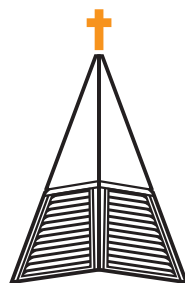


Welcome to our service of

Sung Holy Communion

STEWARDSHIP 3 - GENEROUS CHOICES

10AM ON SUNDAY 19 JULY 2026
at St. Leonard's Church, Penwortham



PENWORTHAM
ST. LEONARD'S
FAMILYCHURCH

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.*

THE WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Lord, for the years Your love has
Kept and guided,
Urged and inspired us,
Cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us,
Pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years,
We bring our thanks today.

Lord, for the word,
The word of life which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts
And sets our souls ablaze,
Teaches and trains,
Rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word,
Receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our land
In this our generation,
Spirits oppressed by pleasure,
Wealth and care:
For young and old,
For commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land,
Be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world where men
disown and doubt You,
Loveless in strength,
And comfortless in pain,
Hungry and helpless,
Lost indeed without You:
Lord of the world,
We pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves;
In living power remake us -
Self on the cross
and Christ upon the throne,
Past put behind us,
For the future take us:
Lord of our lives,
To live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith

THE GREETING

Your steadfast love, O God, is
higher than the heavens, and
your faithfulness reaches to the
clouds.

**All: May our hearts be always
steadfast in faith and prayer
and worship.**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**All: 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

We reflect upon those times when
we have not been generous or
loving towards others, and we
seek God's forgiveness.

For those times when we have
not welcomed and accepted the
stranger in our midst:

All: God have mercy upon us.

For those times when we have taken for granted our freedom and forgotten those in captivity:

All: **God have mercy upon us.**

For those times when we have not lived in, or revealed, your unconditional love and grace:

All: **God have mercy upon us.**

For those times when we have not cared for your world or have taken for granted its provision and beauty:

All: **God have mercy upon us.**

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you and I, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

All: **Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the Highest,
Glory to God in the Highest, and
peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you
thanks, we praise you for your
glory.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the Highest,
Lord Jesus Christ, only son of
the Father, Lord God, Lamb of
God, You take away the sin of
the world: have mercy on us you
are seated at the right hand of
the Father: receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the Highest, For
you alone are the Holy One, you
alone are the Lord, you alone
are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory
of God the Father.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the Highest.**

THE COLLECT

God of Love, As Ruth found love and acceptance, through her deepening trust and faith to do all that was asked of her, may we too seek the redeeming love of God, to follow and serve as we are called; in and through the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

All: **Amen**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

RUTH 3.1-18 (NIRV)

ONE DAY RUTH's mother-in-law Naomi spoke to her. She said, "My daughter, I must find a home for you. It should be a place where you will be provided for. You have been working with the women who work for Boaz. He's a relative of ours. Tonight he'll be separating the straw from his barley on the threshing floor. So wash yourself. Put on some perfume. And put on your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor. But don't let Boaz know you are there. Wait until he has finished eating and drinking. Notice where he lies down. Then go over and uncover his feet. Lie down there. He'll tell you what to do."

"I'll do everything you say," Ruth answered. So she went down to the threshing floor. She did everything her mother-in-law had told her to do.

When Boaz had finished eating and drinking, he was in a good mood. He went over to lie down at the far end of the grain pile. Then Ruth approached quietly. She uncovered his feet and lay down there. In the middle of the night, something surprised Boaz and woke him up. He turned and found a woman lying there at his feet!

"Who are you?" he asked.

"I'm Ruth," she said. "You are my family protector. So take good care of me by making me your wife."

"Dear woman, may the Lord bless you," he replied. "You are showing even more kindness now than you did earlier. You didn't run after the younger men, whether they were rich or poor. Dear woman, don't be afraid. I'll do for you everything you ask. All the people of my town know that you are an excellent woman. It's true that I'm a relative of yours. But there's a family protector who is more closely related to you than I am. So stay here for the night. In the morning if he wants to help you, good. Let him help you. But if he doesn't want to, then I'll do it. You can be sure that the Lord lives. And you can be just as sure that I'll help you. Lie down here until morning."

So she stayed at his feet until morning. But she got up before anyone could be recognized. Boaz thought, "No one must know that a woman came to the threshing floor."

He said to Ruth, "Bring me the coat you have around you. Hold it out." So she did. He poured more than fifty pounds of barley into it and helped her pick it up. Then he went back to town.

Ruth came to her mother-in-law. Naomi asked, "How did it go, my daughter?"

Then Ruth told her everything Boaz had done for her. She said, "He gave me all this barley. He said, 'Don't go back to your mother-in-law with your hands empty.'"

Naomi said, "My daughter, sit down until you find out what happens. The man won't rest until he settles the whole matter today."

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

Be thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me,
save that thou art;

Be thou my best thought
in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping,
thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom,
be thou my true word,
Be thou ever with me,
and I with thee, Lord;

Be thou my great Father,
and I thy true son;

Be thou in me dwelling,
and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate,
my sword for the fight;
Be thou my whole armour,
be thou my true might;

Be thou my soul's shelter,
be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward,
great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not,
nor man's empty praise:
Be thou mine inheritance
now and always;

Be thou and thou only
the first in my heart:

O Sovereign of heaven,
my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven,
thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys
after vict'ry is won;

Great Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall,

Still be thou my vision,
O Ruler of all.

Irish, c 8th century

THE GOSPEL READING

LUKE 18.18 – 23

**Alleluia (x5). We do not live by |
bread alone, but by every word
that comes from the | mouth of
God. Alleluia (x5)**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

A CERTAIN RULER asked Jesus a
question. "Good teacher," he said,
"what must I do to receive eternal life?"

"Why do you call me good?" Jesus
answered. "No one is good except God.
You know what the commandments
say. 'Do not commit adultery. Do not
commit murder. Do not steal. Do not be
a false witness. Honor your father and
mother.'"

"I have obeyed all those
commandments since I was a boy," the
ruler said.

When Jesus heard this, he said to
him, "You are still missing one thing.
Sell everything you have. Give the
money to those who are poor. You will
have treasure in heaven. Then come and
follow me."

When the ruler heard this, he
became very sad. He was very rich.
Jesus looked at him. Then he said,
"How hard it is for rich people to enter
God's kingdom! Is it hard for a camel
to go through the eye of a needle? It is
even harder for someone who is rich to
enter God's kingdom!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

THE CREED

*All: 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.

THE PRAYERS

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

(or)

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

All: accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PEACE

In Jesus we receive the peace that passes all understanding, we receive the promise of hope and love everlasting.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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 OFFERTORY HYMN

Take my hands and
make them as your own,
and use them for your
kingdom here on earth.
Consecrate them to your care,
anoint them for your service where
you may need your gospel to be sown.

Take my hands they
speak now for my heart,
and by their actions
they will show their love.
Guard them on their daily course,
be their strength and guiding force
to ever serve the Trinity above.

Take my hands,
I give them to you, Lord.
Prepare them for the
service of your name.
Open them to human need
and by their love they'll sow your seed
so all may know the love
and hope you gave.

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

O God, have called us to be a
people of generosity, we bring
these our gifts to you: the offerings
which come from our own lives;
the offering of bread and wine,
products of the earth and crafted
by human hands. Accept all of
these gifts in the name of Jesus
Christ.

All: Amen

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.

All: **His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever. From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation. You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

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 comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he 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.

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 and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. Bring us at the last with Leonard and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The president and people receive communion. Our communion table is open to everyone aged over 7 years — but if you or your child would prefer a blessing, please do come to the rail and simply cross your arms over your chest.

During Communion, we sing.

THE COMMUNION HYMN

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know,
And never be the same:
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you, and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind,
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare,
Will you let me answer prayer
In you, and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free,
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you, and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside,
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you, and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you,
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you, and you in me.

John L Bell (b.1949) & Graham Maule (b. 1958)

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

God of love, you have restored
us in your sight, through this
sacrament of bread and wine and
so sustained us for the journey
ahead. May the love you share
with us be revealed as we give
witness to you day by day.

All: **Amen.**

**Almighty God, we thank you for
feeding us with the body and
blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our
souls and bodies to be a living
sacrifice.**

**Send us out in the power of your
Spirit to live and work to your
praise and glory. Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

All my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and
chance he guideth,
Only good and only true.
God unknown, He alone
Calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
Sword and crown betray his trust;
What with care and toil he buildeth,
Tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power Hour by hour,
Is my temple and my tower

God's great goodness aye endureth,
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:
Splendour, light and life attend him,
Beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore, From his store
New-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th'Almighty Giver
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
His desire our soul delighteth,
Pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand At his hand;
Joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done,
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call One and all:
Ye who follow shall not fall.

Words: Robert Bridges Music: Herbert Howells

THE DISMISSAL

Almighty God, we thank you for
the gift of your holy word. May it
be a lantern to our feet, a light to
our paths, and a strength to our
lives. Take us and use us to love
and serve in the power of the Holy
Spirit and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

May you be sent out from this holy
place with the grace, light and
truth of the Gospel in your hearts;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be
amongst you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the
Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.

*Thank you for coming to our service this
morning. Please take your order of service
home with you.*



Thank you for coming to our service this morning,
we look forward to welcoming you again for our services next week.
Please do join us for refreshments in the main hall after the service.

NEXT WEEKS' SERVICES

SUNDAY 26 JULY 2026 - TRINITY 8

Stewardship 4 | Generous Hope

Ruth 4.1-17 — Luke 12.27 — 34

8:30am Holy Communion

10:00am Sung Holy Communion

11:30am Baptism for Louie William Henry Procter