

DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY
Changed lives - Changing
lives

St. Laurence Parish Church
Hawkhurst - Parish Eucharist
Service.

24.9.2023 - The Sixteenth
Sunday after Trinity

Please Note: The Zoom details
for this service are:
Meeting ID: 457 244 0784
Passcode: 5i1UCa

The Sidesmen today are:
Charles and Sarah Vernede

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET
HOME WITH YOU

Hymn (Please stand if you are
able)

A safe stronghold our God is still,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He'll help us clear from all the ill
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The ancient prince of hell
Hath risen with purpose fell;
Strong mail of craft and power
He weareth in this hour,
On earth is not his fellow.

With force of arms we nothing
can,

Full soon were we down-ridden;
But for us fights the proper Man,
Whom God himself hath bidden.
Ask ye, Who is this same?
Christ Jesus is his name,
The Lord Sabaoth's Son;
He, and no other one,
Shall conquer in the battle.

And were this world all devils o'er,
And watching to devour us,
We lay it not to heart so sore;
Not they can overpower us.
And let the prince of ill
Look grim as e'er he will,
He harms us not a whit:
For why? His doom is writ;
A word shall quickly slay him.

God's word, for all their craft and
force,
One moment will not linger,
But, spite of hell, shall have its
course;

'Tis written by his finger.
And though they take our life,
Goods, honour, children, wife,
Yet is their profit small;
These things shall vanish all,
The city of God remaineth.

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

When Christ appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. As he is pure, all who have grasped this hope make themselves pure. So let us confess our sins that mar his image in us.

Confession

Your unfailing kindness, O Lord, is in the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, and your justice as the great deep:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

For with you is the well of life and in your light shall we see light:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

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

The Collect of the Day

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you;

and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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

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.

The First Reading read by Jane Cooper Philippians 1: 21-end

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I

know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light

fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme
too high doth seem
for mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released,
behold the Saviour's face,
his praises sound,
as in his sight
with sweet delight
ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
and praise him still,
through good and ill,
who ever lives.

My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love;
let all thy days
till life shall end,
whate'er he send,
be filled with praise.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 20:1-

16

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

May the Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
that we may know what is the
hope
that belongs to our call.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Matthew
Glory to Christ our Lord

Jesus told his disciples this
parable:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a
landowner

who went out at dawn to hire
labourers for his vineyard.

After agreeing with them for the
usual daily wage,

he sent them into his vineyard.

Going out about nine o'clock,

the landowner saw others
standing idle in the marketplace,

and he said to them, 'You too go
into my vineyard,

and I will give you what is just.'

So they went off.

And he went out again around
noon,

and around three o'clock, and did
likewise.

Going out about five o'clock,

the landowner found others
standing around, and said to
them,

'Why do you stand here idle all day?'

They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.'

He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.'

When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.'

When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage.

So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage.

And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.'

He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?

Take what is yours and go.

What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?

Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?

Are you envious because I am generous?'

Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

The Reflection

The Prayers of the Church - led by Stephen Ringer

Everlasting God, you do everything possible for our spiritual growth and well-being, but yet we so often choose the path of hostility and rejection. Let us pray trustfully to the God who has loved us into being and cherished us all our lives. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we pray for your Church; for Bishops, Priests and Deacons; for Readers; for Churchwardens and PCC's; that they will know how to strike the right balance between their work and family lives. We pray that they will always seek to reflect the love of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, refugees continue to flee from crisis throughout the world, and over half of them are children. Lord God we pray for all those who have willingly invested

their time and energy in serving the most vulnerable in the world, that they will find opportunities to rest, and will be strengthened for their work. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we also remember aid workers throughout the rest of the world working in places and situations that are no longer newsworthy; give them the encouragement to continue their invaluable contribution of love and care for those people rebuilding their lives after man-made or natural disasters. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father God, we pray for all those working on the land. Help them in their labours especially in these times of climate change and enable them all to get a fair price for the tremendously hard work they undertake. We pray also for the world's supermarket chains asking that they put the welfare of the farming community before massive profit achieved through exploitation.

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

Loving God, we pray for abundant life for anyone we know who has recently been given bad news about their health or the health of a loved-one. Lord, help us know what to say and when to speak.

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

May we always be ready to give practical help whenever we can and to ensure that those on their own are able to manage and cope with the day to day life. We pray for Robbie Robinson, Eleanor Ash, David Winston, Christian Jervis-Read, Jan Edwards, Jill Fitzpatrick, Don Buckle, Nigel Lemon, Ray Wicks, Hilary Deller, Georgie Whitaker, Helen Whitaker.

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

Merciful God, when death separates from us those we love and we find it hard to live without them, take from us all bitterness and resentment and help us to remember that death has no power at all over the peace you give and the love we shared with the departed goes beyond the grave. We pray for those recently departed: Mo Wright

And for all those whose years' mind occur this month: Joan Jennings, Harry Sidebottom, Gladys Bridgland, Jamie Hiscock, Carolyn Horner, Pat Hodges, Ivy Fawcett, Michael Kilby, Iris Weeks, Peggy Richardson, Geoffrey Pynegar, Michael Wright, George Maskell, Olive Boulton,

Michael Brown, Richard Thompson, James Little. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, as we prepare for the week to come, help us to know Christ and the power of his resurrection day by day and in the sharing of his sufferings to become more like him in his death.

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

The Peace

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;

ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;

praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;

loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.

O praise ye the Lord!
Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along:

for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

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.

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 part of the Eucharistic Prayer we respond
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 tempta-
tion; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the
power and the glory, for ever
and ever.
Amen.**

WE BREAK BREAD

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

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in the one bread

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.

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.

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold 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 nature 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 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.

The Chalice bearers today are: Stephen Ringer and Rachael Ringer

Communion Hymn

And now, O Father, mindful of the love that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree, and having with us him that pleads above, we here present, we here spread forth to thee that only offering perfect in thine eyes, the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

Look, Father, look on his anointed face,

and only look on us as found in him;
look not on our misusings of thy grace,
our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim:
for lo, between our sins and their reward
we set the Passion of thy Son our Lord.

And then for those, our dearest and our best,
by this prevailing presence we appeal:
O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast,
O do thine utmost for their souls' true weal;
from tainting mischief keep them white and clear,
and crown thy gifts with strength to persevere.

And so we come: O draw us to thy feet,
most patient Saviour, who canst love us still;
and by this food, so awful and so sweet,
deliver us from every touch of ill:
in thine own service make us glad and free,
and grant us never more to part with thee.

Post - Communion Prayers

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious

God's mercy endures for ever.

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; 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 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 Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you
and give you his peace;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Dismissal

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

Notices

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

Angel voices ever singing
round Thy throne of light,
angel harps, forever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless Thee
and confess thee Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can scan,
can it be that Thou regardest
songs of sinful man?
Can we feel that Thou art near us
and wilt hear us? Yea, we can.

Yea, we know Thy love rejoices
o'er each work of Thine;
Thou didst ears and hands and
voices
for Thy praise combine;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for Thy pleasure didst design.

Here, great God, today we offer
of Thine own to Thee;
and for Thine acceptance proffer,
all unworthily,
hearts and minds and hands and
voices
in our choicest melody.

Honour, glory, might, and merit
Thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
blessed Trinity:
of the best that Thou hast given
earth and heaven render Thee.
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 de-
parted through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. **And rise in glory.**
Amen.

Please sit for the Organ Volun- tary - Ein Festa Burg

The week ahead - September 24
to September 30, 2023

25 Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop
of Winchester, Spiritual Writer,
1626

25 Sergei of Radonezh, Rus-
sian Monastic Reformer, Teacher
of the
Faith, 1392

26 Wilson Carlile, Founder of
the Church Army, 1942

27 Vincent de Paul, Founder of
the Congregation of the Mission
(Lazarists), 1660

29 Michael and All Angels

30 Jerome, Translator of the
Scriptures, Teacher of the Faith,
420

NOTICES

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. Please speak to Mr Julian van Kan for further information.

THE NEXT BREAKFAST TALK
- will be at 9.30am. on Saturday 30th September. For catering purposes, please sign the sheet at the side of the church if you intend to come to the talk.

The talk will be given by Nicholas Holtam, former Bishop of Salisbury.

The title of the talk will be:

‘Creationtide – Everything, Everywhere, All the Time’

ST LAURENCE HARVEST SUPPER AND QUIZ is to be held on Saturday 30th September in Church. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.
Tickets £10 per person.

Family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) - £25

Raffle and pay bar.

Tickets available after church (or call Ali on 01580 755705)

THE DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION SERVICE will take place at Canterbury Cathedral on Saturday the 18th November at 7.30pm. We already have a number of candidates from St. Laurence. If there is anyone else interested in being confirmed, please speak to the Vicar. Names of candidates have to be sent to the Diocese by 1st. October. Thank you.
- Fr. Rodney

THE DIOCESE WEALD DEANERY ROADSHOW will be held on Thursday 12th October at 7 pm in St Dunstan’s Church, Cranbrook. Bishop Rose will open the meeting and lead the worship. This is an "open" meeting; everyone is welcome to attend.

After the introduction and worship there will be three break-out workshops. Everyone is welcome to join one of the workshops:

- Towards Carbon Net Zero
- Use of Church Buildings

- Including and Welcoming Children and Young People

This is an opportunity to learn about things happening within the Diocese, and to bring some ideas back to our churches and parishes.

HARVEST FESTIVAL is next Sunday (1st October). Please give donations for the Food Bank, in particular cleaning products and items for personal hygiene, which are currently low in stock.

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS:
UHT milk full fat (blue) and semi fat (green), tinned meat (but not corned beef or pork), tinned vegetables (especially peas and carrots), tinned fruit, coffee

OTHER ITEMS NEEDED: toilet-tries (shower gel, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste) toilet rolls, tinned fish, tinned potatoes, tinned rice pudding, jam, fruit juice

INSTALLATION OF THE NEW VICAR OF CRANBROOK – we have received the following message from the churchwardens of St Dunstan's:

You may have recently read that Richard King has been appointed the new Vicar for St Dunstan's

Church and Cranbrook. Richard is currently Rector of St John the Evangelist, in Edmonton, Canada and along with his wife Shelly will arrive in the UK in October.

Rev'd Richard will be Installed by Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin in St Dunstan's Church, Cranbrook (TN17 3HA) on **Wednesday, 25th October at 7.00pm.**

You are very warmly invited to join us at this joyous occasion. Refreshments will be provided.

Please save the date and do extend this invitation to your friends and colleagues.