



ST. LAURENCE CHURCH,
HAWKHURST

FAMILY COMMUNION
4TH. MAY 2025

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF
EASTER

ZOOM DETAILS:

Meeting ID: 457 244 0784

Passcode: 5i1UCa

The sidespeople today are Di-
ana Hunt and Ali Jones

WELCOME

The Vicar welcomes the congregation

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.

Alleluia, Christ is Risen
He is risen indeed. Alleluia

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

CONFESSION

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief. We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

May the Father forgive us by the death and resurrection of his Son, and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days. **Amen**

GLORIA

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.

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.

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.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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**

First Reading Revelation 5:11-14 read by Rachel Elliott

I, John, looked and heard the voices of many angels

who surrounded the throne and the living creatures and the elders.

They were countless in number, and they cried out in a loud voice:

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength, honour and glory and blessing."

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, everything in the universe, cry out:

"To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour, glory and might, forever and ever."

The four living creatures answered, "Amen, " and the elders fell down and worshipped.

HYMN (PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

Come, you faithful, raise the strain

of triumphant gladness!

God has brought his Israel into joy from sadness,

loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke

Jacob's sons and daughters, led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

See the spring of souls today;
Christ has burst his prison,

and from three days' sleep in death

as a sun hath risen;

all the winter of our sins,

long and dark, is flying

from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright

with the day of splendour,

with the royal feast of feasts,

comes its joy to render;

comes to gladden faithful hearts

which with true affection

welcome in unwearied strains

Jesus' resurrection!

For today among his own

Christ appeared, bestowing

blessed peace, which evermore

passes human knowing.

Neither could the gates of death

nor the tomb's dark portal

nor the watchers nor the seal

hold him as a mortal.

"Alleluia!" Now we cry

to our King immortal,

who, triumphant, burst the bars

of the tomb's dark portal.

Come, you faithful, raise the strain

of triumphant gladness!

God has brought his Israel

into joy from sadness!

THE GOSPEL READING

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Christ is risen, creator of all;

he has shown pity on all people.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John, Chapter 21 beginning at the first verse

Glorify to you O Lord

At that time, Jesus revealed himself again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. He revealed himself in this way. Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We also will come with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish. So the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord."

When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad, and jumped into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, for they were not far from shore, only about a hundred yards, dragging the net with the fish. When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred fifty-three large fish. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast." And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord. Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" Simon Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." He then said to

Simon Peter a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Simon Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." Jesus said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." He said this signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when he had said this, he said to him, "Follow me."

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

REFLECTION

THE CREED

Father, we adore You,
lay our lives before You,
how we love You.

Jesus we adore You,

lay our lives before You,
how we love You.

Spirit, we adore You,
lay our lives before You,
how we love You.

PRAYERS led by Peter Wyllie

Mighty God, your Son revealed himself again and again and convinced his disciples of his glorious resurrection. Help us to feel his risen presence, so that we can lovingly feed his sheep, and care for the lambs of his flock here in our church and parish community.

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

Creator God, we thank you for the example of leadership given to us by your Son, Jesus Christ, in his life on earth and how, in a very practical sense, he showed his followers a new way to fish. We pray for the peoples of the world who are learning to do new things with their lives, and we continue to pray that such changes will hasten the day when all of your world has enough of the basic essentials and comforts of life.

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

Merciful God, we continue to pray for King Charles and for every member of the Royal

Family. We pray too for every member of Parliament and for their respective families.

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

Loving God, we pray for the peoples of Ukraine, Yemen, Gaza and all places in your world where there is war and suffering. May they know your justice and your peace.

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

Almighty God, you have called us to follow in the way of your risen Son, and to care for those who are our companions, not only with words, but with acts of love. As we seek to be true friends of all, we pray for our families, our friends and our neighbours, especially in areas where there are problems with our relationships. Let us always be the ones to make the first steps towards reconciliation.

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

Gracious God, we remember this morning those who are sick, sad or lonely and those who are brave and patient when things are going wrong. We pray that they may be aware of your comforting presence and know that in your hands they are safe

and loved. We pray for Robbie Robinson, Eleanor Ash, David Winstone, John Tanner, Irene Bow, David Colquhoun, Brian Elliott, Hannah, Chloe, Emma, Matilda, Jill Fitzpatrick, Keith Brown, Matt, Val Manser.

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

Creator God, through the glorious resurrection 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. We pray too for those bereaved by their passing.

We pray for the recently departed: Les Dickson, David Axford and Peter Hunt.

We pray for those whose years mind occur this month

Simon Edwards, David 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, David Barter, Barbara Barter

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

Lord, at the start of this new week, help us to be an example to others. Show us, as you did with your fishermen friends, the practical steps we need to take so that we can change the ways in which we do things and so develop consistency and integrity in all that we do in our lives.

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

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

We stand to sing

Shalom, Shalom,
May peace be with you,
Throughout your days;
In all that you do,
May peace be with you,
Shalom, Shalom.
(Repeat)

OFFERTORY HYMN (PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

A collection will be made during the singing of this hymn

We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,

not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim:
the Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save;
in lonely suffering on the cross
for all he loved, his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free;
he broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand
by all creation glorified;
he sends his Spirit on his church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
this gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

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 him thanks and praise

Why do we give thanks and praise at this table?

We give thanks for all that God has done for us.

God the Father created the heavens, the earth and everything in them; and created us in his own image.

Let us give thanks and praise

Christ our Lord became human like us, and died to save us.

Let us give thanks and praise

God sent the Holy Spirit to gather us together as the people of God

Let us give thanks and praise

So come let us join together to worship this God who loves

We 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.

Please sit

We praise you Father that before Jesus our Saviour suffered and died, he gave us this holy meal to

share and told us to continue it until he comes again.

Why do we eat bread together at this table?

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Why do we drink from the cup together at this table?

In the same way after supper Jesus took the cup, saying. "This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood, poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me"

What do we remember at this table?

We remember the Father's gracious love for us, Christ's death and resurrection for us, and the Spirit's tender care for us.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

We sing:

Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Merciful Father, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these

gifts of bread and wine. In eating and drinking together may we be made one with Christ and with one another. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FRACTION

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

Though we are many, we are one body

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.

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:
Kent Harries and Alison Parsons

POST-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.

THE POST COMMUNION
PRAYER.

**Living God, your Son made
himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread: open
the eyes of our faith, that we
may see him in all his
redeeming work; who is alive
and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen**

THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing ...**Amen**

NOTICES

HYMN (PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God rules in the height, almighty to save;
though hid from our sight, his presence we have;
the great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
let all cry aloud, and honour the Son;

the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and give him his right:

all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honour and blessing with angels above
and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

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.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

We listen to the Organ Voluntary

Fr. Rodney and Sandra would like to thank you very much for your generous Easter Gift. It is deeply appreciated.

Sustainability Report 2024/25
(omitted from APCM reports last week)

First of all a huge thank you to all those who have helped with this project. Our aim is to increase biodiversity and provide wildlife habitat in certain areas at the rear of the Church and at the Church pond. It is a big undertaking and will take time. So far we have cleared brambles and invasive weeds (still an ongoing job) and we are already seeing an increase in wildflowers, the snowdrops were spectacular this Spring.

If you feel you can help please speak to Jane, Claire, Lynn or Fred.

NOTICES

Loaves and Fishes Sunday is always the third Sunday of the month. This month it will fall on 18th May. Please bring goods for the Foodbank. They can be left on the Vicarage doorstep or brought to church and placed in the box under the table at the back of the church.

Bowles Lodge - the 10am Wednesday Eucharist is at Bowles Lodge. Please join us.

Compline – We celebrate a compline service on zoom each

Wednesday at 6.00pm. Please feel free to join us if you can.

The Zoom link is: Meeting ID:
457 244 0784 Passcode:
5i1Uca

Collection and Giving

A collection will be taken during this service. Please remember to use a Gift Aid envelope if you are a taxpayer. Also you may support the work of St Laurence Church by donating at the collection box or the online terminal at the exit. Additionally you may give to St Laurence Church via the QR code which can be found on our website: www.stlaurencechurch-hawkhurst.org under the *Welcome* tab and through a link under *Giving*.

The St Laurence 100 Club is another one of our fund-raising initiatives. The Club is open to those over 16 years of age and membership costs £10 a year. There is a monthly draw for three prizes, with first prize being £20, the second £10 and the third £5. Please speak to Alison Parsons for details.

A Calendar of Events has been compiled by the PCC. This is available on the table at the back of the church and also on the website. **Please note that the**

two Evensong services with St Dunstons' Church have been postponed.

Christian Aid Week 2025

A fundraising ***Coffee Morning*** will be held at St Laurence Church on Tuesday 13th May between 10.30am and 12.00.

Everyone welcome; Please join us!

There will be refreshments, stalls, film, music and a display.

VE EXHIBITION

There will be an exhibition in the church from 5th to 11th May

AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar: The Revd Canon Rodney Dreyer
01580 754459

Churchwardens

Claire Roberts 01580 754374
Liz Hatcher 01580 712099

Assistants

Lydeke Klein 01580 493732
Ali Jones 01580 755705

Safeguarding:

Mrs Jane Cooper
07825 044877

Organist:

Dr. Charlotte O' Neill
01580 753817