



**St. Laurence Church,
Hawkhurst**

**Family Holy Communion
Service
7.9.2025**

**the Twelfth Sunday after
Trinity**

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.

The Sidesmen today are Kate Lagden and Jean Elliott

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

WELCOME

The Vicar welcomes the congregation.

HYMN (Please stand if you are able)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is
your health and salvation!

Come, all who hear; now to his
temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, above all
things so wondrously reigning;
sheltering you under his wings,
and so gently sustaining!

Have you not seen all that is
needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will
prosper your work and defend
you;

surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend you.

Ponder anew what the Almighty
can do,

if with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is
in me adore him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

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**

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

We pray together:

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

FIRST READING Philemon 9-10, 12-17 read by Clive Dewing

I, Paul, an old man, and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus, urge you on behalf of my child Onesimus, whose father I have become in my imprisonment; I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.

I should have liked to retain him for myself, so that he might serve me on your behalf in my imprisonment for the gospel, but I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that the good you do might not be forced but voluntary.

Perhaps this is why he was away from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a brother, beloved especially to me, but even more so to you, as a man and in the Lord.

So if you regard me as a partner, welcome him as you would me.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

HYMN

Be still for the presence of the
Lord,

The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now,
With reverence and fear

In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the
Lord,

The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord,
Is shining all around

He burns with holy fire,
With splendour He is crowned
How awesome is the sight

Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord,
Is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord,
Is moving in this place

He comes to cleanse and heal,
To minister His grace

No work too hard for Him
In faith receive from Him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place

THE GOSPEL READING

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Luke, Chapter
fourteen beginning at the twenty
fifth verse

Glory to you O Lord

Great crowds were travelling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for

the manure pile; it is thrown out.
"He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH -

led by Jane Cooper

Everlasting God, as you look down on our church family here assembled we thank you for this place in which we worship together. Thank you for the love that unites us, for the peace we enjoy today and for the hopes we have for tomorrow. We thank you too for the health we enjoy, for the work that keeps us cheerfully occupied, for the food that sustains us, for the beauty around us that make our lives delightful and for our friends in every corner of the world.

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

Lord we ask you guide your Church especially when differences amongst us seem to threaten our very existence. We face each other, but often do not see the face. We too easily make 'an other' of one another. Help us now to look again, to see Jesus in the face and to recognise hopes, aspirations and desires.

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

Creator God in this uncertain time politically for the world and the tensions dominate the headlines, we pray for all leaders as they negotiate the political and economic future of the nations. We pray for those who represent their communities in Parliament; for the media as they interpret events, and for ourselves and our future.

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

Father God, help us to recognise the people in our lives who need someone to stand up for them. Forgive us for thinking that it's "not our problem" and help us always to love our family friends and neighbours as ourselves, especially praying for those who do not carry the cross and follow Jesus as a disciple.

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

Gracious God, sometimes life seems out of control, and we don't know exactly which direction to take, especially when we are, or someone we know is, ill. Thank you for overseeing our lives and prompting us in the right way through your word and your spirit. We raise before you

now those on our hearts and those causing us concern.

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.

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

Merciful God, remember, the souls of your servants fallen asleep and for those who are saddened by their passing. Be with the bereaved in their loneliness and give them the faith to look beyond their present troubles to your Son Jesus Christ who died and rose again and who lives for evermore. We pray for those recently departed, the newly presented servants of God: Gordon Connell, Janice Fenlon and Bentley Vermeulen.

And for those whose years' mind occur at this time:

Harry Sidebottom, Gladys Bridgland, Jamie Hiscock, Carolyn Horner, Pat Hodges, Ivy Fawcett, Michael Kilby, Iris Weeks, Peggy Richardson, Geoffrey Pynegar, Michael Wright, Marjorie Easteal, George Maskell, Olive Boulton, Michael Brown, Donald Buckle, Richard Thompson, Jimmy Little, Angela

Cheeseman, Harold Fussell, David Fussell.

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

Faithful God, we praise you for all you have done in the past; we look forward with thankfulness for all you will do in the future, and we thank you for today and all your blessings we experience. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

God, and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, hear these prayers we offer you in his name. By the power of your Holy Spirit work within us and among us to bring your kingdom values into this world. Let your will be done so that all people may live only for your praise and glory

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

Almighty God, we pray for ourselves; as we go from your house today to start the week ahead, we ask that in all we do, we may walk more closely with you at our side safe in the knowledge that your fatherly love and care knows no bound.

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 the following hymn twice over

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

(Repeat)

HYMN (Please stand if you are able)

A collection will be made during the singing of this hymn

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them
move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt
choose,

every power as thou shalt
choose.

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

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

As Christ has taught us so pray
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.

A Prayer for those joining us on Youtube 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 property 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.

The Fraction

We break this Bread to share in the body of Christ

Though we are many we are one body because we all share in one Bread

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
Lord, I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word and I shall be healed.

The Distribution of Communion

The chalice bearers today are:
Ali Jones and Sandra Dreyer

COMMUNION HYMN

Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christlight for you

in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to
hear.

I will weep when you are
weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with
you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey
through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER.

**God of all mercy, in this
Eucharist you have set aside
our sins and given us your
healing: grant that we who are
made whole in Christ may
bring that healing to this
broken world, in the name of
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

THE BLESSING

God the Holy Trinity make you
strong in faith and love, defend

you on every side, and guide you
in truth and peace; and the
blessing ...**Amen.**

NOTICES

HYMN (Please stand if you are
able)
Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of
all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no
cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give
us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
At the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all
faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled
at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours and give
us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,
At the noon of the day.
Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all
grace,
Your hands swift to welcome,
Your arms to embrace.
Be there at our homing, and give
us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord,
At the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all
calm,
Whose voice is contentment,
whose presence is balm,

Be there at our sleeping, and
give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,
At the end of the day.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God

May the divine assistance remain
with us always.

**And with all our brothers and
sisters in Christ.**

May the souls of the faithful de-
parted through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. **And rise in glory.
Amen.**

Retiring Organ Voluntary

NOTICES

Compline - We celebrate a com-
pline 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:
511Uca

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 his-
toric Kent Churches.

The event takes place next Sat-
urday 13th September and par-
ticipants are encouraged to cycle
or walk (or run) around Kent, vis-
iting participating churches on
the way and getting sponsored
for their efforts. If you are inter-
ested in taking part in this very
worthwhile sponsored event, ei-
ther by cycling, walking or man-
ning 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 ordi-
nary 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.

Rota - We have six teams at present on our **TEA/COFFEE ROTA** for preparing and serving refreshments after the 10am Eucharist. A vacancy has come up for one of these slots and we are appealing to you to consider with a friend or partner to be part of this important ministry of fellowship after our Sunday service. With a full compliment of 6 teams you only have a turn every six weeks, and you can easily swap with another team should you not be able to do your next date. Perhaps we can have a team of men to take on the vacant slot? The next date needed for the team will be 12th October. Please speak to Peggy Stone for more details and to offer yourselves. 01580 276200.

Many thanks
Sandra and Peggy

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 2nd - Parish Lunch organised by Diana Ringer.

Sunday November 9th – Remembrance Service.

Saturday November 15th – Aardvarks Big Band concert 7pm in church. Aardvarks 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.