



## ST. LAURENCE CHURCH THE PARISH EUCHARIST

### The Epiphany – 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026

*This service will be live streamed. Your image will be captured on CCTV as a participant in the liturgy. 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 You Tube link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/@StLaurenceChurchHawkhurst>

#### **8.00am Morning Prayer (BCP)**

Led by Stephen Ringer

#### **10.00am Parish Eucharist**

We welcome today's celebrant the Rev Stephen Hardy and our preacher the Rev Lesley Hardy

Sidesman: Diana Ringer

Reader: Claire Roberts

Intercessions: Julie Hammonds

Chalice: Stephen Ringer and

Rachael Ringer

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Today's Hymns are:

*39: As with Gladness*

*40: Bethlehem of noblest cities*

*42: O worship the Lord*

*324: O thou who at thy eucharist*

*41: Brightest and best*

***Collect for Epiphany***

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### ***The Confession***

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned:

**forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.

Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned:

**forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King.

Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

We have sinned:

**forgive and heal us.**

#### ***The First Reading:***

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. “Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come

to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip.

Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

### ***The Gospel Reading***

*Matthew 2:1-12.*

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.””

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

### **Prayer of Humble Access**

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have**

**mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion:**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.**

**Amen.**

**We pray for the sick:**

Eleanor Ash, David Winstone, John Tanner, Irene Bow, Brian Elliott, Jill Fitzpatrick, Keith Brown, Thomas Cox, Gwen Brown, Matt, Jill, Carol, Dido Robson, Hannah, Chris Bodeen, Val, Jane and Jeremy, Val Manser and Chris Bell.

**We pray for those whose years mind occurs at this time:**

(their names are displayed on the altar in the Warrior Chapel).

Jack Travers, Evelyn Waghorn, Eleftheria Corfield, William Butler, Hilary Wood, Cecille Mallinson, Lily

Collins, Malcolm Dreyer, Richard Dyke, Jane Barker, Olaf Phillips, Doris Bird, Gilbert French, Rosaline Beeny, William Fawcett, Stephen Barker, Isoline Vaughan, Hylde Reynolds, Kathleen Wood, Sheila Maugham, Sylvia Smith, Prudence Bilsby, Carole Williamson, Jean French, Laurence Wield, Michael Haggard, Ronald Martin, Shirley Ferguson, Penny Tweedie, Richard Phillips, Colin Attwood, Fred Bull, Nancy Watson, Victor Potter, Amanda Guile, Patrick Roberts, Beth Ingram-Cordrey, Leila Wood, Clifford Winteringham, Ken Weatherley, Janet Chitham, Michael Barrass.

**NOTICES**

**Wednesday Morning Prayer**

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

**Compline** - Wednesday at 6.00pm on Zoom. Please feel free to join us if you can. The Zoom link is:  
Meeting ID: 880 4785 4233  
Passcode: 798527

**Easyfundraising**

St Laurence Church is registered with easyfundraising. Please sign up to support us at:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stlaurencehawkhurst/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_content=email-1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stlaurencehawkhurst/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=email-1)

**Collection and Giving** -A collection will be taken during this service. Please use a Gift Aid envelope if you are a taxpayer. You may support our work by donating through the online terminal at the exit. Additionally you may give to St Laurence Church via the QR code below.



## **January Services:**

### **11th January – Baptism of Christ**

#### **8.00am BCP Eucharist**

Preacher and Celebrant: Rev Judy Darkins

#### **10.00am Eucharist**

Preacher and Celebrant: Rev Judy Darkins

### **18<sup>th</sup> January:**

#### **8.00am BCP**

Preacher and **Eucharist** Celebrant:  
Rev Vicki Young

#### **10.00am Eucharist**

Preacher and Celebrant: Rev Vicki Young

### **25<sup>th</sup> January:**

#### **8.00am BCP Morning Prayer**

Led by Stephen Ringer

#### **10.00am Eucharist**

Rev Stephen Hardy and the Rev Lesley Hardy

## **AT YOUR SERVICE**

### **Vicar**

The Benefice is currently in vacancy.

### **Licensed Parish Reader**

Mr. Stephen Ringer: 01580 879710

### **Authorised Lay Minister**

Dr. Julie Hammonds: 07587 470678

### **Churchwardens**

Claire Roberts: 01580 754374

Liz Hatcher: 01580 712099

### **Assistants**

Lydeke Klein: 01580 493732

Ali Jones: 01580 755705

### **Safeguarding:**

Mrs Jane Cooper: 07825 044877

### **Choirmaster and Organist:**

Dr. Charlotte O'Neill:  
01580 753817

### **Organist:**

Mr. Richard O'Neill:  
01580 753817