



THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LAURENCE LUDLOW



SUNDAY 17 MAY 2026

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PARISH EUCHARIST 10am

Revd John Williams *President & Preacher*

Dr Andrew Padmore BEM FRSCM *Conductor*

Robert Green *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.

There will be a retiring collection as you leave to support the work of this church; 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: *Saint Mathias – Peter Paul Rubens 1610-1612*
Museo Nacional del Prado

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

William Chatterton Dix 1837-1898

3. Alleluia, bread of angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
alleluia, here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia, King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own;
alleluia, born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

HYFRYDOL

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.

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

What God has prepared for those who love him, he has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything.

Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord, who has prepared good things for those who love him.

**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

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, 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 1.6-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the Apostles had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered : let them also that hate him flee before him.

2. Like as the smoke vanisheth, so shalt thou drive them away : and like as wax melteth at the fire, so let the ungodly perish at the presence of God.

3. But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God : let them also be merry and joyful .

4. O sing unto God, and sing praises unto his Name : magnify him that rideth upon the heavens, as it were upon an horse; praise him in his Name JAH, and rejoice before him.

5. He is a father of the fatherless, and defendeth the cause of the widows : even God in his holy habitation.

6. He is the God that maketh men to be of one mind in an house, and bringeth the prisoners out of captivity : but letteth the runagates continue in scarceness.

7. O God, when thou wentest forth before the people : when thou wentest through the wilderness;

8. The earth shook, and the heavens dropped at the presence of God : even as Sinai also was moved at the presence of God, who is the God of Israel.

9. Thou, O God, sentest a gracious rain upon thine inheritance : and refreshedst it when it was weary.

10. Thy congregation shall dwell therein : for thou, O God, hast of thy goodness prepared for the poor.

32. Sing unto God, O ye kingdoms of the earth : O sing praises unto the Lord;

33. Who sitteth in the heavens over all from the beginning : lo, he doth send out his voice, yea, and that a mighty voice.

34. Ascribe ye the power to God over Israel : his worship and strength is in the clouds.

35. O God, wonderful art thou in thy holy places : even the God of Israel, he will give strength and power unto his people; blessed be God.

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

If you are able. please stand

1st time Choir

2nd time Choir & Congregation



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Repeat Alleluia

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John



Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit

SERMON

A 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

The response after each bidding

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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

If you are able, please stand

THE PEACE

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. 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

My God, and is thy table spread,
and doth thy cup with love o'erflow?
Thither be all thy children led,
and let them all thy sweetness know.

2. Hail, sacred feast which Jesus makes,
rich banquet of his flesh and blood!
Thrice happy he who here partakes
that sacred stream, that heavenly food.

3. O let thy table honoured be,
and furnished well with joyful guests;
and may each soul salvation see,
that here its sacred pledges tastes

Philip Doddridge 1702-1751

ROCKINGHAM

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 B

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,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is our great high priest
who has entered once for all
into the heavenly sanctuary,
evermore to pour upon your Church
the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.
He is the one who has gone before us,
who calls us to be united in prayer
as were his disciples in the upper room
while they awaited his promised gift,
the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost.

Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing
as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

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

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of [*N and*] all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,

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

A 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

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.

Trinity Mass

Peter Dyke

GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

*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

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2. O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

3. Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

4. And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling. Amen

William H Harris 1883-1973

A silence is kept

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
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 when directed

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God; 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 Bourne 1840-1925

ST HELEN

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Heut triumphiret Gottes Sohn BWV 630

J S Bach 1685–1750

Please join us for coffee after the service

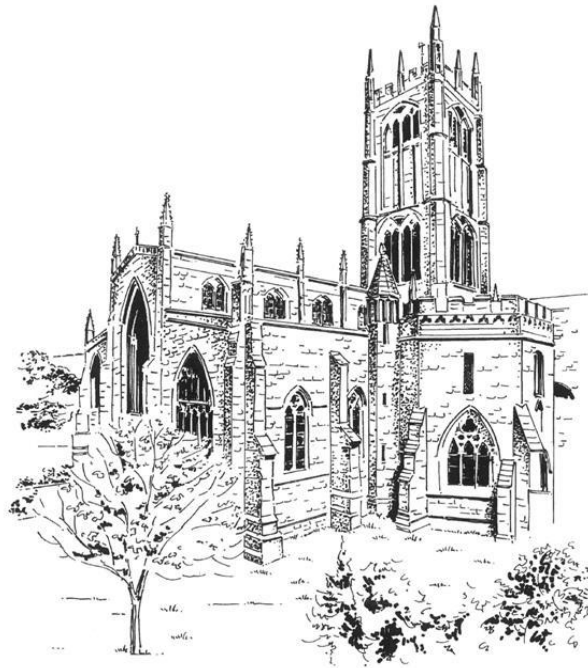
Today

11.30am Choral Matins

Next Sunday's Services

8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Parish Eucharist



An inclusive church welcoming everyone



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