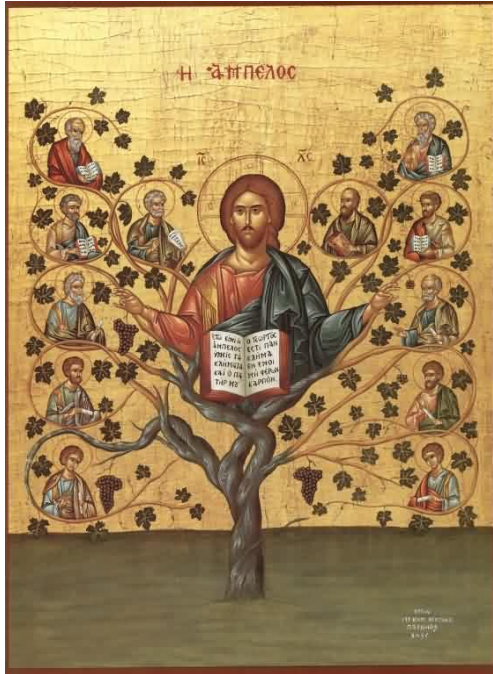




THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
ST LAURENCE LUDLOW



**SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2024**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**PARISH EUCHARIST 10am**

**Revd Preb Kelvin Price *President***  
**Revd Andrew Body *Preacher***  
**Michael Oakley *Director of Music***  
**Dr Andrew Padmore BEM *Organist***  
**The Choir of St Laurence's**

## WELCOME

We warmly welcome you to St Laurence's, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer to our congregation. Please be aware that this service will be live-streamed and the recording will be available on YouTube afterwards.

During communion all are welcome to come forward to receive if you have been baptised in any Christian church, all others are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please note communion will be offered in both kinds. Intinction by individuals is not permitted, following the hygiene guidance issued by the Church of England.

St Laurence's is an inclusive church, and everyone is welcome. If you need any assistance accessing our services, please ask one of the stewards.

Children are always welcome in St Laurence's and there is a children's area in the North aisle with toys, games and art materials available for use at any time.

A toilet, including facilities for people with disabilities, is in the North aisle of the Church.

No Photography or Recording is allowed during this service.

A donation to support the work of this church including gift aid envelopes can be placed in the basket either before the service begins or as you leave; donations made before the service will be presented at the appropriate point; your contribution is greatly appreciated. You can also donate by text, by sending STLL22 (add amount) to 70070, eg to donate £5, text STLL £5 to 70070.

*Thank you for your support*



If you use a hearing aid please switch to the 'T' position and you will be tuned into the induction loop system.

*St Laurence's is an inclusive church in which all are welcome*

Picture on front cover: *Christ the True Vine* a traditional Russian Orthodox icon

# THE GATHERING

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

2. In the grave they laid Him, Love whom men had slain,  
thinking that never he would awake again,  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain,  
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
thy touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

J M C Crum 1872-1958

NOEL NOUVELET

## THE GREETING

In the name of the ☩ Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Peace be with you  
**and also with you**

Alleluia, Christ is Risen  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Please sit*

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
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.**

## PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Christ died to sin once for all,  
and now he lives to God.  
Let us renew our resolve to have done  
with all that is evil and confess our sins  
in penitence and faith.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION


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.**

If you are able, please stand

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



Glo-ry to God in the highest and peace to his peo-ple on earth Lord God



hea-ven-ly King, Al-migh-ty God and Fa-ther. We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo-ry to God in the highest and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord Je-sus Christ




on - ly son of the Fa-ther; Lord God Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have




me-rcy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther re ceive our prayer



Glo-ry to God in the highest and peace to his peo-ple on earth. For you a - lone are the



ho - ly one, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the most high, Je - sus



Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A -



men Glo - ry to God in the highest and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. A - - - men.

Let us pray

COLLECT

Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

*Please sit*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING  
Acts 8.26 - end

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and

the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 22. 25-end *Deus, Deus meus***

*The Choir sings*

25. My praise is of thee in the great congregation: my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.

26. The poor shall eat and be satisfied: they that seek after the Lord shall praise him; your heart shall live for ever.

27. All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned unto the Lord: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before him.

28. For the kingdom is the Lord's: and he is the Governor among the people.

29. All such as be fat upon earth: have eaten and worshipped.

30. All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him: and no man hath quickened his own soul.

31. My seed shall serve him: they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation.

32. They shall come, and the heavens shall declare his righteousness: unto a people that shall be born, whom the Lord hath made.

**SECOND READING**

**I John 4.7-end**

A reading from the first letter of John

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.


This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*If you are able, please stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*1st time Choir*

*2nd time Choir & Congregation*



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, — Al - le - lu - ia.

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

*Repeat Alleluia*



The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John



I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



*Please sit*

**SERMON**

*Silence is kept*

*If you are able, please stand*

**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.**

*Please sit*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in your mercy            or  
**Hear our prayer**

Lord hear us  
**Lord graciously hear us**

*And at the end*

Merciful Father  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*If you are able, please stand*

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,  
'Peace be with you.'

Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

### OFFERTORY HYMN

Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

3. Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come:  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

4. The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

5. Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
and mortal life shall cease:  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
a life of joy and peace.

John Newton 1725-1807

AMAZING GRACE

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Creator of all,  
you wash away our sins,  
you give us new birth by the Spirit,  
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.  
As we celebrate the resurrection,  
renew your gift of life within us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.  
**Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER E

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 thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.

He has placed them once more in paradise  
 and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
 And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
 earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
 while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
 sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

## SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
 might, Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
 high-est. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord. Ho  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the  
 high - est.

Trinity Mass

Peter Dyke

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
 and as we obey his command,  
 send your Holy Spirit,  
 that broken bread and wine outpoured  
 may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.  
 On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
 and, taking bread, he praised you.  
 He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
 Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
 do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
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.  
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:  
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection**  
**You have set us free.**  
**You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.  
Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.  
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

*Please sit*  
*Silence is kept*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**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.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Creator of all, you wash away our sins,  
you give us new birth by the Spirit,  
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.  
As we celebrate the resurrection,  
renew your gift of life within us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.  
**Amen**

## AGNUS DEI

*The Choir sings*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us,  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, Grant us peace.

Trinity Mass      Peter Dyke

## GIVING OF COMMUNION

Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*The people receive communion.*

*Communicant members of any Christian Church are welcome to receive communion here. All others are invited to come for a blessing, holding this service sheet.*

## ANTHEM

*The Choir sings:*

Vinea mea electa, ego te plantavi:  
quomodo conversa es in amaritudinem,  
ut me crucifigeres et Barrabam dimitteres.  
Sepivi te, et lapides elegi ex te,  
et ædificavi turrim.

*O vineyard, my chosen one. I planted thee.  
How is thy sweetness turned into bitterness,  
to crucify me and take Barabbas in my place?  
I protected thee; I took the hard stones away from thy path,  
and built a tower in thy defence.*

Giovanni Perluigi da Palestrina 1525 – 1594

## POST COMMUNION COLLECT

**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.**

*If you are able, please stand when directed*



# THE DISMISSAL

## THE BLESSING

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing ☩ of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour  
first-begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Jesu, true and living bread.

2. Here our humblest homage pay we,  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
thou art here, we ask not how.

3. Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
we in worship join with them.

4. Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall for evermore remain,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
cleansing souls from every stain.

5. Life-imparting heavenly manna,  
stricken rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
risen, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne 1840–1925

ST HELEN

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Sortie in E flat

Louis Lefébure Wély

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*Please join us for coffee after the service*

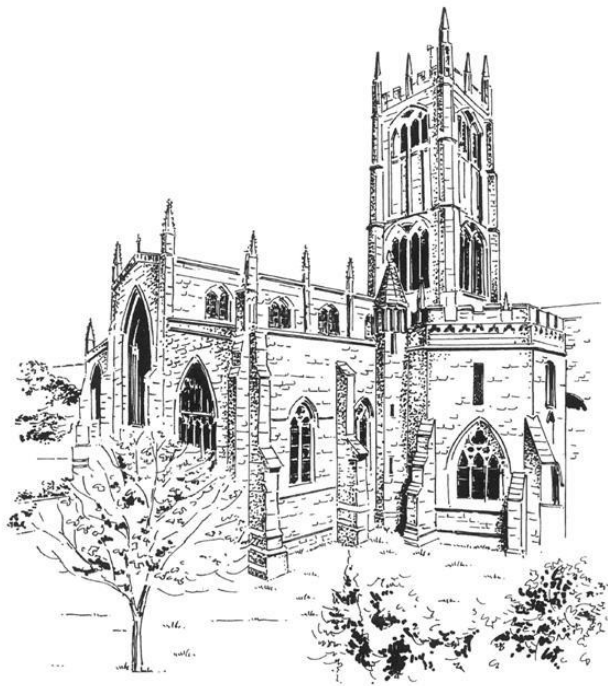
**Today at 6pm Celtic Prayer**

**Next Sunday's Services**

**8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)**

**10am Choral Eucharist**

**11.30am May Fair Service (at the dodgems)**



*An inclusive church welcoming everyone*



***St Laurence's is committed to the goals of a Fairtrade Church. We use fairtrade communion wine, tea, coffee, sugar and other products where possible. We hold regular Fair Trade stalls and events promoting Fairtrade***

### Copyright acknowledgements

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