

Welcome to our service of

HOLY COMMUNION

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

8:30am on Sunday 15 November 2026
at St. Leonard's Church, Penwortham

PENWORTHAM
ST. LEONARD'S
FAMILYCHURCH

THE GATHERING

We come to the God who saves us and makes us safe in him. Let us commit ourselves to the welfare of those in our care. We look towards the needs of the vulnerable and consider our responses and actions for their health and salvation.

All: **Amen.**

WHY SAFEGUARDING?

A short video plays on the screens

THE CONFESSION

Our Father in heaven, We confess to you, and to each other, that we have sometimes failed to be aware of our responsibility to safeguard those in our care. Give us, we pray, a new awareness of situations which put people at risk.

Forgive our lack of attentiveness towards the vulnerable and instil in us all a sense of community and caring so that the love of God is shared more fully. We ask this in Jesus' name.

All: **Amen.**

For times when we have failed to see when people may have felt unsafe. Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those occasions when we have not listened effectively to those in distress or danger. Christ, have mercy.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

For times when we have seen and heard but have failed to act in order to keep others safe. Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Forgive our laziness and indifference and ignorance; and create in us a new spirit of responsibility and responsiveness, for the sake of your people and for the extension of your kingdom.

THE ABSOLUTION

Gracious God, who forgives our sins when we repent and seek your will, teach us your ways of caring and compassion, and forgive us for failing to be aware of the needs of others. We respond to your great forgiveness by committing ourselves more fully to the well-being of those in our care.

All: **Amen.**

Please stand for

THE GLORIA

All: **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.**

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.

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. Amen..

THE COLLECT

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

1 CORINTHIANS 13.1-13

IF I SPEAK IN THE TONGUES of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

This is the word of the LORD .

All: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL READING

MATT. 25.14-30

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

FOR IT IS AS IF A MAN, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents.

In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those

slaves came and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours."

But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?

Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.

So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.

For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Love Protects

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

It is God's will that all of his creation should live in harmony. Make our community here a place of safety and peace for all who enter our doors. The peace of the Lord be with you.

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 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always sing of your glory, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come.

Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost, restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised. In his face your light shines out, flooding lives with goodness and truth, gathering into one in your kingdom a divided and broken humanity.

Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation we glorify your name, for ever praising you and singing:

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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, 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, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 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

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All: **Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared; we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners. So cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.**

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.

Prayers after Communion

Lord of heaven, in this eucharist you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship,so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Diocesan Mission Prayer

All: **God of Mission: Who alone brings growth to your church, Send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our actions, Joy to our worship And power to our witness.**

Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, And in service to our local community, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Blessing and Dismissal

May God, who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints, pour upon you the riches of his grace.

All: **Amen.**

May he give you joy in their fellowship and a share in their praises.

All: **Amen.**

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness and to come to the full radiance of glory.

All: **Amen**.

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

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.

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 | SUN 22 NOVEMBER 2026
CHRIST THE KING

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