



**ST. LAURENCE CHURCH
DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY
THE PARISH EUCHARIST
SERVICE CELEBRATED IN CELTIC
STYLE
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER
TRINITY- YEAR A
18.6.2023**



The Zoom details for this service are:

Meeting ID: 457 244 0784

Passcode: 5i1UCa

*The sidemen today are: Jean Elliott
and Ali Jones*

Introit Hymn

Come let us join our cheerful
songs
With angels round the throne;
Ten thousand thousand are their
tongues,
But all their joys are one.

“Worthy the Lamb that died,” they
cry,

“To be exalted thus:”

“Worthy the Lamb,” our lips reply,

“For He was slain for us.”

Jesus is worthy to receive
Honour and power divine:
And blessings more than we can
give

Be, Lord, for ever Thine.

Let all that dwell above the sky,
And air, and earth, and seas,
Conspire to lift Thy glories high,
And speak Thine endless praise.

The whole creation join in one,
To bless the sacred name
Of Him that sits upon the throne,
And to adore the Lamb.

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

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading read by Jane Cooper

A reading from the Book of Exodus

After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the Lord had commanded him to speak. The people all responded together, "We will do everything the Lord has said." So Moses brought their answer back to the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn:

Lord, thy word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth
light and joy receiveth.

When our foes are near us,

then thy word doth cheer us,
word of consolation,
message of salvation.

When the storms are o'er us,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth,
and our way protecteth.

Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure
by thy word imparted
to the simple-hearted?

Word of mercy, giving
succour to the living;
word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying.

O that we discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
evermore be near thee!

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent and believe in the Gospel.

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

A reading from the gospel according
to Matthew

Glory to Christ our Lord

At the sight of the crowds, Jesus' heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the labourers are few; so ask the

master of the harvest to send out labourers for his harvest."

Then he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness. The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus; Simon from Cana, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him.

Jesus sent out these twelve after instructing them thus, "Do not go into pagan territory or enter a Samaritan town. Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give." 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 Julian van Kan

On this, Fathers day, we lift up all fathers and father figures to you in prayer. We know how important they are in making a difference in a child's life, families and communities. You are our Father and to you we pray that you would bless them with your love, strength, and wisdom as they lead their families in faith and love.

Lord in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Holy God, St. Matthew in this morning's gospel reminds us of the privilege of suffering for Christ. We know that to share the work of Christ, we have to share the sacrifice of Christ. Help us when

Christianity is hard, and teach us to say to ourselves that when we suffer, we are following in the footsteps of Jesus.

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

Everlasting God, look down with love upon our Church here in our parish as day by day we struggle to be a body worthy of Jesus' name. We pray especially for the Christian churches who face daily persecution. Strengthen, comfort and encourage all those who suffer harassment, violence, imprisonment and even death for being followers of Jesus

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

Creator God, we live in a world becoming more secular and less religious every day, help us as Christians to stand up for Jesus against world opinion in the sure knowledge that he stands up for us before you, our Father in heaven.

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

Father God, at times your Son offers us hard choices; to choose sometimes between the closest ties of earth and loyalty to him. Free us from making decisions that are for our comfort or for the approval of others. Help us to understand that

good choices don't always lead to the easiest outcomes.

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

Gracious God, we pray for the sick and the suffering. For those undergoing treatments and surgery, for those convalescing and those who are recovered, that through our intercessions they may all experience a full recovery. As we also pray for those who will not recover, we remember the words of Jesus that "Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." We pray for: Gillian Robinson, Robbie Robinson, Eleanor Ash, David Winston, Christian Jervis-Read, Jill Fitzpatrick, Geraldine Nurney, Don Buckle and Neil Lagden

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

Merciful God, through the death of your son Jesus Christ you have freed us from the grip of the tomb. We pray for those who have departed this life and ask you, through your loving kindness, to have mercy on their souls and uphold and sustain those bereaved by their passing. We pray for the repose of the soul of Colin White recently departed.

We remember those whose years' mind occur this month: Emily

Arnold, Leila Philips, Colin Patterson, Marguerite Dunlop, Sheila Davis, Patsy Horner, Sandy Jones, Leslie Parsons, Norman French, Peter Maugham, Scarlett Reader, Ronald Poole, Ray Phillips, David William Potter, Lewis Waghorn and Trevor Thomas.

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

Faithful God in the week that lies before us may we all reflect your love in our families, our church and our community and in doing so, show everyone we meet that we are followers of Christ with a true desire to draw them into our Christian faith.

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

Offertory Hymn

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me,
My Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me!
The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised
To all who follow thee
That where thou art in glory
There shall thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my friend.

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.**

Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is

always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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

The Chalice Bearers today are: Peter Hodges and Charles Vernede

Communion Hymn

Lord, enthroned in heav'nly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
Thou alone, our strong Defender,
liftest up Thy people's head.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Jesus, true and living Bread!

Prince of Life, for us Thou livest,
by Thy body souls are healed;
Prince of Peace, Thy peace Thou givest,
by Thy blood is pardon sealed.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Word of God in flesh revealed.

Paschal Lamb! Thine offering finished
once for all when Thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall forevermore remain.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Cleansing souls from every stain.

Great High Priest of our profession,
through the oil Thou enteredst in;
by Thy mighty intercession
grace and mercy Thou dost win.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Only sacrifice for sin.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
stricken Rock, with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship Thee, the Lamb who died.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Risen, ascended, glorified!

Post Communion Collect

Loving Father, we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son: sustain us with your Spirit, that we may serve you here on earth until our joy is complete in heaven, and we share in the

**eternal banquet with 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 ...

Hymn

God is working this purpose out,
as year succeeds to year;
God is working this purpose out,
and the time is drawing near;
nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be:
when the earth shall be filled with
the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west,
where human feet have trod,
by the mouth of many messengers
goes forth the voice of God:
“Give ear to me, ye continents,
ye isles, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the
glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.”

Let us go forth in the strength of
God,
with the banner of Christ unfurled,
that the light of the glorious gospel
of truth
may shine throughout the world.
Let us all fight with sorrow and sin
to set the captives free,
that the earth may be filled with the
glory of God

as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth
unless God blesses the deed.
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
till God gives life to the seed.
Yet nearer and nearer draws the
time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with
the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

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

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WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST at
Bowles Lodge ~ 10.00a.m. Please
do join us.

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.

**SUMMER SUNDAY LUNCH
PARTY** – will be held on Sunday
25th June, from 12.30pm.
Tickets are on sale now.
£10 adults & £5 children

Please bring a chair to sit on as the
lunch party will be held behind the
church.
A cash bar will be available.

AT YOUR SERVICE
Vicar: Fr. Rodney Dreyer
01580 754459

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

Organists:
Dr. Charlotte O' Neill
01580 753817

Safeguarding:
Mrs Jane Cooper
07825044877

NOTICES