



**Parents  
please note:**

*There are some toys and books set out in the worship area for children and toddlers. Please make yourself at home, we appreciate children can be noisy and there is no need to apologise for that, or to feel awkward, at any time. Please know, God delights in children and there is no need or requirement for them, or for you, to sit still in our time together.*

*Welcome to our service of*

# Holy Communion and Baptism of Faye Martha Matfen

**EASTER 3**

10am on Sunday 19th April 2026  
at St. Leonard's Church, Penwortham



## THE WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

*Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name*

The sun comes up  
it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and  
whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when  
the evening comes

*Bless the Lord O my soul...*

You're rich in love and  
You're slow to anger  
Your name is great  
and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for  
my heart to find

*Bless the Lord O my soul...*

And on that day when my  
strength is failing  
The end draws near and  
my time has come  
Still my soul will sing  
Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and  
then forevermore

*Bless the Lord O my soul...*

## THE GATHERING

In the name of the Father, and  
of the Son, and of the Holy  
Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## THE GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace from  
God our Father and the Lord  
Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

*The candidate is presented to the  
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 Faye Martha Matfen  
and uphold her in her new life  
in Christ?

**All With the help of God, we will.**

*The president says to the parents and  
godparents*

Parents and godparents, the  
Church receives Faye with joy.  
Today we are trusting God for  
her growth in faith.

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

**P/G With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism Faye begins her journey in faith. You speak for her today. Will you care for her, and help her to take her place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

*P/G* **With the help of God, we will.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE FIRST READING

ACTS 2.14A, 36-41

**B**UT PETER, STANDING WITH the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?'

Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.'

And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.'

So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

### THE GOSPEL READING

LUKE 24.13-35

**Alleluia (x5)** I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

**Alleluia (x5)**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**N**OW ON THAT SAME day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad.

Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?'

He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death

and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.'

Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?'

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?'

That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!'

Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*All: Praise to you, O Christ.*

## THE SERMON

### THE DECISION

*The president addresses the candidate through the parents and godparents*

In Baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

*P/G* **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

*P/G* **I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

*P/G* **I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

*P/G* **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

*P/G* **I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way,  
the truth and the life?

*P/G* **I come to Christ.**

## **SIGNING WITH THE CROSS**

*A minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the candidate using these words.*

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

*The president invites parents, godparents and sponsors to sign the candidate with the cross. When the candidate has been signed, the president says:*

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

*All:* **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.

*All:* **Amen.**

## **PRAYER OVER THE WATER**

*The minister and candidate gather at the font.*

Praise God who made heaven  
and earth,

*All:* **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord  
our God.

*All:* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Loving Father, we thank you for  
your servant Moses, who led  
your people through the waters  
of the Red Sea to freedom in the  
Promised Land.

We thank you for your Son  
Jesus, who has passed through  
the deep waters of death and  
opened for all the way of  
salvation. Now send your Spirit,  
that those who are washed in  
this water may die with Christ  
and rise with him, to find true  
freedom as your children, alive  
in Christ for ever. Saving God

*All:* **give us life. Amen.**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Brothers and sisters, I ask  
you to profess together with  
this candidate the faith of the  
Church.

Do you believe and trust in God  
the Father?

*All:* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his  
Son Jesus Christ?

*All:* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**All: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **BAPTISM**

*All the children are invited back into church as the president dips the candidate in water, or pours water on them, saying:*

Faye, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

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.

**All: Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS**

*The prayers conclude with:*

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **THE WELCOME AND PEACE**

There is one Lord, one faith, one Baptism: Faye, by one Spirit we are all Baptised into one body.

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

*The congregation greets the newly baptised.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All: and also with you.**

## **THE OFFERTORY 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.

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'?

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.

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.

Words: W Chatterton Dix (1837 - 98)

*We do not pass a collection plate during the service, but if you would like to make a donation to support the work, ministry and maintenance of the Parish, there is provision at the back of church for donations in cash, envelopes, by bank card or mobile phone using the reader at the back of the church. Thank you.*

## THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. In your loving care you spread before us the table of life and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour and our Shepherd, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord  
our God

**All: It is right to give thanks and  
praise.**

It is right to praise you, Father,  
Lord of all creation; in your love  
you made us for yourself. When  
we turned away you did not  
reject us, but came to meet us in  
your Son.

**All: You embraced us as your  
children and welcomed us to  
sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he  
in us.

**All: He opened his arms of love  
upon the cross and made for  
all the perfect sacrifice for  
sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at  
supper with his friends he took  
bread, and 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.

**All: Father, we do this in  
remembrance of him: his  
body is the bread of life.**

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 for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**All: Father, we do this in  
remembrance of him: his  
blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

*All:* **As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

*All:* **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 come in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

*All:* **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

Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

## AGNUS DEI

*All:* **Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## GIVING OF COMMUNION

*The president and people receive communion. We have an Open Table but if you would prefer a blessing simply cross your arms over your chest at the rail.*

## THE COMMUNION HYMN

Be still for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here;  
Come, bow before him now,  
with reverence and fear.  
In him no sin is found,  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of Light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place,  
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.  
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him;  
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

Words: David Evans

## PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

*All:* **God of life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*All:* **Amen.**

## GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

*Faye's parents are given a lighted candle. When they have 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.

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

## FINAL HYMN:

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
Hold me with thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven,  
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through:  
Strong deliverer,  
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side:  
Songs and praises  
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-1791)

## THE DISMISSAL

## THE BLESSING

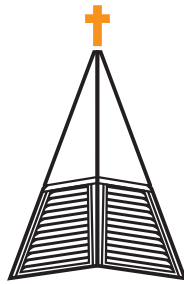
May God who out of darkness  
brings new hope and a new  
future, fill you with new life;  
and the blessing of God  
almighty, Creator, Redeemer  
and Sustainer, be upon you and  
remain with you always.

*All:* **Amen.**

With the risen life of Christ  
within you, go in the peace of  
Christ. Alleluia

*All:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia,  
alleluia.**

*Please take this order of service home with you  
after the service.*



PENWORTHAM  
**ST. LEONARD'S**  
**FAMILYCHURCH**

**Thank you for coming to our service this morning,  
we look forward to welcoming you again for our services next week.**

### **NEXT WEEKS' SERVICES**

**SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2026 — EASTER 4**

**8:30am Holy Communion — 10:00am Sung Holy Communion  
Followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**