

Welcome to our all age morning family service

Gifts from Jesus

Sunday 10th May 2026 at 10:00am

St. Leonard's Family Church, Penwortham

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.

First song

O Lord my God!
when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works
thy hand hath made,
I see the stars,
I hear the mighty thunder,
The power throughout
the universe displayed;

*Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art,
how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God to Thee,
How great Thou art,
how great Thou art!*

When through the woods
and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing
sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from
lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook,
and feel the gentle breeze;

Then sings my soul...

And when I think that
God His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die -
I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross
my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to
take away my sin:

Then sings my soul...

When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation
And take me home -
what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God,
how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul,

Russian hymn, tr. Stuart K Hine

Call to worship

Jesus says, 'I will not leave you orphaned.' God our parent, sibling and friend is here among us.

Let us worship the one who loves us, who nurtures us. Let us worship the one who challenges us and calls us out of loneliness into His family.

Let us worship our God.

Introduction and welcome

In our Bible reading this morning, Jesus is talking with his freinds. He knows that soon he is going away, but he doesnt want them to worry that he is leaving them all alone. So he tells them that he is going to leave them two gifts.

One gift, his commandments, seems a bit strange, after all, who likes being told what to do? The second gift he promises to them is another friend, he calls the Spirit of truth. Its the same Holy Spirit that came down from Heaven years earlier when Jesus was Baptised in the River Jordan.

Last Sunday there was another Baptism, here at St. Leonard's and in it prayers were said that the Holy Spirit would come down on Jack. Today we all get to say hello to Jack and his family and welcome them into our church family.

Giving thanks and saying sorry

Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would help us and be in us forever and that is wonderful, but we also know that Jack will need our prayers for the journey of faith that lies ahead.

So let's begin our time together by welcoming Jack and his family and promising before God to support them with fellowship and prayer.

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 Jack and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

With the help of God we will

Jack on behalf of St Leonard's Church - accept this certificate and candle as a sign of your membership into your church family.

Presentation of certificate and candle

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

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

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

As well as the Holy Spirit, Jesus also offers us the gift of his commandments, which he says we should obey. Often rules are seen as hard to keep and difficult to follow, but when we follow the rules that Jesus gave us, they keep us safe and set us free.

Sadly, sometimes we don't always do what Jesus asks, but he also tells us that we can always say sorry and make a fresh start, which is what we shall do now.

Jesus said: 'If you love me you will obey my commands.' Lord Jesus, we love you, and want to love you more. But we admit that we have not always obeyed you and have made mistakes.

Help us to begin again.

Jesus said: 'I will ask the Father, and he will give you the Advocate.' We thank you, loving God, that you have not left us alone, but have given us your Spirit. But we admit that sometimes we have been deaf to the voice of your Holy Spirit counsel.

Help us to begin again.

Jesus said: 'You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.' We thank you God for opening up a new relationship through your Son and that through your Spirit you live in us. Yet we admit that we have sometimes wanted to shut you out when your truth is inconvenient.

Help us to begin again.

Jesus said: 'Because I live, you also will live.' We bless and thank you, loving God, that in spite of our mistakes, carelessness and disobedience, your love is so vast, so generous; we are forgiven, loved and free.

Thank you for your love. As you live in us, so help us to live in you, to the Father's glory. Amen.

I also pray that we can use Jesus' example of forgiveness to help us to forgive others and forgive ourselves.

Song

It's easy to forget that the Holy Spirit lives in us, so, to remind us, in our next song we are going to ask to be filled with the Spirit once again. It's only a short song so we may sing it through a few times.

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God
fall afresh on me;
Break me, melt me,
mould me, fill me;
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

Bible Reading

John 14.15-21 (NIRV)

Jesus said: "If you love me, obey my commands. I will ask the Father. And he will give you another friend to help you and to be with you forever. That friend is the Spirit of truth. The world can't accept him. That's because the world does not see him or know him. But you know him. He lives with you, and he will be in you.

I will not leave you like children who don't have parents. I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore. But you will see me. Because I live, you will live also. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father. You will know that you are in me, and I am in you. Anyone who has my commands and obeys them loves me. My Father will love the one who loves me. I too will love them. And I will show myself to them."

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Bible Talk

Gifts from Jesus

Response

Thankful - video

We believe

Let us declare our faith in God our Father.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Song

*Jesus says, "I will not leave you alone."
Today we celebrate the beautiful name of
Jesus — the one who promises to stay with
us, guide us and fill us with his Spirit. Let's
stand and sing together.*

What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

He will be in you our prayers

*At the beginning of our service today, you
were each given small wooden dove. At
first glance it doesn't look much but it is a
symbol of the Holy Spirit.*

*Jesus promised his friends that God's Holy
Spirit will live with them and within them.
The Spirit is not always something we can
see clearly, but God is quietly at work within
us — shaping us, guiding us, comforting us
and helping us to grow in love.*

*The dove reminds us of the Spirit
descending on Jesus at his baptism. In a
moment, we are going to write our names
and perhaps a short prayer too — asking
God's Spirit to live more deeply within us.*

*As we do this, remember too that through
the Holy Spirit, we live in God, and God lives
in us.*

Gracious God, who holds all
creation. We hold before you now
in prayer, our world, in fear and
turmoil; our hungry, war-torn,
unfair world. In you we live and
move and have our being.

We hold up our world in need.

We hold before you our country,
for all those in the news,
particularly the new local
councillors, grant them wisdom
that they may work for the
benefit of all their constituents,
particularly those whose voices
are often silenced. In you we live
and move and have our being.

We hold up our world in need.

We hold before you those whom
we want to pray for this day, the
ones we love, the names you
know, and in silence, the people
known to us in our hearts... In you
we live and move and have our
being.

We hold up our world in need.

We hold before you the worldwide
church, her needs, and the
needs of the fellowship in this
community, help us to grow
together and grow closer to you.
In you we live and move and have
our being.

We hold up our world in need.

Gracious God, who holds all
creation, hold now our prayers.
Teach us to have hope in you that
we might not despair, help us
to follow your commands, and
share your love and grace with all
creation.

In the name of Jesus our loving
Saviour we pray.

Amen.

The Lord's prayer

Let us pray as Jesus 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.**

Final Song

*Lamps don't shine for very long without oil,
and we cannot shine for very long without
God's help either! Jesus promises that the
Holy Spirit will be with us forever — helping
us to keep going, keep loving and keep
shining even when life is difficult.*

*So let's sing together and ask God to keep
the flame of faith burning brightly within
us.*

Give me oil in my lamp,
keep me burning,
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray;
Give me oil in my lamp,
keep me burning,
Keep me burning till the break of day.

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King.*

Give me joy in my heart,
keep me singing,
Give me joy in my heart, I pray;
Give me joy in my heart,
keep me singing,
Keep me singing till the break of day.

Sing hosanna

Give me love in my heart,
keep me serving,
Give me love in my heart, I pray;
Give me love in my heart,
keep me serving,
Keep me serving till the break of day.

Sing hosanna

Blessing

Jesus said, 'I will not leave you
orphaned: I am coming to you.'

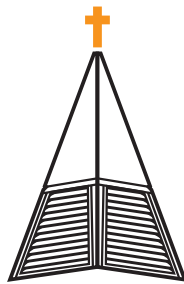
Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus, and bless us with
the Father's love. Bless us with the
Spirit's inspiration and bless us with
your presence.

**Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with
you and remain with you always.

Amen.



PENWORTHAM
ST. LEONARD'S
FAMILY CHURCH

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

NEXT WEEKS' SERVICES

THURSDAY 14 MAY 2026 — ASCENSION DAY

7pm — Sung Holy Communion

SUNDAY 17 MAY 2026 — EASTER 7

8:30am Holy Communion — 10:00am Sung Holy Communion