

The Parish Church of
St Laurence, Ludlow



Sunday **5** September **2010**

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY

AFTER TRINITY

PARISH EUCHARIST **9.30** am

The Venerable Colin Williams *President & Preacher*

The Choir of St Laurence's Church
Shaun Ward *Director of Music & Organist*

WELCOME

We warmly welcome you to St Laurence's, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer to our congregation. Please introduce yourself to a host before or after the service. There are welcome packs available, if you would like one please ask one of the hosts at the door who will be able to help you.

For your assistance during the service the words of are included in this booklet. If you use a hearing aid please switch to the 'T' position and you will be tuned into the induction loop system.

A Children's Group meets during the service, gathering in the front pews.

A toilet, including facilities for people with disabilities, is at the North West corner of the Church.

GREGORY THE GREAT 3 SEPTEMBER

The first and greatest of the sixteen popes named Gregory came of a patrician family, and he was some years chief civil magistrate of the city of Rome. Having devoted some of his wealth to the foundation of a monastery in Rome and half-a-dozen others in Sicily, he became a monk himself when he was about thirty-five. In 590 he was elected pope, the first monk to be chosen for that office. St Gregory's epoch-making pontificate lasted fourteen years, at a time of great difficulty and disorder. One of Gregory's most far-reaching actions was to send missionaries to England. St Gregory's life and ideals were for centuries the inspiration and guide of the best among the clergy of the West, and he was a power in European history; he was the father of the medieval papacy, without which the early middle ages would have been much longer in emerging from a chaos of lawlessness and strife. It is significant of St Gregory's conception of religious authority that he called himself 'the servant of the servants of God', a designation used by the popes ever since.

*Merciful Father,
who chose your bishop Gregory
to be a servant of the servants of God:
grant that, like him, we may ever long to serve you
by proclaiming your gospel to the nations,
and may ever rejoice to sing your praises;
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.*

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

1. Come, let us join our cheerful songs
with angels round the throne.
ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
but all their joys are one

2. "Worthy the Lamb that died," they cry,
"to be exalted thus!"
"Worthy the Lamb," our hearts reply,
"for he was slain for us!"

3. Jesus is worthy to receive
honor and power divine;
and blessings more than we can give,
be, Lord, forever thine.

4. Let all that dwell above the sky,
and air, and earth, and seas,
conspire to lift thy glories high,
and speak thine endless praise!

5. The whole creation join in one,
to bless the sacred Name
of him who sits upon the throne,
and to adore the Lamb.

Isaac Watts 1674-1748

NATIVITY

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.

Kneel or sit

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer
with the words
'Let us pray'*

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

My brothers and sisters, as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, let us call to mind and confess our sins.

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.

Stand

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

9
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his people 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.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer -
cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, re -
ceive our prayer. 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.

New People's Mass

Dom Gregory Murray 1905-1992

All remain standing as the president says Let us pray

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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.**

All sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 30. 15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1 *Beatus vir, qui non abiit*

Blessed is the man that hath not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stood in the way of sinners: and hath not sat in the seat of the scornful.

2. But his delight is in the law of the Lord: and in his law will he exercise himself day and night.

3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the water-side: that will bring forth his fruit in due season.

4. His leaf also shall not wither: and look, whatsoever he doeth, it shall prosper.

5. As for the ungodly, it is not so with them: but they are like the chaff, which the wind scattereth away from the face of the earth.

6. Therefore the ungodly shall not be able to stand in the judgement: neither the sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

7. But the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: and the way of the ungodly shall perish.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philemons

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister,
to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your
house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because
I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards
the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become
effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for
Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from
your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed
through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command
you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the
basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also
as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my
child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my
imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is
indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is,
my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that
he might be of service to me in your place during my
imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing
without your consent, in order that your good deed might be
voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason
he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have
him back for ever, no longer as a slave but as more than a
slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to
you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would
welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you
anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this
with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your
owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this
benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ.
Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that
you will do even more than I say.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand

GOSPEL READING

Luke 14. 25-33

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke



Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

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.

Kneel or remain seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The response after each bidding

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

All stand

THE PEACE

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

During this hymn a collection will be taken

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.

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

Francis Pott 1832-1909

ANGEL VOICES

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

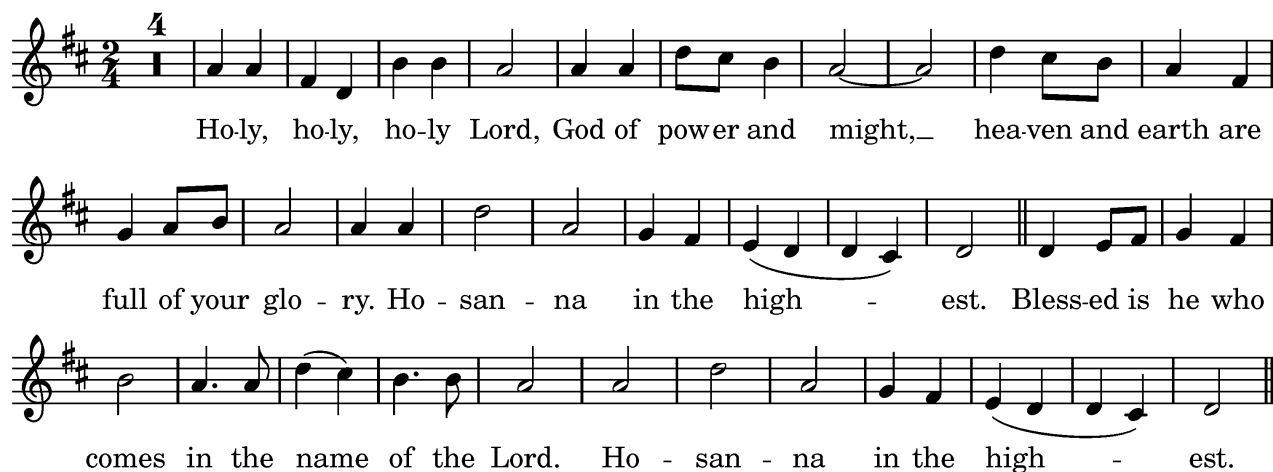
You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.
Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



Holy, holy, 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. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;

dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he 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 we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with The Blessed Mary, St. Laurence and all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in 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.

The tower bells ring out to celebrate the great mystery of our Lord's sacrifice

All kneel

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 in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for 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.**

AGNUS DEI

The congregation sings with the choir

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,
have mer - cy on us. grant us peace.

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.

ANTHEM

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may bide with you forever, e'en the spirit of truth.

John 14.15-17

Thomas Tallis c. 1505-1585

The congregation remains seated and sings

COMMUNION HYMN

1. An upper room did our Lord
prepare
for those he loved until the end:
and his disciples still gather
there
to celebrate their risen friend.

2. A lasting gift Jesus gave his
own:
to share his bread, his loving
cup.
whatever burdens may bow us down,
he by his cross shall lift us up.

3. And after supper he washed
their feet
for service, too, is sacrament.
in him our joy shall be made
complete -
sent out to serve, as he was
sent.

4. No end there is! We depart in
peace,
he loves beyond the uttermost:
in every room in our Father's
house
he will be there, as Lord and
host.

Fred Pratt Green 1903-2000

O WALY WALY

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All stand

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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.**

DISMISSAL

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. Go forth and tell! O church of
God awake!
God saving news to all the nations
take.
Proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour,
Lord and King.
That all the world His worthy
praise may sing.

2. Go forth and tell! God's love
embraces all.
He will in grace respond to all who
call.
How shall they call if they have
never heard,
the gracious invitation of his
word.

3. Go forth and tell! Some still in
darkness lie.
In wealth or want, in sin they live
and die.
Give us, O Lord, concern of heart
and mind.
A love like yours which cares for
all mankind.

4. Go forth and tell! O Church of
God, arise!
Go I the strength which Christ your
Lord supplies;
Go till all nations his great name
adore
And serve him, Lord and King, for
evermore.

James Edward Seddon 1915-83

John Barnard b 1948

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude and fugue in B minor *Bach*