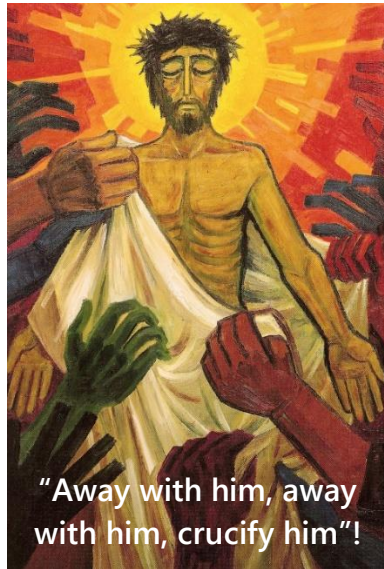


Welcome to this **Passion Sunday** Communion Service



*Passion Sunday marks the beginning of Passiontide. Passiontide is a name for the last two weeks of Lent, beginning on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, long celebrated as Passion Sunday, and ending on Holy Saturday.*

For the live Zoom 10am Spiritual Communion go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87960777941?pwd=M0FSRnU1a3hsN0cwK1F2djlzZDITQT09>

For this service recorded at St Lawrence go to: <https://youtu.be/W-NkYL52UzI>  
Or search on YouTube for Search for : Passion Sunday Communion amsndb

**Voluntary:** By Alan Gardner

**Welcome:** By Jane Pudney outside St Lawrence Church

Welcome to our Joint Benefice online service this week recorded here at St Lawrence Church.

Passion Sunday marks the beginning of Passiontide which covers the last two weeks of Lent, beginning on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, and ending on Holy Saturday.

*A short passage of scripture for the season from John 12.24 and 26*

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single

seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

<sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.

We will now sing the hymn

***Hymn 1: 'My song is love unknown'***

***Welcome by Revd Steven Poss***

Welcome to this holy table;

welcome to you,

for we are Christ's body,

Christ's work in the world.

Welcome to you whose baptism makes you

salt of the earth and light to the world.

Rejoice and be glad.

Praise God who gives us forgiveness and hope.

**Amen.**

**Christ is our light,**

**the joy of our salvation.**

***Thanksgiving and Praise***

Christ is the living water

cleansing, refreshing, making all things new.

Christ is the living bread;

food for the hungry,

strength for the pilgrim and the labourer.

**So now we offer our thanks**

**for the beauty of our land**

**for the wild places**

**for the mountains, the coast and the sea.**

**We offer thanks and praise to God for this good land;**

**for its trees and pastures,**

**for its plentiful crops**

**and the skills we have learned to grow them.**

Our thanks for our villages and the cities we have built;  
for science and discoveries,  
for our life together,  
for this church,  
for the continued life of prayer in this place.

*Forgiveness*

We come seeking forgiveness  
for all we have failed to be and do  
as members of Christ's body.

*Silence*

In God there is forgiveness.

Loving and all-seeing God,  
forgive us where we have failed to support one another  
and to be what we claim to be.

Forgive us where we have failed to serve you;  
and where our thoughts and actions have been  
contrary to yours we ask your pardon.

God forgives us; be at peace.

*Silence*

Rejoice and be glad,  
for Christ is resurrection,  
reconciliation for all the human race.

*The minister and people say*

We shall all be one in Christ,  
one in our life together.

Praise to God who has created us,  
praise to God who has accepted us,  
praise to God who sends us into the world

*The Collect* read by **Shirley**

*The Collect for the Fifth Sunday in Lent:*

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross

we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*Reading 1* by **Alan Gardener**

*first reading* Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature[b] of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death –  
even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All Thanks be to God.*

We now sing the hymn

*Hymn 2* **When I survey the wondrous cross**

*Gospel Reading* Passion narrative in dramatic form from: John 18 and 19

*Homily* by Revd Steven

An Invitation to Enter into Passiontide

This week in the church, is the beginning of Passiontide. During this time, in some churches, all crucifixes and images may be covered in veils. The crosses are to be covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's passion on Good Friday. Statues and images are to remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil." The veiling was associated with Passion Sunday's Gospel (John 8:46–59), in which Jesus "hid himself" from the people.

During the next two weeks, we are invited to enter into Passiontide ourselves. We are invited to see Jesus from the vantage point of his cross, and subject all human experience to the testing and interrogation of the cross. We are also invited to face Jesus for ourselves.

There can be a one-sided concentration on what the cross means, what theories of salvation, what lessons for life we can deduce from it. But as we enter Passiontide, we are invited to face Jesus ourselves, imaginatively, through pictures, sculpture, theatre and interactive media. We don't have the detail of Jesus' physical face but we have plenty of evidence from those who did, to appreciate what it would be like for us to be before his face. And we do so not just as spectators but as participants, and in John's Gospel as worshippers in particular.

The crucifixion of Jesus was a compulsive theme of some of the greatest medieval painters. They helped their viewers to observe the drama of salvation. But some of the greatest painters did more. They made it possible for their viewers not merely to stand outside the frame admiringly, but to come into the picture. Figures in the picture would draw you in with their eyes or beckon you with their hands. They created space for us to occupy and to become ourselves contemporaries in the drama and, in so doing, to face Jesus himself. Seeing Jesus enables us to see everything else aright. If we take up the invitation of this Passiontide to keep company with Jesus on his cross and to enter, in imagination and contemplation, the triumph of the Crucified, we will be drawn to him and find light and life and hope this Easter time.

**Amen**

### *Profession of faith*

You, O God, are supreme and holy.

You create our world and give us life.

Your purpose overarches everything we do.

You have always been with us.

You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you.

We now sing the hymn

*Hymn 3: O lord my god when i in awesome wonder*

*Prayers of Intercession:* By Michael Pudney

Let us pray-

Everlasting God, your son chose twelve disciples to work together to spread the good news of the gospel to the whole world, help us as we work together in our parishes for the common good. May we delight in sharing in each other's spiritual gifts and enabling everyone to make their own contribution however small. May we always be ready to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Creator God, we pray for peace in our world; may all lands that suffer violence and injustice find peace and reconciliation. We pray for the peoples of the world and all who offer their services in the leadership of the affairs of the world that they may uphold what is right and good. We pray particularly at this time for your love and compassion to abound as we walk through this challenging time of the global Pandemic. We ask for wisdom for those who bear the load of making decisions about the Coronavirus with possible widespread consequences.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Father God, we thank you for all those who help our community to run smoothly because of their jobs, voluntary work or neighbourliness. Help us to be supportive and encouraging and to step in to situations where we can serve. Bless our neighbours and strengthen those who are working in your name in order to bring healing and comfort to those in need.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful God your Son Jesus Christ healed the lame with a touch and raised the dead with a word – hear our prayers today for those who are laid low by sorrow and illness, or by fear and weakness; breathe new life into all of those on our prayer list.

Tom Clarke  
John Fisher  
Dede Starsmeare  
Bobby McAllister  
Jo Cable  
Gerry Lewsey  
Sadie Russell  
Fr Lionel Webber and Jean Webber  
Elliott  
Sue Wilson  
Sue Watmough  
Tony Grinstead  
Tom Clark

*Please pray for them all as their names are displayed at the end of the service.*

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful God, we thank you that our movement towards death and decay is not the final sentence in our life story. We thank you that by your faithfulness we are born to a new and living hope in a future where love will never be terminated and life will never end. May we always trust in you as we pray for those who have departed this earthly life.

Dear Lord, **Sylvia Chapman** has now discovered your peace. May she receive your comfort. She went to her rest knowing that you cared for her, and that

you loved her. Care for her soul as she moves into the afterlife. May she spend eternity with you; may she live forever in your presence.

We pray at this sad time for her Daughters Carina and Nicky and all Sylvia's family and friends at this time. A much-loved member of St Thomas' church and the Bradwell community.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

**Matthew Lee.** We pray for his parents June and Joe all Matthew's family and friends who will dearly miss him.

We pray for the family of **Ernest Norman** and especially his daughters who were able to be with him at his passing.

We Pray for the souls of **Jo Cable** and **Ray Smith**, two great friends of Mick and Pam who were both ex-churchwardens of their respective churches.

**Beryl Dixon.** We pray for Jan and Ron and all Beryl's family at this sad time.

**Sally Stewart** we pray for her brother Roderic and family, and for Penny Lucas.

**Maureen Watson** we pray for her family and for the memorial service at St Thomas Church in Bradwell on 26th March.

**Tony Hutson** whose funeral is at St Thomas on April 6th. We pray for his wife Haley and for Sophia and Luke at this difficult time.

**Monica Hansen** we Pray for her family at the funeral last week.

*Again, please pray for them all as their names are displayed with the music at the end of the service.*

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Loving God as we go forth from this time of worship, help us to remember that you do infinitely more for us than we can ask or imagine. Hear our prayers for all your creation and gather us in the embrace of your abundant and life-giving Spirit.

Merciful Father

**Accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,**



our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

We now sing the hymn  
*Hymn 4* O love how deep, how broad, how high

*Collection:*

*A collection would normally be taken in this hymn:*

*During these difficult times we would like to encourage all to donate by standing order if possible, this will help guarantee the future of your local church:  
Please contact your treasurer or churchwardens.*

*The Peace. Revd Steven*

God is love  
and those who live in love live in God  
and God lives in them.

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

*The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**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.

**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.  
**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.

**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.

**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.

**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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The service continues with the Lord's Prayer.*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

*Breaking of the Bread*

*The president breaks the consecrated 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.

*Giving of Communion*

*The president and people receive communion.*

*Post Communion* **Bronwen**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

*Prayer after communion*

*All* We thank you, Lord,  
that you have fed us in this sacrament,  
united us with Christ,  
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet  
prepared for all peoples.  
Amen.

*Notices for the week* Revd. Steven.....

*Final Blessing*

Most merciful God,  
by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
you delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* Amen.

*Dismissal*

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**We go, giving thanks to God**

*We sing our final hymn:*

*Final Hymn* **Father we love you we worship and adore you**

© Archbishop's Council 2000 Opening prayers & confession from New Zealand Prayer book



## **Notices**

### **Easter Chapel Sunrise Service**

We are delighted that the Bishop of Bradwell, Bishop John will be taking the Easter Sunrise Service at the Chapel outside, at 6.30am on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Please let us know if you are coming, as places are limited.

### **Spiritual Communion**

Steven Poss is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Spiritual Communion

Time: Mar 21, 2021 10:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87960777941?pwd=M0FSRnU1a3hsN0cwK1F2djlpZDITQT09>

Meeting ID: 879 6077 7941

Passcode: 634876

### **Bible Study**

This will continue after Easter whilst we study the Lent Course. Please let me know if there is a specific book that you would like to study.

### **Lent Course – Where is God?**

I am doing the following course – ‘Where is God?’. The times of the sessions and the link to order the booklet is here:-

[Where is God...? - York Courses](#)

Where is God ...?

5. when we try to make sense of life? – 7.30pm-9.30pm on Monday 29 March

### **Lent Course – Where is God? – Session 5 – Monday 29 March – 7.30pm-9pm**

Steven Poss is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Lent Course - Session 5 (7.30pm-9pm)

Time: Mar 29, 2021 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81277207780?pwd=MEVGZE03VEU1VGhVSXQ4YXR6clhHdz09>

Meeting ID: 812 7720 7780

Passcode: 504453

### **St Lawrence Virtual Coffee Meeting**

Steven Poss is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: St Lawrence Virtual Coffee Meeting

Time: Mar 24, 2021 02:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89900296217?pwd=Wmo3NlpLdFhJNWpzbHNwMStCRDJYZz09>

Meeting ID: 899 0029 6217

Passcode: 385573

### **A Foundation Course in Pastoral Care**

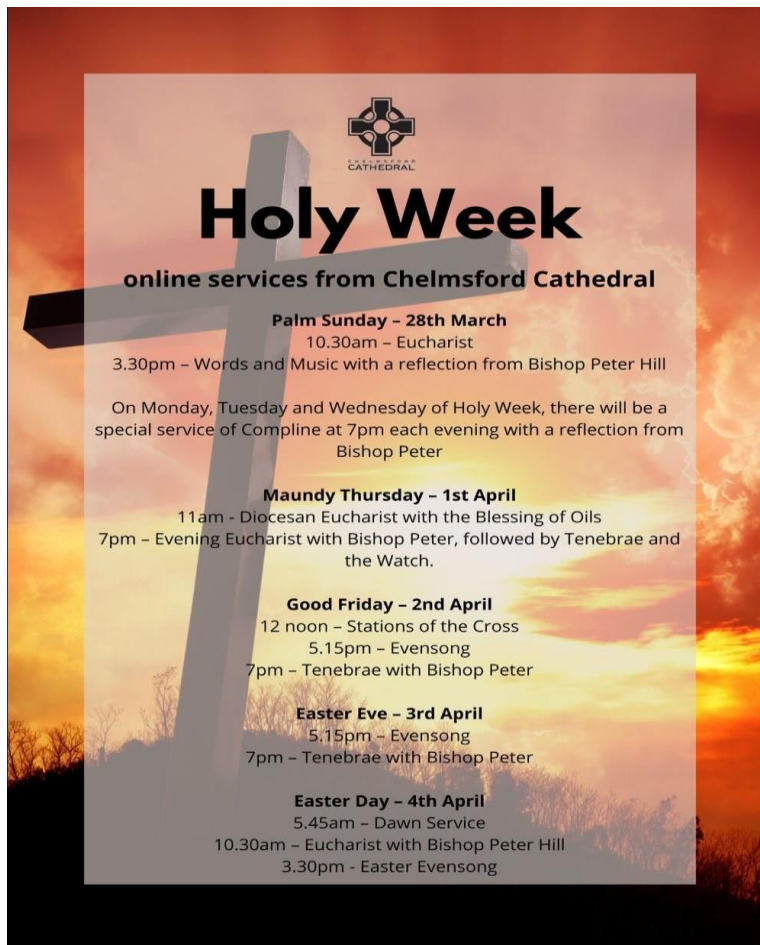
Following the success of the last two Resourcing Pastoral Carers course, carried out on zoom, we are arranging another to take place starting on 14<sup>th</sup> April. Via the online Zoom App. Tuesdays from 7.00pm to 9.30pm, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> May 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> June 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in this course, please contact Revd Steven.


### **Westminster Abbey Seminar**

The second in a specially-curated series of contemplative lunchtime seminars for Passiontide and Holy Week. Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March from 1.15pm – 2pm.

In this next seminar, [Professor Alison Wright](#) (UCL) and [the Reverend Dr Ayla Lepine](#) (King's College, Cambridge) will introduce Antonio and Piero del Pollaiuolo's *Martyrdom of St Sebastian*. This 45 minute lunchtime seminar is designed as a preparation for Holy Week and Easter, and is part of an online series offered by the Abbey during the COVID-19 pandemic to inspire hope and reflection on the Passion of Christ. Click below to register.

[Passion and Pandemic: Seminar II | Westminster Abbey \(westminster-abbey.org\)](#)



  
**Holy Week**  
**online services from Chelmsford Cathedral**

**Palm Sunday – 28th March**  
 10.30am – Eucharist  
 3.30pm – Words and Music with a reflection from Bishop Peter Hill

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, there will be a special service of Compline at 7pm each evening with a reflection from Bishop Peter

**Maundy Thursday – 1st April**  
 11am – Diocesan Eucharist with the Blessing of Oils  
 7pm – Evening Eucharist with Bishop Peter, followed by Tenebrae and the Watch.

**Good Friday – 2nd April**  
 12 noon – Stations of the Cross  
 5.15pm – Evensong  
 7pm – Tenebrae with Bishop Peter

**Easter Eve – 3rd April**  
 5.15pm – Evensong  
 7pm – Tenebrae with Bishop Peter

**Easter Day – 4th April**  
 5.45am – Dawn Service  
 10.30am – Eucharist with Bishop Peter Hill  
 3.30pm – Easter Evensong

## **An Act of Prayer for individuals or households to mark 23 March: the beginning of the first lockdown**

*It may be appropriate for this Act of Prayer to take place in the evening. In a household, all may wish to gather together.*

*A candle may be lit.*

*A leader says*

Lord God, the maker and redeemer of all,  
 as we come before you in thanksgiving for the gift of health and life,  
 we grieve for the thousands who have died:  
 comfort us with your presence,  
 sustain us with the hope of your kingdom,  
 and give us grace to live our lives well;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

*One or more of the following Scripture passages is read.*

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

- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul  
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 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.
- 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.

*Psalm 23*

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

*Matthew 11.28-30*

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Romans 8.38-39*

Cast all your anxieties upon God, for God cares for you.

*1 Peter 5.7*

*Reflection and prayer may follow.*

*You may wish to:*

- *share thoughts about the last year;*
- *remember those who have died;*
- *pray for those who care for others;*
- *pray for all who are in need;*
- *share hopes for the future.*

*The leader prays*



Lord Jesus Christ,  
when fear and anxiety besiege us  
and hope is veiled in grief,  
hold us in your wounded hands  
and make your face shine on us again,  
for you are our Lord and God.

**All Amen.**

*All join in praying the Lord's Prayer.*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*(or)*

**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.**

*The leader may say*

Christ the Good Shepherd  
enfold us with love,  
fill us with peace,  
and lead us in hope,  
to the end of our days;

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

**All Amen.**

*If a candle has been lit, someone might place it on a windowsill or another place which would make it visible from outside.*