

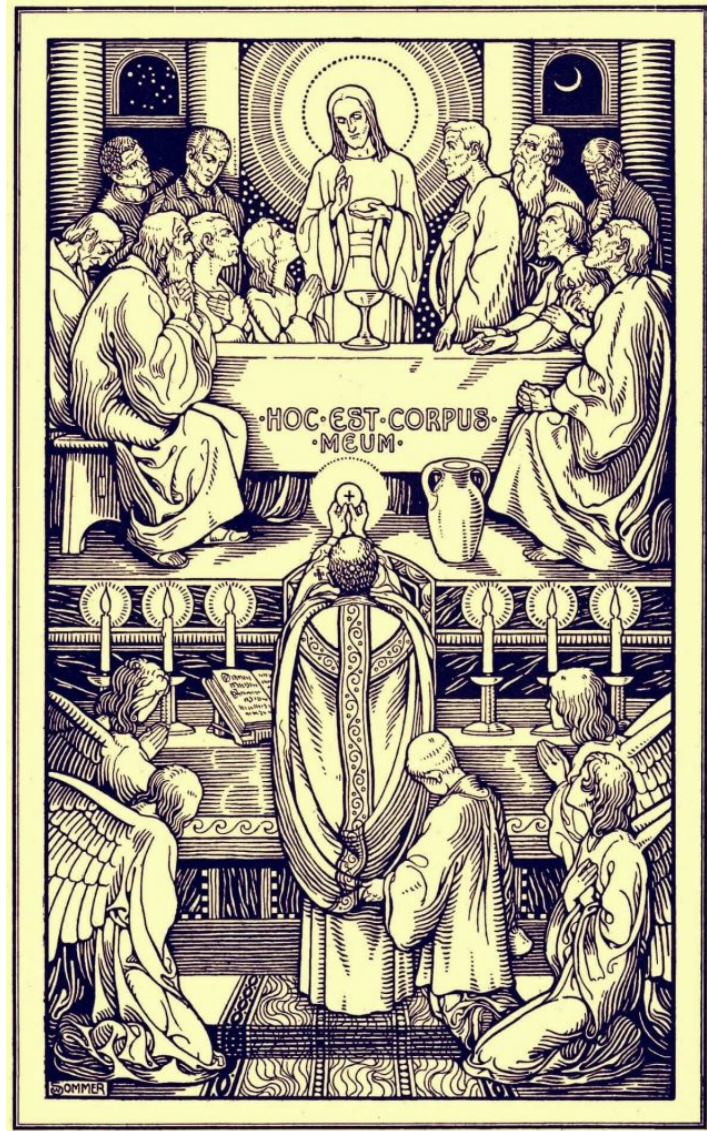
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2025

Christ Church

St Leonards on Sea



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sung Mass

with Sunday School

11th May

1030am

Welcome to Christ Church!

Whoever you are and wherever you are from, know you are very welcome to join us for our worship this morning. Everyone is welcome to stay after Mass for refreshments – please do join us.

Children & families

Children and families are very welcome here: our Sunday School meets at the back of Church and there is also a 'Children's Chapel' space with books and toys in the South Aisle, for young children and their parents to use at any point during Mass. Toilets are available at the back of church and in the crypt, accessed via the stairs at the end of the South Aisle.

During the Mass

'Talk to God before Mass, and each other afterwards!'

Please follow the directions to *sit, stand or kneel in italics* and join with the words in bold. Please remember that people are trying to pray before Mass, so keep silence as much as possible and don't disturb those at prayer.

Please also remember that the time after receiving Holy Communion is for quiet prayer and contemplation – not to have conversations.

Holy Communion

At the Giving of Holy Communion, if you are confirmed and wish to receive the Sacrament, please come forward to receive Communion via the main aisle following the directions of the sidesmen.

Everyone is very welcome to come forward for a blessing: if you would like one, please bow your head.

Holy Communion is offered at the communion rail in both forms. Please kneel, unless you are unable. The Host is received on the tongue, (or if preferred on the hands)

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Please stand when the bell rings for the entrance of the sanctuary party

Entrance Hymn

1 How sweet the name of Jesus
sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his
wounds,
And drives away his fear.

2 It makes the wounded spirit
whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.

3 Dear name! the rock on which I
build,
My shield and hiding-place,
My never-failing treasury filled
With boundless stores of grace.

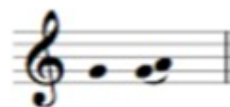
4 Jesus! my Shepherd, Brother,
Friend,
My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my
End,
Accept the praise I bring.

5 Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

6 Till then I would thy love
proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
And may the music of thy name
Refresh my soul in death.

The Greeting

In the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit



A-men.

The Lord be with you.



And also with you.

The Priest introduces the Mass, and the children of the parish come forward to receive their bible and blessing, and the items to prepare their altar.

The Mass then continues with **The Penitential Rite**

The Penitential Rite: The Asperges

Dear brothers and sisters let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water he has created, which will be sprinkled on us as a memorial of our Baptism. May he help us by his grace to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

All pray in silence briefly. The Priest then continues:

Almighty ever-living God, who willed that through water, the fountain of life and the source of purification, even souls should be cleansed and receive the gift of eternal life; be pleased, we pray, to bless this water, by which we seek protection on this your day, O Lord. Renew the living spring of your grace within us and grant that by this water we may be defended from all ills of spirit and body, and so approach you with hearts made clean and worthily receive salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

While the Choir sings the Vidi Aquam, the Priest sprinkles himself and the people, as a reminder of our cleansing at baptism.

May almighty God cleanse us of our sins, and through the celebration of this Eucharist make us worthy to share at the table of his kingdom.

Amen.

The Priest pronounces the 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**

*The Choir lead the **Kyrie***

Kyrie Eleison **Kyrie Eleison**
Christe Eleison **Christe Eleison**
Kyrie Eleison **Kyrie Eleison**

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

The Choir lead the Gloria

[Organ] Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High-est.
Glo-ry to God in the High-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God,
Hea'vn-ly King, Al-mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the
High-est. 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 mer-cy on us; You are
sea-ted at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. Glo-ry to God,
Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High-est. 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.
Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High-est.

Music: Mass of St Thomas by David Thorne

The Priest sings the Collect:

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Acts 13.14, 43-52 Revelation 7.9, 14-17 John 10.27-30

Please sit for the readings

First Reading A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 23 – The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want

1 The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.

will fear no evil; for you are with
me; your rod and your staff, they
comfort me.

2 He makes me lie down in green
pastures and leads me beside still
waters.

5 You spread a table before me in
the presence of those who trouble
me; you have anointed my head
with oil and my cup shall be full.

3 He shall refresh my soul and
guide me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.

6 Surely goodness and loving
mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life, and I will dwell in the
house of the Lord for ever.

4 Though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death, I

Second Reading A reading from the Revelation to St John
This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Please turn to face the Gospel, proclaimed from the midst of the people

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel (✠) of Our Lord Jesus Christ (✠) according to St John (✠)

Glory to you, O Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Please sit for the Homily

The homily is followed by a time of silent reflection.

The Creed – *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,
(*all bow*)

*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 remain standing for the **Intercessions**

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

As we pray for the dead: Rest eternal, grant unto them O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon them.

After the final petition we entrust all our prayer and petitions to the unceasing prayers of the Saints in heaven, especially to the Blessed Virgin Mary who we greet saying: **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.**

The Priest concludes the prayer, and all respond: **Amen**

The Peace

The Priest introduces the peace, then shares it with the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All share a sign of peace with those near them

Please then sit for the offertory hymn as bread and wine are brought forward for the preparation of the altar, as we sing the Offertory Hymn.

During this hymn a collection is taken towards the costs of Christ Church's ministries – if you don't have cash, there is a contactless reader by the entrance or you can donate online here:

christchurchstleonards.co.uk/donate



THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand when the congregation is censed by the thurifer.

Offertory Hymn

1. The King of love my
Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.

2. Where streams of living
water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures
grow
With food celestial feedeth.

3. Perverse and foolish oft I
strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought
me.

4. In death's dark vale I fear
no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside
me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort
still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

5. Thou spread'st a table in my
sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

6. And so through all the
length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good shepherd, may I sing thy
praise
Within thy house for ever.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God our almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

The Priest offers the Prayer over the Gifts, and all respond. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you **And also with you**
Lift up your hearts **We lift them up to the Lord**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give Him thanks and praise

*The Priest continues with the Opening (Preface) of the Prayer of Thanksgiving at the end of which the choir leads the **Sanctus***

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, 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.

Please kneel as the Priest continues the Prayer of Thanksgiving.

He first invokes the Holy Spirit to sanctify the offerings of bread and wine. He then recalls the Lord's actions the night before he died. A bell is rung as the Priest elevates the consecrated Host and Chalice.

He then says:

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Priest continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

At the end, all respond:



The Lord's Prayer

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.

As the Priest breaks the bread, he says:

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.

As the bread is broken, the choir lead the Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace

Giving of Communion

Please remaining kneeling as the Priest shows the Body of Christ

Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Before coming forward to receive Holy Communion, all pray together:

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

As the Priest receives Holy Communion, a bell is rung & the people begin to come forward. If you are confirmed and wish to receive Holy Communion, please come forward via the main aisle, following the directions of the stewards.

All are welcome to come forward for a blessing: if you would like one, please bow your head.

Holy Communion is offered in both forms at the Communion Rail. Please kneel, unless you are unable. The Host is received on the tongue (or, if preferred, on the hands.) If you don't wish to receive from the Chalice, you can return to your seat after receiving the Host.

Intinction (dipping the Host in the Chalice) is not permitted.

*During the receiving of Holy Communion, the Choir sing an **Anthem**
I Brother James' Air*

*All then join in the **Communion Hymn***

**1. Faithful Shepherd, feed me
In the pastures green;
Faithful Shepherd, lead me
Where thy steps are seen.**

**2. Hold me fast, and guide me
In the narrow way;
So, with thee beside me,
I shall never stray.**

**1. Daily bring me nearer
To the heavenly shore;
May my faith grow clearer,
May I love thee more.**

**2. Hallow every pleasure,
Every gift and pain;
Be thy self my treasure,
Though none else I gain.**

**5. Day by day prepare me
As thou seest best,
Then let angels bear me
To thy promised rest.**

*As the Sacred Vessels are cleansed in the Lady Chapel, all give thanks together
with the **Prayer of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion***

**Almighty God, we thank thee for feeding us with the body and blood
of thy Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer thee our souls and
bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of thy Spirit to
live and work to thy praise and glory. Amen.**

Please stand for the Priest to sing the Prayer after Communion

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen

Please sit for the Notices

Please stand for **The Blessing and Dismissal**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

The Mass is ended, let us go in the peace of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

As the Sanctuary party departs, all sing the **Recessional Hymn**

1. Jesus. where'er thy people
meet,
There they behold thy mercy-
seat;
Where'er they seek thee, thou art
found,
And every place is hallowed
ground.

2. For thou, within no walls
confined,
Inhabitest the humble mind;

Such ever bring thee where they
come,
And going, take thee to their
home.

3. Dear Shepherd of thy chosen
few,
Thy former mercies here renew;
Here to our waiting hearts
proclaim
The sweetness of thy saving
name.

4. Here may we prove the power
of prayer,
To strengthen faith and sweeten
care;
To teach our faint desires to rise,
And bring all heaven before our
eyes.

5. Lord, we are few, but thou art
near;
Nor short thine arm, nor deaf
thine ear;
rend the heavens, come
quickly down,
And make a thousand hearts
thine own!

*As the procession approaches the Image of Our Lady, **all turn** to focus on the Blessed Virgin as the Priest leads the singing of **the Regina Caeli***

The Regina Caeli

*As the procession approaches the Image of Our Lady, all turn to focus on the Blessed Virgin as the Priest leads the singing of **the Regina Caeli***

Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!
As He promised hath arisen, alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!
For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

Organ Voluntary

Please join us after the Mass for refreshments.