

THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LAURENCE LUDLOW



SUNDAY 15 MARCH 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MOTHERING SUNDAY

PARISH EUCHARIST 10am

Revd Jane Plackett-Ferguson
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 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: Daffodils

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Angel-voices ever singing
round thy throne of light,
angel-harps for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee
and confess thee
Lord of might.

2. Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can scan,
can it be that thou regardest
songs of sinful man?
Can we know that thou art near us,
and wilt hear us?
Yea, we can.

3. Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure
all combine.

Francis Pott 1832-1909

4. In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer
all unworthily
hearts and minds and hands and voices
in our choicest
psalmody.

5. Honour, glory, might, and merit
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
blessèd Trinity.
Of the best that thou hast given
earth and heaven
render thee.

ANGEL VOICES

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.

Praise God who loves us.
Praise God who cares.

The Paschal candle is lit

We light this candle to remind us that the love of God is like a light in our darkness.

Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have loved and laughed and laboured as they cared for their children;

Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have wept in sorrow and joy for their children:

Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God, for Jesus, born of a woman and nurtured in her love, and for Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting love.

Blessed be God for ever.

Please sit

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

We have done what was wrong in the Lord's sight and chosen what displeased him. Yet as a mother comforts her child, so shall the Lord himself comfort us. So let us come to him who knows our every deed and thought

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.

KYRIE ELEISON



Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy

Plainsong Mass XVIII

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

Let us pray

COLLECT

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 2.1-10

A reading from the book Exodus

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings

PSALM 34 11-20 *Benedicam Domino*

11. Come, ye children, and hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12. What man is he that lusteth to live: and would fain see good days?

13. Keep thy tongue from evil: and thy lips, that they speak no guile.

14. Eschew evil, and do good: seek peace, and ensue it.

15. The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous: and his ears are open unto their prayers.

16. The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil: to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

17. The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them: and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

18. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart: and will save such as be of an humble spirit.

19. Great are the troubles of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of all.

20. He keepeth all his bones: so that not one of them is broken.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Colossians 3.12-17

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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



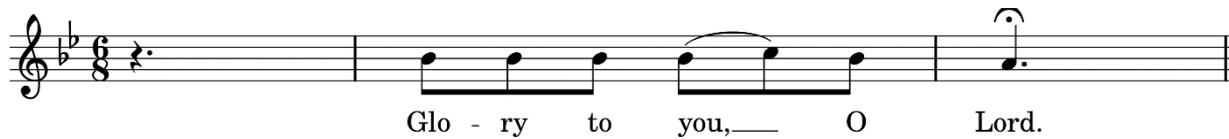
Praise to you, O Christ, King of e - ter - nal glo - ry.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.

Repeat Praise to you

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John



Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit

SERMON

Silence is kept

If you are able, please stand

THE CREED

Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please sit

The response after each bidding

God of compassion
fill us with your love

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

Praise God who loves us.
Praise God who cares.

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says,
'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

The heavens are not too high,
his praise may thither fly:
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.

Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

2. Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

The church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but above all the heart
must bear the longest part.

Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

George Herbert 1593-1633

LUCKINGTON

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.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER G

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Solo Choir and congregation-----

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the 'Solo' part, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It contains the lyrics 'Sanc-tus, - sanc-tus, - sanc-tus Dom-in-us De-us Sa-ba-oth. Ple-ni-sunt coe-li-et-ter-ra'. The second staff is for the 'Choir and congregation' part, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It contains the lyrics 'glo-ri-a - tu - a - Ho-san-na-in ex-cel-sis'. The third staff is for the 'Choir and congregation' part, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It contains the lyrics 'Be-ne-dic-tus qui ve-nit in nom-in - e Dom-in - i Ho-san - na in ex - cel - sis'. The music is written in a simple, plainsong style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

Sanc-tus, - sanc-tus, - sanc-tus Dom-in-us De-us Sa-ba-oth. Ple-ni-sunt coe-li-et-ter-ra

glo-ri-a - tu - a - Ho-san-na-in ex-cel-sis

Be-ne-dic-tus qui ve-nit in nom-in - e Dom-in - i Ho-san - na in ex - cel - sis

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna
in the highest.*

Plainsong Mass XVIII

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, 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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.
Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom,
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

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

AGNUS DEI

Solo Choir and congregation

Ag-nus-De - i qui-tol-lis-pec-ca-ta mun-di mi-se-re-re no - bis

Solo Choir and congregation

Ag-nus-De - i qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di do-na no-bis pa-cem

*Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace*

Plainsong Mass XVIII

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

Terribilis est locus iste:
hic domus Dei est et porta caeli:
et vocabitur aula Dei.
Terribilis est locus iste:

*Terrible is this place:
it is the house of God, and the gate of heaven;
and it shall be called the court of God.
Terrible is this place:*

George Malcolm 1917-1997

Silence is kept

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
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.

Praise God who loves us.
Praise God who cares.

For the care of mothers;
Thanks be to God.

For their patience when tested;
Thanks be to God.

For their love when tired;
Thanks be to God.

For their hope when despairing;
Thanks be to God.

For their service without limit
Thanks be to God.

The flowers are distributed whilst the organ plays

**Thank you God for the love of our mothers:
thank you God for their care and concern;
thank you God for the joys they have shared with us;
thank you God for the pains they have borne for us;
thank you God for all that they give us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

If you are able, please stand

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

Praise God who loves us.
Praise God who cares.

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless *us*:
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless *us*:
may God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless *us*.
May almighty God bless *us*, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the Name of Christ. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age to same;
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

Timothy Dudley-Smith 1926-2024

WOODLANDS

Fantaisie in Eb major

Camille Saint-Saëns 1835-1921

This Fantaisie is in two distinct movements; you will have heard the first before the service and the lively finale at the close.

Please join us for coffee after the service

Today at 11.30am

Choral Matins

Responses: Clucas

Psalm: 23

Canticles: 'Lamentations - Bairstow / Jubilate - Ireland

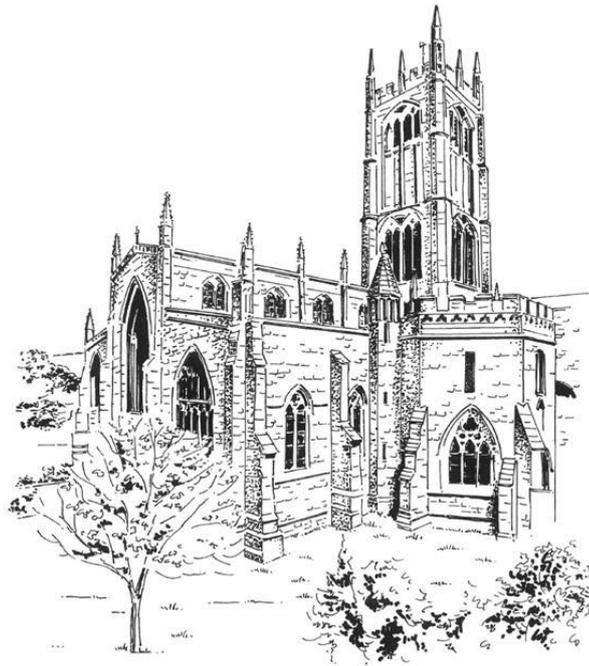
Anthem: 'Ave Maria' - Gombert

Next Sunday's Services

8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Parish Eucharist

6pm Celtic Prayer



An inclusive church welcoming everyone



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