



5 MAY 2024 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER CHORAL EUCHARIST I 0am Revd Andrew Body President & Preacher

Michael Oakley Director of Music Richard Walker 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 livestreamed 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 and the Apostles - fresco Catacombs of Domitilla, Rome

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness; loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters; led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

2. 'Tis the spring of souls to-day; Christ hath burst his prison, and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen: all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

St John of Damascus c675-750 tr. | M Neale 1818-1866

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you And also with you

Alleluia, Christ is Risen

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Please sit

- 3. Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendour, with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesu's resurrection.
- 4. Alleluia now we cry to our King immortal, who triumphant burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal; Alleluia, with the Son God the Father praising; Alleluia yet again to the Spirit raising.

AVE VIRGO VIRGINUM

THE GREETING

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 our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. 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.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

The Choir sings

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Communion Service in E

Harold Darke 1888-1976

Let us pray

COLLECT

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 10. 44 - end

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings

PSALM 98 Cantate Domino

O sing unto the Lord a new song: for he hath done marvellous things.

- 2. With his own right hand, and with his holy arm: hath he gotten himself the victory.
- 3. The Lord declared his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.
- 4. He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel: and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5. Shew yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands: sing, rejoice, and give thanks.
- 6. Praise the Lord upon the harp: sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.
- 7. With trumpets also and shawms: O shew yourselves joyful before the Lord the King.
- 8. Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is: the round world, and they that dwell therein.
- 9. Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord: for he is come to judge the earth.
- 10. With righteousness shall he judge the world: and the people with equity.

A reading from the first letter of John

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

If you are able, please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ist time Choir 2nd time Choir & Congregation



Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

Repeat Alleluia

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according John



Jesus said to his disciples: As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

O food to pilgrims given,
O bread of life from heaven,
O manna from on high!
We hunger; Lord, supply us,
nor thy delights deny us,
whose hearts to thee draw nigh.

- 2. O stream of love past telling, O purest fountain, welling from out the Saviour's side! We faint with thirst; revive us, of thine abundance give us, and all we need provide
- 3. O Jesus, by thee bidden, we here adore thee, hidden in forms of bread and wine. Grant, when the veil is riven, we may behold, in heaven, thy countenance divine.

O esca viatorum from Mäyntzisch Gesangbuch, 1661 tr. John Athelstan Riley 1858-1945

INNSBRUCK

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread.

Amen.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

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

The Choir sings

Holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Communion Service in E

Harold Darke 1888-1976

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

Lord, by your cross and resurrection You have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours 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

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

The Choir sings AGNUS DEI

- O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Communion Service in E

Harold Darke 1888-1976

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Amen.

The people receive communion.

To the words of distribution the communicant replies **Amen.**

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

Ave Maria gratia plena
Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus
Et benedictus fructus ventris tui,
Jesus.

Sancta Maria, mater Dei, Ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis. Amen. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, lesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and in the hour of our death. Holy Mary, pray for us. Amen.

Anton Bruckner 1824 - 1896

Silence is kept

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.

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; 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

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; be thou for ever near me, my Master and my Friend: I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me: the world is ever near; I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear; my foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

- 3. O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will; O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control: O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.
- 4. O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee, that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be; and, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end: O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.
- 5. O let me see thy foot-marks, and in them plant mine own; my hope to follow duly is in thy strength alone: O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end; and then in heaven receive me. my Saviour and my Friend.

| E Bode | 1816-1874

WOLVERCOTE

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Kenneth Leighton 1929-1988

Paean

Please join us for coffee after the service

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

Next Sunday's Services

8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Parish Eucharist



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

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