



THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LAURENCE LUDLOW



SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER 2026

LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

PARISH EUCHARIST 10am

With the Baptism of Percy Merrick

Revd Prebendary Dr John Daniels

President & Preacher

Robert Green Organist

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

Image on front cover: Saint Simon and Saint Jude

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Lord, as the day begins,
lift up our hearts in praise;
take from us all our sins;
guard us in all our ways.

Our ev'ry step direct and guide,
that Christ in all be glorified.

2. Christ be in work and skill,
serving each other's need;
Christ be in thought and will,
Christ be in word and deed.

Our minds be set on things above
in joy and peace, in faith and love.

3. Grant us the Spirit's strength;
teach us to walk his way;
so bring us all at length
safe to the close of day.

From hour to hour sustain and bless,
and let our song be thankfulness.

4. Now as the day begins,
make it the best of days;
take from us all our sins;
guard us in all our ways.

Our ev'ry step direct and guide,
that Christ in all be glorified.

Timothy Dudley-Smith 1926-2024

LITTLE CORNARD

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.**

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

Glory be to God in heaven,
peace to those who love him well;
on the earth let all his people
speak his grace, his wonders tell:
Lord, we praise you for your glory,
mighty Father, heaven's king;
hear our joyful adoration
and accept the thanks we bring.

Michael Perry 1942-1996

2. Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sin away,
now with God in triumph seated
for your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Saviour, you are God alone
in the glory of the Father
with the Spirit: Three-in-One!

ODE TO JOY

Let us pray

COLLECT

Merciful God,
teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word
and obeying your will
we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING
I Thessalonians 2.1-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING
Matthew 22.34-end

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew



When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'" This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ‘What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’ He said to them, ‘How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

“The Lord said to my Lord,
‘Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet’”?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?’ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit

SERMON

A silence is kept

During the singing of the first three verses of this hymn the minister, Percy, his family, godparents and supporters process to and gather around the baptismal font.

HYMN

Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2. Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

3. Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal 1836-1879

NOTTINGHAM

The congregation turns to face the font.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

The minister addresses the whole congregation

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome Percy and uphold him in his life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The minister then says to the parents and godparents

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Percy with joy.

Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith.

Will you pray for him, draw him by your example into the community of faith and walk with him in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism Percy begins his journey in faith. You speak for him today.

Will you care for him and help him to take his place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

The minister makes the sign of the cross on Percy's forehead, saying

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

After Percy has received the sign of the cross everyone says together

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

We praise you, loving Father,
for the gift of your Son Jesus.
He was baptized in the River Jordan,
where your Spirit came upon him
and revealed him as the Son you love.
He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him.
Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,
that those who are baptized in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,
and, filled with your Spirit,
may know that they are loved as your children,
safe in Christ for ever.
Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The minister addresses the congregation

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with Percy and his family the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

BAPTISM

The minister pours water on Percy, saying

Percy Robert, Ian, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The minister says

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.
Amen.

WELCOME

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: Percy, by one Spirit we are all
baptized into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the
same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

The congregation may greet Percy with applause

*During the singing of the final three verses of the hymn, the baptismal party follow the minister
down the nave and return to their seats*

HYMN

4. Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

5. Take my will, and make it thine:
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart: it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal 1836-1879

NOTTINGHAM

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Father, we thank you that by baptism you have raised your beloved child, Percy, with
Christ to new life in the Spirit. Guide and protect him with your grace, that he may
follow you all his days and grow in knowledge and love of you.

Father, by the victory of your Son,
Give light to the world.

May Christ who conquered sin and death keep his whole Church faithful to his gospel.
Help us always to hold fast to truth and to walk in the way of life.

Father, by the victory of your Son,
Give light to the world.

May the Holy Spirit fill the hearts and minds of all nations to unite the world in peace and love. By your healing power restore all that is broken and unite us with you, our God and Father.

Father, by the victory of your Son,
Give light to the world.

May your loving presence be with all those who are sick or suffering and in need this day. In particular we pray for...

We pray for those who have died and ask you to comfort all those who are bereaved. We remember today...

Father, by the victory of your Son,
Give light to the world.

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

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

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony

6. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

Richard AM Gillard b. 1953

SERVANT SONG

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 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

Father, you made the world and love your creation.
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.
And so we gladly thank you,
with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Holy, most holy, all holy the Lord,
In power and wisdom for ever adored!
The earth and the heavens are full of your love;
Our joyful hosannas re-echo above!

2. Blessèd, most blessèd, all blessèd is he
Whose life makes us whole, and whose death sets us free;
Who comes in the name of the Father of light,
Let endless hosannas resound in the height.

Michael Forster 1946-2023

SLANE

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.

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

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.

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, come cleanse our hearts
and take our sin away.

O Lamb of God, your grace impart,
And let our guilty fear depart,
Have mercy, Lord, we pray.
Have mercy, Lord, we pray.

2. O Lamb of God, our lives restore,
Our guilty souls release.
Into our lives your Spirit pour
And let us live for evermore
In perfect heav'nly peace,
In perfect heav'nly peace.

Michael Forster 1946-2023

REPTON

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.

A silence is kept

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

When a member of Percy's family has received a candle, the minister says

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

If you are able, please stand

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; 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.
Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Who would true valour see,
let him come hither;
one here will constant be,
come wind, come weather;
there's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

2. Whoso beset him round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound,
his strength the more is.
No lion can him fright:
he'll with a giant fight,
but he will have the right
to be a pilgrim.

John Bunyan 1628-1688

3. Hobgoblin nor foul fiend
can daunt his spirit;
he knows he at the end
shall life inherit.
Then, fancies, fly away;
he'll not fear what men say;
he'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

MONK'S GATE

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Sketch No. 2 in C

Robert Schumann 1810-1856

Despite studying law at university, Schumann's tragically short life was devoted to music as composer, pianist and music critic. He is remembered chiefly for his four symphonies, piano music and many songs.

Please join us for coffee after the service

Today at 6pm

Celtic Prayer

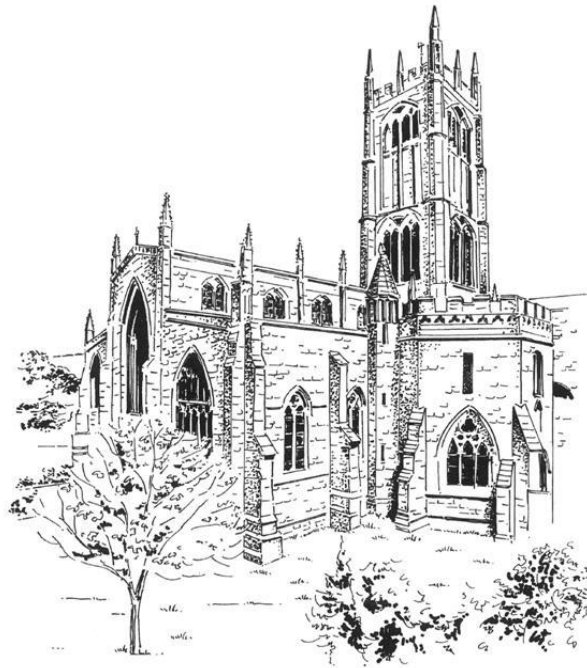
Next Sunday's Services

8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Choral Eucharist

3.30pm Choral Evensong

Responses: Ayleward Psalm 65: 17-end
Canticles: 'Collegium Regale' - Howells
Anthem: 'Ave Maria' Elgar



An inclusive church welcoming everyone



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