



LAVENHAM CHURCH

A BEACON OF HOPE

Weekly Pewsheet

St Peter & St Paul, Lavenham – 10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 28 April 2024 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Services Today

Lavenham	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Lavenham	10.00am	Holy Communion (CW)
Preston St Mary	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)

During the Week

Monday 29 April	10am–3pm	Shopping Day in aid of Cancer Research UK (<i>Lavenham Village Hall</i>) – NO Coffee Morning
Tuesday 30 April	8.45am	Morning Prayer (<i>Lavenham Lady Chapel</i>)
	6.45pm	Choir Practice (<i>Lavenham Choir Vestry</i>)
Wednesday 1 May	8.45am	Morning Prayer (<i>Lavenham Lady Chapel</i>)
	10.00am	Midweek Communion (CW trad) (<i>Lavenham Lady Chapel</i>)
Thursday 2 May	8.45am	Morning Prayer (<i>Lavenham Lady Chapel</i>)
	10.00am	Community Coffee Morning (<i>Lavenham Village Hall</i>)

Services next Sunday 5 May The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Lavenham	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Lavenham	10.00am	Holy Communion (CW)
Preston St Mary	12.00pm	Preston Praise (<i>refreshments from 11.30am</i>)
Lavenham	6.00pm	Choral Evensong

Looking Ahead

Monday 6 May	10.00am	Knit & Natter (<i>Lavenham Village Hall</i>)
Wednesday 8 May	4.00pm	Lay Elder Training (Worship) (<i>17 The Glebe, Lavenham</i>)
Thursday 9 May	8am–1pm	Ascension Day – <i>see notices for full details</i>
Sunday 12 May–Saturday 18 May		Christian Aid week
Friday 24 May	6.30pm	Church Bingo Night (<i>Lavenham Village Hall</i>)

Information for next week's pew sheet by the preceding Wednesday please to pewsheets@lavenham.church or 01787 852787.

The Benefice of Lavenham with Preston
St Peter and St Paul Lavenham St Mary the Virgin Preston

Prayers

Celebrating resurrection & new life we pray for:

Loes Deanery: Framlingham with Saxtead: Revd Chris Davey, Revd Edith Peck; Local Government Councillors; The vulnerable children of Rwanda – many of the poorest find it difficult to access education and often school buildings are of poor quality and lack facilities; The Rwandan church who are working hard to address the needs of these children; **Lavenham**: Bolton Street, Brent Eleigh Road, Bridge Street Road; **Preston St Mary**: Thorpe Road.

Contact Details

Website: www.lavenham.church **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/lavenhamchurch

ACNY: www.achurchnearyou.com/2156 (Lavenham) /2155 (Preston St Mary)

Sunday readings & sermons are usually to be found on the website and on Facebook

Rector (*usual rest day Monday*):

Revd Canon Simon Pitcher rector@lavenham.church 01787 827691

Curate (*usual rest day Friday*):

Revd Graham Naylor graham.naylor@lavenham.church 07768 283636

Assistant Priest:

Revd Elke Cattermole elke.cattermole@lavenham.church 07957 419055

Reader:

Pete Postle pete.postle@btinternet.com 01787 248564

Lay Elders:

Keith Davis keithhdavis@btinternet.com 01787 247112

June Linscott junelinscott@hotmail.com 01787 247821

Kevin Slingsby kevin.slingsby@lavenham.church 01787 389409

Churchwardens (Lavenham):

David Deacon davidgdeacon38@gmail.com 01787 248147

Mary Morrey marymorrey.pfc@gmail.com 01787 247311

Churchwardens (Preston St Mary):

Keith Davis keithhdavis@btinternet.com 01787 247112

Janet Martin janet.martin01@btconnect.com 01787 249020

Director of Music:

Kevin Slingsby kevin.slingsby@lavenham.church 01787 389409

Safeguarding Officer:

Mary Jackson safeguarding@lavenham.church 01787 247631

Offerings: There is a collection plate on the table at the back of church. If you pay UK tax please use a yellow gift envelope; or use Just Giving online via www.justgiving.com/lavenhamchurch; or for the Parish Giving Scheme, go ONLINE to <https://parishgiving.org.uk>, or scan the QR code here with your phone.



Hearing Aid Loop: This is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

Photos and Videos: If these include individuals in the church, they are deemed personal data. Please ensure you have consent. More information can be obtained from our PCC Secretary, Parish Safeguarding Officer, porch noticeboard, church website and Facebook page.

Notices

Gravetalk: It is not easy talking about death, dying, funerals and grief. Gravetalk is designed by The Church of England to help get the conversation started. There are no right answers or wrong answers, this is not a course. It is a conversation. In small groups we will have a set of cards, upon which will be a question. The questions cover five themes; **Life:** What makes it special for you?; **Death:** memories and experience; **Society:** How our culture deals with death; **Funerals:** What happens and what could happen; **Grief:** The reality of loss. We are going to meet in **Lavenham Guildhall** at **4pm** on four **Thursdays** from **13 June** to **4 July**. There is no charge for joining the group. If you would like to know more please contact Revd Simon on 01787 827691 or e mail rector@lavenham.church.

Ascension Day – Thursday 9 May: 8.00am Tower Praise followed by breakfast; we will welcome members of other churches in the deanery; after breakfast at 10.00am Holy Communion, then at 11.00am a tour of Lavenham Church, including a brief talk on Lavenham Airfield by Robyn Lloyd Hughes; 12noon Tour of Lavenham.

Christian Aid Week – Sunday 12 May to Saturday 18 May: If anyone can help deliver envelopes to homes that would be appreciated. On Saturday 18 May 8.00am Churches Together Prayer Breakfast in the Village Hall, followed by Coffee Morning. Donations of homemade cakes & biscuits to sell for Christian Aid would be greatly appreciated.

Church Bingo Night – Friday 24 May 6.30pm (Lavenham Village Hall): £10 entry including games of bingo and pie and pea supper. Funds raised to support the church. Donations for a raffle would be greatly appreciated.

Lavenham Life New Editor: We are pleased that **Matt George** has agreed to take over the role of Editor in time to produce the June edition of Lavenham Life. Matt was a journalist with the Times and Daily Telegraph newspapers and is a member of our Lavenham Church congregation which he is also supporting by training as a Church Lay Elder.

Used Greetings Cards: Ginny Mackman has kindly started to create greetings cards to sell in our shop, so if you have any old/used greetings cards that she could use to make these beautiful cards, please leave them in the wicker tray marked 'Used Greetings Cards' at the back of the shop. Ginny's cards are available in the card display stand in the front of the shop. Thank you, Ginny, for your time and efforts.

Volunteers needed: The team who prepare and serve coffee/refreshments following the 10.15am service in Lavenham is short of people, and would welcome some willing volunteers to join them. Please talk to Mary Jackson if you can help.

Changes to the Service Pattern: Please see the back page for details of the new pattern.

Choir and Music Group: As part of the changes to the service pattern, from May, the choir will sing at Evensong on the first Sunday of the month rather than at the morning service, and we hope to introduce a Music Group to lead the morning Holy Communion service. If you play an instrument, and would like to join the group, please speak to Kevin Slingsby.

Safeguarding Training: Face-to-face training is available locally at all levels over the next few months – **Basic Awareness** at *Woolpit Institute* on **Thursday 16 May** (2.00pm–4.00pm) or *St Catherine Long Melford* on **Thursday 6 June** (7.00pm–9.30pm); **Foundation** at *St Mary the Virgin Haverhill* on **Saturday 11 May** (10.00am–12.30pm); **Leadership** at *Elmswell Church* on **Tuesdays 21 May & 4 June** (2.30pm–4.30pm) or *Boxford Church* on **Thursdays 25 April & 9 May** (10.00am–12.30pm). **Basic Awareness** is accessible to everyone, and is required for everyone who has a designated role in the Church (paid or voluntary), but all parishioners are welcome and encouraged to complete it; if you are unsure which level is right for you, please check with Mary Jackson. *To book a place or for the online portal there is a link on the website home page.*

10.00am Holy Communion – Lavenham

Opening Hymn



1. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he, who on the cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
now is risen from the dead.

2. Christ is risen, Christ, the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.

3. Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

4. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia! to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
Alleluia! to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
to the Triune Majesty.

*Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)
Music: Lux Eoi, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900)
(Ancient & Modern – 194)*

Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading – Acts 8.26-40

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22.25-31



Be not far from me, O Lord.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

I will perform my vows in the presence of those that fear you.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord shall praise him;
their hearts shall live for ever. **R**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For the kingdom is the Lord's
and he rules over the nations. **R**

How can those who sleep in the earth bow down in worship,
or those who go down to the dust kneel before him?

He has saved my life for himself; my descendants shall serve him;
this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.

They shall come and make known his salvation, to a people yet unborn,
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it. **R**

Second Reading – 1 John 4.7-21

A reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn



1. Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
2. In the grave they laid Him, Love whom we had slain,
thinking that he never would awake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain,
back from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
then your touch can call us back to life again,
field of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958)

*Music: Noel Nouvelet, French Carol, 15th century, harmonised by David Iliff (b 1939)
(Ancient & Modern – 212)*

Gospel Reading – John 15.1-8

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

Glorify to you, O Lord.

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my

words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory Hymn



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry,
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them,
they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone,
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them,
my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied,
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Words & Music: Daniel L Schutte (b 1947) © 1981 OCP (Ancient & Modern – 494)

Communion Anthem

Draw near and take the body of the Lord, and drink the holy blood for you outpoured,
saved by that body, hallowed by that blood, whereby refreshed we render thanks to God.

Salvation's giver, Christ the only Son, by that his cross and blood the victory won.
Offered was he for greatest and for least: himself the victim, and himself the priest.

Victims were offered by the law of old, that, in a type, celestial mysteries told.
He, ransom from death and light from shade, giveth his holy grace his saints to aid.

Approach ye then with faithful hearts sincere, and take the safeguard of salvation here.
He that in this world rules his saints and shields, to all believers life eternal yields.

With heavenly bread makes them that hunger whole, gives living waters to the thirsty soul.
Alpha and Omega, to whom shall bow all nations at the doom, is with us now.

Draw near and take the body of the Lord, and drink the holy blood for you outpoured,
saved by that body, hallowed by that blood, whereby refreshed we render thanks to God.

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), translated from Sancti venite, Christi corpus sumite, Bangor Antiphoner, c 690
Music: Geoffrey Hanson (1939-2020)

Communion Hymn



1. You are the vine and we are the branches,
prune and make us bear more fruit.

We have been cleansed by the word you have spoken;
abide in us, and we in you.

2. You are the vine and we are the branches,
apart from you we are nothing at all.

Teach us to love as you have commanded,
come to us now, abide in us.

3. You have commanded us to love one another
there is no greater commandment than this.

No greater love has been shown to your people,
than to lay down your life for us.

Words: based on John 15.5, Gordon Giles (b 1966)

Music: Golden Lane, John Barnard (b 1948)

© Gordon Giles

(Ancient & Modern – 472)

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Final Hymn



1. Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with all, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again;
love, only love, is his way.
*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*
2. Love is his way, love is his mark,
sharing his last Passover feast,
Christ at the table, host to the twelve;
love, only love, is his mark.
3. Love is his mark, love is his sign,
bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
'This is my body, this is my blood.'
Love, only love, is his sign.

4. Love is his sign, love is his news,
'Do this,' he said, 'lest you forget
all my deep sorrow, all my dear blood.'
Love, only love, is his news.
5. Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
sisters and brothers, parents and kin.
Love, only love, is his name.
6. Love is his name, love is his law,
hear his command, all who are his:
'Love one another; I have loved you.'
Love, only love, is his law.
7. Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one;
love, only love, is his word.

Words: Luke Connaughton (1917-1979) Music: Cresswell, Anthony Miller (1925-2002)
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Organ

Fantasia

Johann Pachelbel (1653–1706)

CCL No. 1372554 MRL No. 1372561 One License No. A-632167

Lavenham Benefice – Pattern of Sunday Services

	First Sunday	Second Sunday	Third Sunday	Fourth Sunday	Fifth Sunday
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Lavenham</i>	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Lavenham</i>	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Lavenham</i>	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Lavenham</i>	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Lavenham</i>
10.00am	Holy Communion (CW) <i>Lavenham</i>	Holy Communion (CW) <i>Lavenham</i>	Morning Worship <i>Lavenham</i>	Holy Communion (CW) <i>Lavenham</i>	Benefice Service <i>Lavenham</i>
11.30am for 12.00	Preston Praise <i>Preston St Mary</i>				
6.00pm	Evening Service <i>Lavenham</i>	Evensong <i>Preston St Mary</i>	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Preston St Mary</i>	Evensong <i>Preston St Mary</i>	Benefice Evensong <i>Lavenham or Preston</i>

Regular Weekday Services and Events

Monday in Lavenham Village Hall:

10.00am Knit & Natter (1st & 3rd Monday)

10.00am: Think & Drink (2nd Monday)

9.30am Men's Cooking Club (4th Monday)

10.00am Coffee Morning (5th Monday)

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday in Lavenham Church:

8.45am Morning Prayer (CW using the Church of England Daily Prayer app)

Tuesday in Lavenham Church Choir Vestry:

6.45pm Choir 'Voice for Life' Training

7.15pm Choir Practice

Wednesday in Lavenham Church:

10.00am Holy Communion (CW traditional language)

Thursday in Lavenham Village Hall:

10.00am Community Coffee Morning

Holy Communion services use BCP (Book of Common Prayer – 1662) at 8am (Lavenham) and 6pm (Preston) or CW (Common Worship – 2002) at 10am (Lavenham – contemporary language on Sunday, traditional language on Wednesday)

Morning Worship is based on CW Morning Prayer; Evensong is BCP; Evening Service at Lavenham is usually Choral Evensong but may occasionally take other forms.