

THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LAURENCE LUDLOW



SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2026

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

CHORAL EUCHARIST 10am

Revd John Williams *President & Preacher*

Kerry Moore *Conductor*

Louis Stockton *Organist*

The Clent Consort

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 STLL22£5 to 70070. A contactless donation point is also available

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: *The Journey of Abraham and Lot*
Bartolo Di Fredi c.1330 - 1410

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

New every morning is the love
our waking and uprising prove;
through sleep and darkness safely brought,
restored to life and power and thought.

2. New mercies, each returning day,
hover around us while we pray;
new perils past, new sins forgiven,
new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.

3. If on our daily course our mind
be set to hallow all we find,
new treasures still, of countless price,
God will provide for sacrifice.

4. The trivial round, the common task,
will furnish all we need to ask,
room to deny ourselves, a road
to bring us daily nearer God.

5. Only, O Lord, in thy dear love
fit us for perfect rest above;
and help us, this and every day,
to live more nearly as we pray.

John Keble 1792-1866

GONFALON ROYAL

THE GREETING

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.

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

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**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.**

The Choir sings

KYRIE ELEISON

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy*

Communion Service in C

Charles Villiers Stanford 1852-1924
ed. Jeremy Dibble b. 1958

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

Let us pray

COLLECT

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 12.1-4a

A reading from the book of Genesis

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings

PSALM 121 *Levavi oculus*

1. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help.
2. My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth.
3. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
4. Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep.
5. The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand.
6. So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night.
7. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
8. The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in: from this time forth for evermore.

NEW TESTAMENT READING
Romans 4.1-5, 13-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.’ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, ‘I have made you the father of many nations’)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

If you are able, please stand

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

GOSPEL READING
John 3.1-17

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John



Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?’

‘Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever 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 may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit

SERMON

Silence is kept

THE CREED

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

The response after each bidding

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

or 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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

If you are able, please stand

THE PEACE

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Christian people, raise your song,
chase away all grieving;
sing your joy, and be made strong,
our Lord's life receiving;
nature's gifts of wheat and vine
now are set before us:
as we offer bread and wine
Christ comes to restore us.

Colin P Thompson *b.* 1945

2. Come to welcome Christ today,
God's great revelation;
he has pioneered the way
of the new creation.
Greet him, Christ our risen King
gladly recognizing,
as with joy we greet the spring
out of winter rising.

AVE VIRGO VIRGINUM

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

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,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks
because you give us the spirit of discipline,
that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace,
as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery
with mind and heart renewed.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

The Choir sings

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Holy, 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 C

Charles Villiers Stanford 1852-1924

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction
for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and 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.

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

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise
and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.
Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty 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

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
**we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

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 C

Charles Villiers Stanford 1852-1924

GIVING OF COMMUNION

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 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.

The Choir sings

ANTHEM

O salutaris hostia
quae caeli pandis ostium,
bella premunt hostilia:
da robur, fer auxilium

*O saving victim
who opens the gate of heaven,
hostile wars press on us:
give strength, bring aid.*

Uni trinoque Domino
sit sempiterna gloria,
qui vitam sine termino
nobis donet in patria.

*To the Lord, three in one,
be everlasting glory,
for life without end
he gives us in (his) Kingdom.*

Edward Elgar 1857-1934

Silence is kept

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; 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 peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

2. O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.

3. O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail;

4. And that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.

5. O generous love! that he, who smote
in Man for man the foe,
the double agony in Man
for man should undergo;

6. And in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.

7. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

John Henry Newman 1801-1890

GERONTIUS

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fantasia on a Welsh Hymn Tune Aberystwyth

Henry Ley 1887-1962

Please join us for coffee after the service

Today at 3.30pm

Choral Evensong

Responses: Radcliffe

Psalm 121

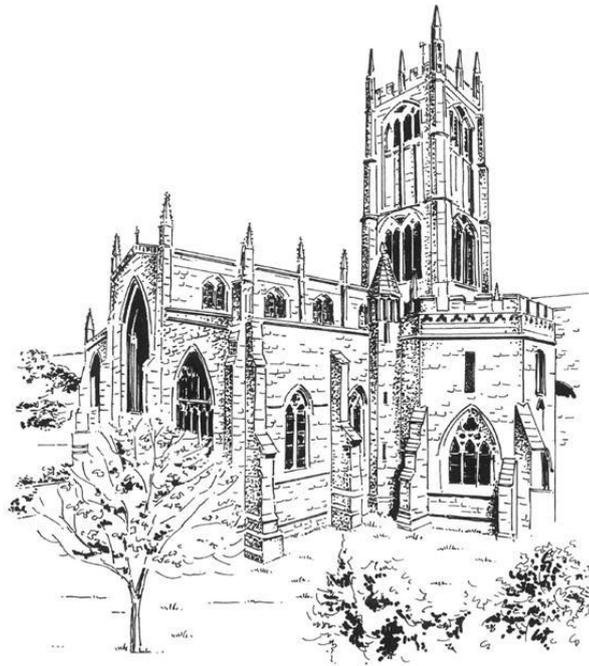
Canticles: Aston in F

Anthem: Insanae et Vanae Curae F J Haydn

Next Sunday's Services

8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Parish Eucharist



An inclusive church welcoming everyone



Copyright acknowledgements

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England and *Common Worship: Pastoral Services* material from which is included in this service are both copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000. The quotations from Scripture contained herein are from *The New Revised Standard Version* of the Bible, Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, and are used by permission. This order of service has been produced within the terms of copyright for use in the parish church of Saint Laurence, Ludlow, in the diocese of Hereford.