

DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY
Changed lives - Changing lives
St. Laurence Parish Church
Hawkhurst - Parish Eucharist
Service.

12.11.2023 – The Third Sunday
before Advent
(Remembrance Sunday)

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

The Sidesmen today are: Diana
Hunt and Ali Jones

Hymn (Please stand if you are
able)

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy wounded side which
flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
save from wrath and make me
pure.

Not the labours of my hands
can fulfil thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;

foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyes shall close in
death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

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
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 may be 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.**

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

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 Nana Appiah-Peprah 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A Reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,

so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,

that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord,

will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord himself, with a word of command,

with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,

will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive, who are left,

will be caught up together with them in the clouds

to meet the Lord in the air.

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore, console one another with these words.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm does bind the restless wave,

Who bids the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive heard,

Who walked upon the foaming deep,
And calm amid the rage did sleep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood
Upon the waters dark and rude,
And bid their angry tumult cease,
And give for wild confusion peace;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r,

Your children shield in danger's
hour;
From rock and tempest, fire, and
foe,
Protect them where-so-e'er they
go;
Thus, evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land
and sea.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

Come to me, all you who labour
and are burdened,
And I will give you rest, says the
Lord.

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 will be
like ten virgins
who took their lamps and went out
to meet the bridegroom.
Five of them were foolish and five
were wise.

The foolish ones, when taking
their lamps,
brought no oil with them,
but the wise brought flasks of oil
with their lamps.

Since the bridegroom was long
delayed,

they all became drowsy and fell
asleep.

At midnight, there was a cry,
'Behold, the bridegroom! Come
out to meet him!'

Then all those virgins got up and
trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise,
'Give us some of your oil,
for our lamps are going out.'

But the wise ones replied,
'No, for there may not be enough
for us and you.

Go instead to the merchants and
buy some for yourselves.'

While they went off to buy it,
the bridegroom came
and those who were ready went
into the wedding feast with him.

Then the door was locked.
Afterwards the other virgins came
and said,

'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!'
But he said in reply,
'Amen, I say to you, I do not know
you.'

Therefore, stay awake,
for you know neither the day nor
the hour."

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

The Reflection

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 men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate of 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.

With the Father and the Son he
is worshipped and glorified.
He 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 Stephen Ringer

Loving God, we recognise our responsibility to encourage and uphold one another and to live together in peace and love. We also recognise our needs and our human weaknesses and come to you now with our prayers and petitions. Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Holy God, we pray for our church leaders, that they will be guided in their ministry by the influence of the Holy Spirit and that the Church, in the power of the Spirit, may make the Gospel understandable to people of every race, language, and culture. That the Holy Spirit of Peace may unite

and reconcile the peoples and nations of the earth, bringing an end to war, hatred, and discrimination. Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Creator God, we pray for your world, of which your Son is King. We pray for peace, reconciliation and healing in the places of war, hatred and terrorism, especial in Ukraine and Gaza. We pray that the nations of this world may be united and subject to the rule of Christ the King, through whom and for whom all things were created. We pray for earthy Monarchs, especially our gracious sovereign King Charles. May their rules be guided and influenced by the example set by your son Jesus Christ.

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

Mighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women in who serve in the Navy, the Army, or the Air Force, at home and abroad. Defend all who face danger and put their lives at risk so that others might live in safety and give them courage to face the perils of active service. Comfort all worried families, whose loved ones are in danger: surround them with your love, protect them from all harm and

help them to know that nothing can separate them from your love. Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for medics and chaplains, and all who support the suffering: give them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience to minister to the sick and wounded and to all prisoners and captives. We especially pray for all who returned from the field of combat with injuries both physical and mental which have ruined their young lives and for the charities and organisations which support them in their convalescence. Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful God, we pray for those fallen in battle who gave their lives in the cause of freedom and in defence of peace and justice. We remember too all civilians and non-combatants who died in the fighting: surround all who are bereaved with compassion, and give them a patient faith in their suffering. Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Everlasting God, wash away the wounds of war, violence, and hatred, help us to recognise how blessed Jesus named the peacemakers and to know that if we really wish for a peaceful world we

should honestly pray – “Let it begin with me.” Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

We pray for the sick and suffering and for those who care for them: Robbie Robinson, Eleanor Ash, David Winston, Christian Jarvis-Read, Jan Edwards, Jill Fitzpatrick, Nigel Lemon, Ray Wicks, Hilary Deller, Georgie Whitaker, Helen Whitaker. Lord in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful God, give us the grace to follow in the footsteps of your holy Son. Keep alive in us the memory of those dear to ourselves whom you have called to yourself, and grant that every remembrance which turns our hearts from things seen to things unseen may lead us always upwards to you until we come to our eternal rest.

We pray for those recently departed: Ken Davis, Sophie Ford

And for all those whose years' mind occur this month: Camillus Travers, Frederick Wood, Freda Ross-Thomson, Audrey Warren, Elsie Williams, Alan Vaughan, Joyce Fawcett, Paddy Turner, Niko Vaughan, John Mitham, Lynne Wood, Audrey Buss, Eddie Mole, Muriel Roberts, Elinor Michalski Leon Michalski. 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

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God. We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

O God, our Help in ages past,
our Hope for years to come,
our Shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal Home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
are like an evening gone,

short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our Help in ages past,
our Hope for years to come,
be Thou our Guard while life shall
last,
and our eternal Home!

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 temptation; 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 re-
ceive you into my soul. Since I
cannot now receive You sacra-
mentally, come at least spiritu-
ally 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:
Brian Elliott and Sandra Dreyer

Communion Hymn

Thy kingdom come, O God,
thy rule, O Christ, begin;
break with thine iron rod
the tyrannies of sin.

Where is thy reign of peace
and purity and love?
When shall all hatred cease,
as in the realms above?

When comes the promised time
that war shall be no more,
and lust, oppression, crime
shall flee thy face before?

We pray thee, Lord, arise,
and come in thy great might;
revive our longing eyes,
which languish for thy sight.

Men scorn thy sacred name,
and wolves devour thy fold;
by many deeds of shame
we learn that love grows cold.

O'er lands both near and far
thick darkness broodeth yet:

arise, O Morning Star,
arise, and never set!

Post - Communion Prayers

Give thanks to the Lord for God is
gracious

God's mercy endures for ever.

God of peace, whose Son Jesus
Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to whole-
ness of life: look with compassion
on the anguish of the world, and
by your healing power make
whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Je-
sus Christ. **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

God of power, may the boldness
of your Spirit transform us, may
the gentleness of your Spirit lead
us, may the gifts of your Spirit
equip us to serve and worship you
now and always. 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 the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Notices

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

Make me a channel of your peace:

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;

where there is injury, your healing power,

and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace:

where there's despair in life let me bring hope;

Where there is darkness, only light,

and where there's sadness, ever joy.

O, Spirit, grant that I may never seek

so much to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace:

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

in giving to all that we receive,

and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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.**

Please sit for the **Organ Voluntary - Nun Danken Vierling**

The week ahead:

13 Charles Simeon, Priest, Evangelical Divine, 1836

14 Samuel Seabury, first Anglican Bishop in North America, 1796

16 Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Philanthropist, Reformer of the Church, 1093

16 Edmund Rich of Abingdon, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1240

17 Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200

18 Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess of Thuringia, Philanthropist, 1231

NOTICES

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

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (PGS) – 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 HUMAN JOURNEY - a new small group course in the parish of St. Laurence, Hawkhurst, for November 2023 and January 2024

Please note – the initial meeting for all participants will be held in the church at 7.00 pm tomorrow evening (November 15th).

PARISH LUNCH - on Sunday November 26th Diana and Stephen Ringer will be cooking a delicious lunch which will be served in the church:

Hot meal with Vegan Option and wine. Start time at 12:30.

Please bring own cutlery and plates. £10 each, Under 12's £5, Under 5's free, families by negotiation. Donations of desserts welcome, please check with Diana (so we do not get, for example, 17 apple crumbles!). Sign -up sheet at side of church.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL – will be held on Friday 8th, Sat 9th and Sun 10th December.

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
