

St. Laurence Parish Church,
Hawkhurst in the Diocese of
Canterbury
Holy Cross Day - 14.9.2025

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 YouTube 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
Diana Hunt and Diana Ringer**

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

WELCOME

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.

Me through change and
chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his
trust;
what with care and toil he
buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye
endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing
thought:
splendour, light, and life attend
him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore
from his store
new-born worlds rise and
adore.

Daily doth th' Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we
go.
Love doth stand

at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.

Christ doth call
one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

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

Seek the Lord while he may be
found,

**Call upon him while he is
near.**

Let the wicked abandon their
ways

**And the unrighteous their
thoughts.**

Turn back to the Lord, who will
have mercy;

**To our God who will richly
pardon.**

A time of silence and self-
examination is kept.

**Lord God, we have sinned
against you; we have done
evil in your sight. We are
sorry and repent. Have
mercy on us according to
your love. Wash away our
wrongdoing and cleanse us
from our sin. Renew a right
spirit within us and restore
us to the joy of your
salvation, through Jesus
Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins, and
restore us in his image to the
praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We sing:

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

***Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.***

Glory to God in the highest
And peace to his people on
earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you
thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of
the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the
world:

have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right
hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

Glory to God

For you alone are the Holy
One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who in the
passion of your blessed Son

made an instrument of painful
death to be for us the means of
life and peace: grant us so to
glory in the cross of Christ that
we may gladly suffer for his
sake; 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 - Philippians 2:6-
11 read by Anne Wheelhouse

Brothers and sisters: Christ
Jesus, though he was in the
form of God,
did not regard equality with
God something to be grasped.
Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness; and

found human in appearance,
he humbled himself, becoming
obedient to death, even death
on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly
exalted him and bestowed on
him the name that is above
every name, that at the name
of Jesus every knee should
bend, of those in heaven and
on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord, to the
glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn

The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not
want.

He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth
me

the quiet waters by.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteous-
ness,
e'en for his own name's sake;
within the paths of righteous-
ness,

e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's
dark vale,

yet will I fear no ill;

for thou art with me, and thy
rod

and staff me comfort still;

for thou art with me, and thy
rod

and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished

in presence of my foes;

my head thou dost with oil
anoint,

and my cup overflows.

My head thou dost with oil
anoint,

and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life

shall surely follow me,

and in God's house forever-
more

my dwelling place shall be;

and in God's house forever-
more

my dwelling place shall be.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

We adore you, O Christ, and
we bless you,

because by your Cross you
have redeemed the world.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John Chapter three beginning at the thirteenth verse

Glory to Christ our Lord

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

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 Peter Wyllie

Everlasting God, we come
before you with our baggage,
our worries, our anxiety and

our fears. Some of us are tired,
some of us are in pain, some
are sad and some are angry;
and so, as we place our
burdens before, you help us to
learn from you and to trust in
you, so that in serving you we
may find the rest that you have
promised.

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

Faithful God, we ask you to
make the doors of this church
wide enough to receive all who
need human love and
fellowship, and the care of
heavenly Father. May they be
narrow enough to shut out all
that creates discord or division.
We pray that what takes place
in our worship here week by
week will never be a stumbling-
block to those who gather here
in your name.

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

Father God, raise up we pray,
in our turbulent and violent
world, leaders who will base
their decisions on the law of
justice and moral integrity that

you have planted in every human heart

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

Father God, we pray for all whose livelihood and way of life are threatened by current economic problems caused by the ongoing war in Ukraine. Give all who face changes in life courage and help them to see opportunities in change and take on challenges with optimism.

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

Gracious God, may your compassion be sensed and felt by the sick and the lonely, the poor and the oppressed as we support them with our loving prayer and by our assistance whenever we can be close to them. 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, Charles Vernede, Matt, Jill, Carol and Hannah.

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

Merciful God, we pray for those who have been released from their mortal bodies in death and that they may be brought rejoicing into the kingdom of heaven, reunited with all their loved ones who have gone before them. We pray for those recently departed, the newly presented servant of God: Patricia Ann Okines.

We pray for those whose anniversaries of death 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, Patricia Trav-
ers.

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

Faithful God, be alongside us in the week ahead. Help us to

be caring, good tempered and considerate, to be hard-working and diligent in all we do; to never speak hastily and to always act kindly to those we love and especially to those we find it difficult to like.

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

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
and comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;
for truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the Name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the
beauty of holiness!
bow down before him, his glory
proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and
incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord
is his Name!

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**

Honour and glory to you Lord
God, king of the ages, because
you created the world and
called a people; yet when your
people became skilled in doing
evil and forgot how to do good,
you displayed the utmost pa-
tience and your grace over-
flowed with love.

When your sheep wandered away from their sheepfold you searched high and low and in Jesus came among your people to bring them home to you. Just so, when we wander away you come to us in the crucified and risen Jesus and place us on your shoulders and rejoice to bring us home.

And so we enter that joy in the presence of angels and arch-angels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending 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.**

God of grace, in Christ you came into the world to save sinners, to welcome them and eat with them. You spread a table in our sight and invite us to join you in glory. Now send down your Holy Spirit, that your people who have strayed like

lost sheep may dwell in the paths of righteousness, and that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us the body and blood of your Son 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.

Searching and yearning God, in Christ you enter the wilderness and sweep the dark corners of our world because you hate nothing you have made and long to draw us back to

your heart. Find those who are lost, reach any who have strayed, pursue all who seem determined to wander further and further from your fold.

Heal your earth, where fruitful land is waste and void, where the mountains are quaking, and the birds of the air have fled, bring hope, transformation and deliverance. Immortal, invisible Father, redeem your creation in the power of your Spirit, and draw all things through the free gift of your Son into the glory of your presence. **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

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 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.

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 Distribution of Communion

The Chalice bearers today are:
Stephen Ringer and Rachael Ringer

Post Communion Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, his the throne;

Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful
Zion

Thunder like a mighty flood.
Jesus, out of every nation,
Has redeemed us by his
blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes nor questions
how.

Though the cloud from sight
received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his
promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Heavenly High Priest,
Here on earth our help, our
stay;

Alleluia! Hear the sinful
Cry to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, hear our
plea,
Where the songs of all the sin-
less
Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
You the Lord of lords we own:

Alleluia! born of Mary,
Earth your footstool, heaven
your throne:
You within the veil, have entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High
Priest:
By your Spirit, left us heaven-
ward,
In the Eucharistic feast!

Post - Communion Prayers

Give thanks to the Lord for God
is gracious

**God's mercy endures for
ever.**

Faithful God, whose Son bore
our sins in his body on the tree
and gave us this sacrament to
show forth his death until he
comes: give us grace to glory
in the cross of our Lord Jesus
Christ, for he is our salvation,
our life and our hope, who
reigns as Lord, now and for
ever. **Amen.**

**Father almighty we offer our-
selves to you as a living sac-
rifice 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 dis-
comfort at easy answers, half
truths, and superficial relation-
ships, 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, free-
dom 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

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of

*Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, Christians, follow where
our Captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ the
Son of God. [Refrain]

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conquering
ranks combine. [Refrain]

This is the sign that Satan's legions fear,
And angels veil their faces to
revere. [Refrain]

Saved by this cross whereon
their Lord was slain,
The heirs of Adam their lost
home regain. [Refrain]

From north and south, from
east and west they raise
In growing unison their song of
praise. [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.**

Organ Voluntary

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*.

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

Harvest Supper and Quiz - Saturday October 4th – Doors open at 6pm for a prompt 6.30pm start.

Tickets are £10 per head. £5 for children under 12. Tables of six to eight people but do please join us even if you are not bringing a team.

The cut off date for catering purposes is Sunday 28th September.

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, with cake and coffee. We would be pleased to receive any items that you would like to donate for this sale in aid of Gaza and repairs to St Laurence Church. If you are able to provide a cake, please sign the list at the back of the church.

Claire Roberts is willing to collect donations if you contact her.

Sunday November 2nd - Parish Lunch - 2nd November 2025

Hot meal - vegetarian/vegan option available, wine/soft drinks included.

£10 per head, under 16's £5, under 10's free. Please bring own plates/cutlery etc. Sign up form on table by entrance.

Contributions of desserts welcome, please indicate.

Please also indicate if you need transport. Steve and Diana Ringer

Monday November 3rd at 7:30pm in St Laurence

Church, the Bodiam Band are holding an informal 'cabaret style' concert with interval music performed by small ensembles from the band. They'd love to see you if you can make it.

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 11.30– 4pm.

NEXT SUNDAY IS LOAVES AND FISHES SUNDAY

Please remember donations for the Food Bank can be placed in the box under the table at the side of the church or dropped off on the Vicarage doorstep.

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.