



St Laurence Church, Hawkhurst

THE PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE CELEBRATED IN CELTIC STYLE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

FIRST READING

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Heaven is here, and earth,
and the space is thin between
them. 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. All the saints
are here, those 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**

GRADUAL HYMN

GOSPEL READING

Before the Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to....

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel

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.

INTERCESSIONS

OFFERTORY HYMN

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**

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 the upstairs room in Jerusalem.

On the night on which he was betrayed, and 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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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**

Lord it is indeed right for you
made us, and before 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
understanding, we particularly
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 dying,
his rising to life breathing

forgiveness, 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 were not
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.

Silence is kept

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

The minister takes and breaks the bread.

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, and broke it, and said, "This is my body, broken for you".

The minister holds up the cup of wine.

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".

THE AGNUS DEI

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.

This 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.

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 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.

The bread and wine are shared. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward but keep your hands lowered.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

THE PEACE

Please stand.

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.

CLOSING RESPONSES

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.

May God the Holy Spirit, by whose working the Virgin Mary conceived the Christ, help you bear the fruits of holiness. And the blessing ...**Amen**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God