husey, Joscelyn Thompson, Grace Parsons, Albert Richard, Mark Webber, Heather Murphy, David Wood, Robert Botha, Vera Boulton, Ione McEwen, Sylvia Parkinson.

Lord, in your Mercy: **hear our Prayer**

God of heaven and earth, companion in life, Spirit of truth, to you alone we turn our eyes and lift our hearts. Help us as we go out into the world to keep your commandments and to love one another as you love us.

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

THE PEACE

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.

OFFERTORY HYMN:

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore
from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th' Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand
at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

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 sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your
glory.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in
the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in
the highest.**

(Sit/kneel)

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

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 king-
dom 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 sing:

**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.

If you are a communicant member of another church you are welcome to share with us in the Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, (please indicate if you require a gluten free wafer.)

The Priest delivers the consecrated bread and wine saying:

The Body and Blood of Christ.

*The communicant may reply **Amen** and then receive. We reply as an act of faith.*

For a Personal Blessing and/or a Special Prayer only, please also go to the High Altar Rail.

***The Chalice Bearers today are:
Brian Elliott and Charles Vernede***

PLEASE DO NOT DIP THE HOST IN THE WINE.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION:

(Please remain seated)

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee whose blood can cleanse
each spot,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse,
relieve;

because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown
hath broken every barrier down;
now, to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Prayers after Communion

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

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 bodies 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

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation;
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit

into ev'ry troubled breast.

Let us all in thee inherit,
let us find the promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be.

End of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver,
let us all thy life receive.

Suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always
blessing,

serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without

ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
true and spotless let us be.

Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee.

Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

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.
Please do join us.

DEANERY SYNOD OPEN MEETING - *Living in Love and Faith* - to be held at **St. Mary's Church, Frittenden** on **Wednesday 17th May, 2023 at 7.30pm.**

The Guest Speakers will be Revd Canon Barney de Berry, Vicar St Mary Bredin (SMB) [House of Clergy] and Revd Joel Love, Vicar of St. Peter's with St. Margaret's Rochester, and LLF Chaplain. Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

ASCENSION DAY ON THURSDAY 18th MAY– the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 7.30 a.m. and will be followed by breakfast in the Church.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (PGS) – please be reminded that the way the Church will be collecting and accounting for regular and / or planned giving changed from the end of April 2023. Information packs are available at the side of the church. Your participation in

the new scheme is very much encouraged.

LOAVES AND FISHES SUNDAY 21st MAY – please bring items for the foodbank (a list of 'wanted' items is displayed in the porch and on the table at the side of the church). There is a collection point on the vicarage doorstep or under the table at the back of the church.

BOTTLES ARE WANTED FOR THE VILLAGE FETE ON SATURDAY 17th JUNE – the church choir will be running a 'Bottle Tombola' at the fete and would like any type of filled 'bottle' for the tombola. There will be a collection box under the table at the side of the church.

THY KINGDOM COME (TKC) is a global ecumenical prayer moment that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost (18th to 28th May) for more people to come to know Jesus. Every person, household and church are encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way. To assist you with this, please take a free 'Novena, 9 days prayer' booklet, a Prayer Journal and a book mark. More information about TKC can be found on www.thykingdomcome.global

The Symbolic Meaning of the Anointing in the Coronation Service

God save the King! Long live the King!
So the cries went up in Westminster Abbey at the coronation of King Charles III. And at the coronation, it would have been a fitting time to cry out, God save the King Bishop! Long live the Bishop King!

Last Saturday, after months of talking about the coronation, the coronation spoke at last. It spoke as all good liturgy speaks. The late Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel reminded us that the point of liturgical worship is not that it should say what we mean, but that we should mean what it says.

The coronation spoke poetically and powerfully. It sang gloriously, soaring in spirit, offering supplications to God for the King — and, one might say, symbolically a bishop.

The coronation rite is properly Anglican, but with deep Catholic roots, and even today resembles nothing as much as the ordination of a bishop. Few may have witnessed the consecration (“coronation”) of a bishop, but those that have would have recognised the key elements at Westminster Abbey.

Indeed, the anointing and crowning of a king is rooted in a “royal priesthood,” with the biblical exemplar of the anointing of King Solomon, who both ruled and offered priestly worship.

The ritual is a priestly one. The Gospel proclaimed is Luke 4 — “The spirit of the Lord is upon me” — which is read at the chrism Mass during Holy Week, the Mass at which Catholic priests renew the promises of ordination.

Before the anointing of the King, the *Veni Creator Spiritus* (Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire..) is sung, as is often done at ordinations. King Charles knelt, analogous to the prostration of men and women before they are ordained deacons, priests or bishops.

At the heart of the coronation ceremony is the anointing of the king — his hands, breast and head. Christians are anointed with holy oil on the breast at baptism; a priest’s hands are anointed at ordination; and the head of a bishop is anointed when he is consecrated.

Before the anointing, King Charles was stripped of his “robes of state” — the garments of his civic authority. After his anointing, he was dressed — vested, more accurately — not in the robes of state, but as a priest.

The vestments were described as the *colobium sindonis*, *supertunica*, and *girdle*. We know them as the alb, a dalmatic or tunic worn by deacons and sub-deacons, and the cincture.

Then the king put on the “Royal Stole” and the “Royal Robe,” which is really a cope — the same vestment the archbishop of Canterbury was wearing. Thus vested as a priest, he was presented the “regalia” — spurs,

swords, bracelets, ring, sceptre, rod, orb — just as a newly ordained bishop is presented a ring and a pastoral staff.

Finally, Charles received his crown, just as a bishop receives his mitre. He did so dressed not in military or royal dress, but in the vestments of a high priest.

During the king's anointing is sung the soaring Handel anthem: "Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anointed Solomon king!" Solomon, as king, dedicated the Temple and led the sacrifices there — a great priestly act. The coronation of King Charles consecrated him symbolically as a priest-king like Solomon.

Kings David and Solomon echo the priest-king who appears in Genesis, Melchizedek. It is common at priestly ordinations for a setting of Psalm 110 to be sung: *Tu es sacerdos in aeternum secundum ordinem Melchisedech* — "You are priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

Why the insistence that Christian kingship include a priestly dimension, as well? The mission of the king is to serve the good of his people, and their greatest good is to know God in his word and sacraments, encounter him in prayer and worship him rightly. A king ought to see to that.

The coronation rituals are singular. King Charles will never again bear St. Edward's Crown with which he was crowned. He will never again sit in his "cathedra," the Coronation Chair. He

will never again wear his alb, stole and cope, ready for ministry at the altar. Yet that he does all that at the most solemn moment of his reign is deeply instructive. A good king cannot limit himself only to worldly affairs. A Christian king is to be modelled on Christ the King, who was also the great High Priest.

The priestly role of the king is essential to the self-understanding of the British crown, a mission that transcends the merely temporal. God save the King!

AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar: Fr. Rodney Dreyer
01580 754459

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Miss Alison Jones
01580 755705
Mrs. Liz Hatcher
01580 712099

Organist:
Dr. Charlotte O' Neill
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Mrs Jane Cooper
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