

**St. Laurence Parish
Church, Hawkhurst
in the Diocese of
Canterbury
The Eleventh Sunday
after Trinity -
31.8.2025**

This church is a Hybrid Church open for public worship and private prayer and most services will be live streamed. By attending a live streamed service, you give implied permission to have your image captured on CCTV and to be broadcast as participant in the liturgy.

In order to watch the livestreamed services please click on the following link to access the You Tube site:
<https://www.youtube.com/@StLaurenceChurchHawkhurst>

Please tell a sidesman if you do not wish to be filmed in order to be seated in a position out of the view of the camera.

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**The Sidesmen today are
Anne Wheelhouse and Ali
Jones**

As we gather and prepare to join in worship, music is played on the organ.

WELCOME

Hymn

Mine eyes have seen the glory
of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage
where the grapes of wrath are
stored;

He hath loosed the fateful
lightning of zhis terrible swift
sword;

His truth is marching on.

Refrain:

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-
fires of a hundred circling
camps;

They have builded Him an
altar in the evening dew and
damps;

I can read the righteous
sentence by the dim and
flaring lamps;

His day is marching on.

[Refrain]

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of all before His judgment seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

[Refrain]

In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make us holy,
let us die to make men free,
while God is marching on.

[Refrain]

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

As we prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us bring to the Lord our sins and weaknesses, and ask for his mercy.

We are often slow to follow the example of Christ.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We often fail to be known as Christ's disciples.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We often fail to walk the way of the cross.

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly
repent, have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver from all
your sins, confirm and
strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
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 God, you declare your
almighty power most chiefly in
showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a
measure of your grace, that
we, running the way of your

commandments, may receive
your gracious promises, and
be made partakers of your
heavenly treasure; 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:

**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.**

**First Reading – read by
Claire Roberts** Hebrews 13:1-
8, 15-16

Keep on loving one another as
brothers and sisters. Do not
forget to show hospitality to
strangers, for by so doing
some people have shown
hospitality to angels without
knowing it. Continue to
remember those in prison as if
you were together with them in

prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering. Marriage should be honoured by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn

Morning has broken

like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.

Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day!

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever follows me will not
walk in darkness
but will have the light of life,
says the Lord.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke chapter 14: verses 1, 7-14

Glorify Christ our Lord

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched. When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honour at the table, he told them this parable: "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honour, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honoured in the presence of all the other guests. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbours; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

The Reflection

The 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 and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,

who 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 Norma Crowe**

Friends in Christ, God, invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. Loving our neighbours as ourselves, we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions on behalf of the church and the world.

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

Almighty God, we pray for your church here in Hawkhurst. We ask for your blessing on our work as we seek to create a church community that welcomes the stranger, provides a refuge for those who feel threatened or alone and a place where everyone feels that they belong.

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

Father in heaven, we pray for people of every race and belief, and in every kind of need: make your ways known on earth, your saving power among nations. We pray especially for peace between Russia and Ukraine.

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

Father God, take control of our mouths and forgive us for careless, thoughtless, and angry words used against our family, friends and neighbours. Let our words always bless you and others and may our actions speak of love for you and your Son Jesus Christ. Help us to see each individual as uniquely made in your image and worthy of our love and respect. Show your love through our lives in some small way today.

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

Gracious God, we pray for all who suffer, whether their suffering is physical or spiritual.

We pray for Eleanor Ash, David Winstone, John Tanner, Irene Bow, Brian Elliott, Jill Fitzpatrick, Keith Brown, Val Manser, Thomas Cox, Gwen Brown, Peter Duffy, Matt, Jill, Carol and Hannah and we ask you to support all who give their strength, their skill and their stamina in a ministry of healing.

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

Merciful God, we pray for those who have gone before us to that place where flesh and spirit part. May they rest in your love and peace, surrounded by the heavenly host and reunited with loved ones.

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

We pray for all recently departed: Danija Antonijevic, Gordon Connell, Janice Fenlon and Bentley Vermeulen.

We pray for those who's years mind occurs this month: Carol Ann Larkin, Gillian Catherine Robinson, Olivia Mason, Cecil Bishop, Kevin Fitzpatrick,

Douglas Stanley Nurney, Eric John Warren, Gordon Garwood-Warren, Christopher Golding, William Livermore, Eunice Botha, Gwendolen Joan Clarkson, Gerald Abbey, Philip Frederick Skeet, Barbara Cox and Graham Brackstone.

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

Mighty God, grant that the words we have heard during our time of worship may be grafted onto our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruits of a good life, in praise and honour of your Holy Name.

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

God of mercy, you know us and love us and hear our prayer: keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

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

Merciful Father

Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

The Peace

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Hymn

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,

and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee, whose blood can
cleanse each spot,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed
about

with many a conflict, many a
doubt,

fightings and fears within,
without,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse,
relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I
come.

THE LITURGY OF THE SAC- RAMENT

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 good-
ness we have this bread to of-
fer, 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 good-
ness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of hu-
man 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 ac-
ceptable 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 up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God

**It is right to give thanks and
praise**

Exalted above all is your name,
God of Jacob, for you feed your
people, not only for today but
for eternity, with your food that
truly satisfies. When your peo-
ple hungered, you longed to
feed them with finest wheat,
and through the grace of your
servant Jacob turned famine
into abundant provision.

When you brought your chil-
dren out of slavery, you filled
their mouths with good things
and led them to life in a land of

plenty. In the fulness of time your Son gave us a place of honour at the banquet of salvation, which is more than we could ever deserve. And so we rejoice with all who feed on him by faith with thanksgiving, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven as we join the unending hymn of praise.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of
your glory**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in
the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Transforming God, as you exalt the humble and humble the exalted, pour your grace upon your church, gathered to remember the dying and rising of your Son. Send your Spirit upon this bread and this cup that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread and gave you

thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them saying,

‘Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me’

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

‘Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is
risen; Christ will come again.**

Inviting God, as in your Son you beckon the poor and the crippled and the blind and the lame, visit your church where it is poor and make it reflect the wonder of your love. Renew the people where they are crippled, that your power may be made perfect in weakness. Empower your children where they are blind, that they may know you more truly.

Uphold your saints where they are lame, that they may find

friends gracious in support and strength, with whom they may never be afraid. Make your church a place of holiness and hospitality, that it may entertain angels unawares. For in Christ you are the same yesterday, today and for ever, and in the power of your Spirit we shall never walk alone, heavenly Father, radiant in glory. **Amen**

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 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.

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.

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 manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much

**as to gather up the crumbs
under thy Table. But you are
the same Lord, whose prop-
erty 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.**

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 re-
ceive you, but only say the
word, and I shall be healed.**

The Distribution of Com- munion

**The Chalice bearers today
are: Judy Darkins and Felic-
ity Robinson**

Post Communion Hymn

Now, my tongue, the mystery
telling
of the glorious body sing,
and the blood, all price excel-
ling,

which the Gentiles' Lord and
King,
in a Virgin's womb once dwell-
ing,
shed for this world's ransom-
ing.

Given for us, and condescend-
ing
to be born for us below,
he, with us in converse blend-
ing,
dwelt the seed of truth to sow,
till he closed with wondrous
ending
his most patient life of woe.

That last night, at supper lying,
'mid the Twelve, his chosen
band,
Jesus, with the law complying,
keeps the feast its rites de-
mand;
then, more precious food sup-
plying,
gives himself with his own
hand.

Word-made-flesh, true bread
he maketh
by his word his flesh to be,
wine his blood; which whoso
taketh
must from carnal thoughts be
free:

faith alone, though sight forsaketh,
shows true hearts the mystery.

Therefore we, before him bending,
this great sacrament revere:
types and shadows have their ending,
for the newer rite is here;
faith, our outward sense befriending,
makes our inward vision clear.
Glory let us give and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
honour, might, and praise addressing,
while eternal ages run;
ever too his love confessing,
who, from both, with both is One. Amen.

Post - Communion Prayers

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious

God's mercy endures for ever.

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and

preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Father almighty we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen

Notices

The Blessing

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart. **Amen.**

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace. **Amen.**

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. **Amen.**

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do

what others claim cannot be done. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

Hymn

To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
so loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,

and give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,

to ev'ry believer the promise of

God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [*Refrain*]

Great things He hath taught us,
great things He hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport,
when Jesus we see. [*Refrain*]

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.**

Retiring Organ Voluntary

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NOTICES

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 under *Welcome* tab and through a link under *Giving*.

Ride and Stride - This year marks the 40th anniversary of the annual Ride and Stride for Churches, raising money for the repair and maintenance of historic Kent Churches.

The event takes place on Saturday 13th September and participants are encouraged to cycle or walk (or run) around

Kent, visiting participating churches on the way and getting sponsored for their efforts. If you are interested in taking part in this very worthwhile sponsored event, either by cycling, walking or manning our church on the day, please contact Felicity Robinson at church or on 07871999536 for sponsorship forms or more details. Many thanks

God, the Planet and Us is a short, online, evening course from St Augustine's College of Theology, designed to help ordinary Christians understand and navigate our ecological and climate crisis. Find out more and book your place at <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/god-the-planet-and-us/>

Tuesday evenings, 16 September to 14 October 2025, 7.30 to 9.00pm Online, so you can join wherever you are in the world.

God, the Planet, and Us costs just £50, with free places available for people facing economic disadvantage. The course is open to all.

The Fellowship Groups will reconvene and meet again starting in September. We will be discussing the book by Archbishop Rowan Williams called BEING DISCIPLES - ESSENTIALS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE. Notes summarising each of the Six Chapters of the book will be provided. It is a very good book and the course will be a great help to us on our common Christian journey.

If you would like to join an exciting and rewarding process lasting six sessions, please choose a group to join and put your name down. Dates and times as to when to meet will be decided by each of the respective groups. Thank you.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Harvest Supper and Quiz -
Saturday October 4th – Details to follow

Harvest Festival – Sunday
October 5th

Sale on Saturday 11th October

This is a sale in church of ***Pictures, Plants and Pretty Things***

10am – 12 noon. We would be pleased to receive any of the above items that you would like to donate for this sale in aid of St Laurence Church.

Sunday November 9th – Remembrance Service

Saturday November 15th –
Aadvarks Big Band concert
7pm in church. Aadvarks Big Band is a swing band. – Details to follow.

Saturday November 29th –
Light up a Life service (Hospice in the Weald) at 3.00pm

Friday December 5th - Christmas Tree Festival 10am – 4pm

Saturday December 6th - Christmas Tree Festival 10am – 4pm

Sunday December 7th - Christmas Tree Festival 12 noon – 4pm

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

Organists:

Dr. Charlotte O' Neill
01580 753817
Richard O'Neill
01580 753817

What is a Hybrid Church?

The term hybrid church refers to a service conducted partially in person and partially online. Compared to traditional worship services, which are entirely within the church's facility, a hybrid church extends some or all of the worship service into the digital world. Whether a hybrid church service consists of sharing a recorded service on social media or is one component of a full-fledged online ministry, the model shares the worship experience with more people than those inside the church building.