



**ST. LAURENCE CHURCH
THE PARISH EUCHARIST
SERVICE CELEBRATED IN CELTIC
STYLE**

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER-
YEAR C - CHRISTIAN AID SUNDAY
18. 5. 2022**



The Zoom details for this service are:

Meeting ID: 457 244 0784
Passcode: 5i1UCA

The sideman today are: Judy Darkins and Jean Elliott.

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation,
By water and the word;
From Heav'n he came and sought her
To be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her,
And for her life he died.
Elect from ev'ry nation,
Yet one o'er all the Earth,
Her charter of salvation

One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With ev'ry grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace forever more;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with thee;
There, past the border mountains,
Where in sweet vales, the bride
With thee, by living fountains,
Forever shall abide!

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

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen 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 21:1-6
read by Stephen Crowe

There was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the

Beginning and the End. To the thirsty
I will give water without cost from the
spring of the water of life”.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God.

He whose Word cannot be broken
formed thee for His own abode.

On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.

Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the
Giver,
never fails from age to age.

'Round each habitation hov'ring,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a cov'ring,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which He gives them on their way.

Saviour, since of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in Thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasures,

all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasures
none but Zion's children know.

Gospel - John 13:31-35

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

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 Norma Crowe

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

For all God's people throughout the world; for those who minister in our Church: For our Bishop Rose, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

For Pope Leo XIV, the leaders of the Orthodox Churches and those of the Reformed Churches; that all who confess Christ's name may be united in truth, live as one in love and reveal his glory in the world, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

That God's grace and guidance may be upon Christians in need, especially those known to us.... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

For those whose faith is known to God alone...let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

For Charles our King and his Government and for wisdom for all in authority, guidance in ways of justice and peace and that all may honour one another and serve the common good..let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

That we reverence the earth as God's creation, and may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to hid glory...let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

For the work and ministry of all involved with Christian Aid and for all who support them...let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

For those persecuted for their faith, ethnicity or difference from ourselves...let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

For all who suffer in mind, body or spirit: 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...that we may be willing agents of God's compassion for them....let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

That God's wisdom and mercy may be present in every situation of need in

our world todaylet us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

For those whose lives are closely linked with ours and for those who have asked for our prayers, that we may serve Christ in them....

....let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

For all who have died, that God's will for them may be fulfilled and that they may share with his saints in his eternal kingdom. We pray...

For those recently departed: Les Dickson, Eileen Burnett, David Colquhoun, David Axford, Judy Scanlan and Peter Hunt.

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, David Barter, Barbara Barter....let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

Almighty God, may your Holy Spirit teach us to pray without ceasing, guiding us to ask for what will profit us for eternity, and for those things that will bring peace to your world and wholeness to your creation..

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

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)
Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?

The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.

Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed?

To do the will of Jesus, this is rest.

Peace, perfect peace, death shadowing us and ours?

Jesus has vanquished death and all its powers.

Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown?

Jesus we know, and he is on the throne.

It is enough: earth's struggles soon shall cease,
and Jesus call to heaven's perfect peace.

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 par-
ticularly 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 dy-
ing, his rising to life breathing for-
giveness, 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.**

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, gra-
cious 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:
Peggy Stone, Felicity Robinson

Communion Hymn

We hail thy presence glorious,
O Christ our great High Priest,
o'er sin and death victorious,
at thy thanksgiving feast:
as thou art interceding
for us in heaven above,
thy church on earth is pleading
thy perfect work of love.

Through thee in every nation
thine own their hearts upraise,
offering one pure oblation,
one sacrifice of praise:
with thee in blest communion
the living and the dead
are joined in closest union,
one Body and one Head.

O living bread from heaven,
Jesu, our Saviour good,
who thine own self hast given
to be our souls' true food;
for us thy body broken
hung on the cross of shame:
this bread its hallowed token,
we break in thy dear name.

O stream of love unending,
poured from the one true vine,
with our weak nature blending

the strength of life divine;
our thankful faith confessing
in thy life-blood outpoured,
we drink this cup of blessing
and praise thy name, O Lord.

May we thy word believing,
thee through thy gifts receive,
that, thou within us living,
we all to God may live;
draw us from earth to heaven
till sin and sorrow cease,
forgiving and forgiven,
in love and joy and peace.

Post Communion Collect

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus
Christ is the way, the truth, and the
life: grant us to walk in his way, to
rejoice in his truth, and to share his
risen life; who is alive and reigns,
now and for ever. **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

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 ...

Hymn (Please stand if you are able)

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;

to his feet your tribute bring.

Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,

evermore his praises sing.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour to his people in distress.

Praise him, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glorious in his faithfulness!

Fatherlike he tends and spares us;

well our feeble frame he knows.

In his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Widely yet his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him;

you behold him face to face.

Sun and moon, bow down before him,

dwellers all in time and space.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise with us the God of grace!

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.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God

Alleluia, Christ is Risen
He is risen indeed. Alleluia
Retiring Organ Voluntary

NOTICES

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

Compline – We celebrate a com-
pline service on zoom each Wednes-
day 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 an-
other one of our fund-raising initia-
tives. 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 Par-
sons for details.

*Thank you everyone who sup-
ported the Christian Aid event
in the presence of Bishop
Rose last Tuesday. Thank you
to Norma and all who helped
to arrange the event. £670
was raised on the day.*

Fr. Rodney

AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar: The Revd Canon Rodney
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