



Sunday 26th April 2026

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

You are most welcome.

A message to new visitors is found on page 3.
Our 10:30am order of service begins on page 5.

8:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Celebrant: The Rector

10:30am Parish Eucharist (*Common Worship*)

Celebrant: The Rector

Preacher: The Reverend Doctor Jeanne Males

Setting: 'A People's Mass - Anthony Gregory Murray with
Coventry Gloria Easter Alleluia (Tone VI) Gospel

Acclamation and Easter Dismissal

Hymns: 104 (omit v2), 459, 457, 391

Music at Communion:

'My shephard is the living Lord' Thomas Tomkins

'The Lord's my shephard' Howard Goodall

Postlude:

"Toccata"

Georgi Mushel

For your prayers

At This Time

Jennie Frampton, Lindsay Gorringe, David Robertson, HM The King, the bereaved, and those suffering during warfare.

**Recently Departed
Year's Mind**

Evelyn Lucy Patterson, Peter William Kullman, John Stuart Patterson, Beryl Talbot, Jane Gardam, Rose Amelia Manning, Terence John Kemp, Joyce Rosina Spurgeon, Margaret Clarke, Jean Lilian Yale, Rosemary Kirkaldie

Reflection for the week

The Reverend Howard Pashley

Our view of the river has changed considerably over the past few weeks. The autumn gold of the willows which had persisted over the winter has now been supplanted by the fresh green of the newer leaves, while the new leaves of the poplar trees have rendered them susceptible to the breeze's choreographic direction; anything from a belly dance to a more gently swaying Indian temple dance. The older reeds on the far bank have faded to a flaxen colour, but new green reeds have sprung up beneath them and can, surprisingly, be seen reflected in the pale brown waters of the River Stour. Meanwhile, that said river continues to flow in and out, pausing to provide still water at each high and low tide, like a slow motion exercise in yoga breathing.

Spring is with us, but Lent is now past and it's Easter that continues to be celebrated, with readings from the Acts of the Apostles and John's gospel raising their heads like the other green shoots of spring.

Today's gospel reading is part of what might be the longest after dinner discourse ever recorded. Jesus is the good shepherd, but he tells us that the sheep know his voice. This takes us to the most heart rending, and heart warming, stories of devotion

connected to the resurrection. Mary has gone to Jesus' tomb to grieve. It's as close to him as she can hope to get. But instead of finding a cupboard full of death, she finds it full of angels! In her grief she can't comprehend what this means, until he calls her by name. So she calls him by the old familiar word "Teacher!"

But by the time she meets the other disciples she knows better.

"I have seen the Lord!"

Not a body, and not a teacher, but the Lord.

Mary went looking for a body, and she found God!

Amen

New to St Clements?

Welcome! We're delighted that you're here

There has been a place of Christian prayer on this site for more than 1,000 years. All are welcome at our services - whatever your background and whatever your faith.

Many of the words of our service can be found from page five of this booklet. Feel free to join in with the words in bold, and to stand, kneel, or sit as you feel able and comfortable. Don't worry about getting it 'right', we're all learning to pray!

The service will start with notices and a hymn. We then bring to mind the times we've not loved God, our neighbours, and ourselves fully. Though it can be uncomfortable admitting we are sinners, we want to be honest with God (and ourselves) that we're not perfect. We can trust that God is utterly loving and forgiving.

A series of readings from scripture follows, and then the sermon, in which the preacher attempts to break open the scriptures and apply them to our lives today.

We pray for the needs of the Church and world, and then the altar is prepared. A collection will be taken, as 'giving' is an important part of

our Christian lives, but don't worry if you're unable to contribute as a visitor.

The priest leads the Eucharistic Prayer - the prayer of thanksgiving - during which we offer bread and wine to God, and He transforms it into the Body and Blood of Christ.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion (it's fine to only receive the Body or Blood if you prefer. For reasons of hygiene please don't dip the wafer into the chalice). Or do come forward holding this booklet to receive a blessing. **If you need a gluten-free wafer please let someone at the door know before the service.**

We share refreshments in the Sunley Room (accessed up the ramp behind the organ), and you are most welcome to stay. Toilets may also be found here.

The Church is open daily for peace and prayer. If you'd like to know more about our worship or faith, do talk to people in the congregation or one of the priests. You can also visit our website, www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk

Music at 10:30am today

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, the choir sings to very contrasted pieces with composition dates separated by some 400 years. My shepherd is the living Lord was composed by the Welsh born composer Thomas Tomkins (1572–1656) of the late Tudor and early Stuart period. The piece is an abbreviated version of Psalm 23.

My shepherd is the living Lord, nothing therefore I need, in pastures fair with waters calm he sets me for to feed, he did convert and glad my soul and brought my mind in frame to walk in paths of righteousness for his most holy name. Through all my life thy favour is so frankly showed to me that in thy house for evermore my dwelling place shall be. Amen

It is set as a “verse anthem” – where soloists (in this case an alto and a tenor) alternate with the full choir and all accompanied by a decorative but subdued organ part.

Then, in huge contrast, another setting of Psalm 23 by Howard Goodall (b1959) which hardly needs any introduction or explanation at all. It’s a setting which has become synonymous with a fictional country parish.

The outgoing voluntary is a Toccata by Georgi Mushel, one of many 20th century Russian composers who was prohibited by the Soviet authorities from performing his own compositions. it is very much in the spirit and style of a

Ukrainian Cossack dance; the feel is improvisatory, with contrasting sections allowing different dancers to express themselves, before culminating in a fast and furious finish.

Material from Common Worship included in this booklet is © The Archbishops’ Council 2000. Any hymns reproduced in accordance with a CCLI Licence, #209707.

Order of Service

The Gathering

*Notices are given before the service.
Stand for the opening hymn:*

Hymn 104 (Omit v2)

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

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.

Confessing our Sins

The Celebrant introduces a period of silence in which all call to mind their sins. Then all kneel or sit.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we

confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The Celebrant pronounces the forgiveness of sins. All stand. The Gloria is sung, the congregation singing parts in bold.

Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

We worship you, **glory in the highest, give you thanks, glory in the highest, praise you for your glory. Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his**

people, peace on earth.

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, **have mercy on us**. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer, **receive our prayer**.

Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

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 glory of God the Father. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. Amen. Amen.**

The Celebrant introduces the Collect with the words 'Let us pray' and a period of silence. Then: Let us pray: Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *All say Amen.*

The Scriptures

Acts 2.42–end

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated as the Choir sing Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd : therefore
can I lack nothing.*

*He shall feed me in a green pasture
: and lead me forth beside the
waters of comfort.*

*He shall convert my soul : and
bring me forth in the paths of
righteousness, for his Name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death, I
will fear no evil : for thou art with
me; thy rod and thy staff comfort
me.*

*Thou shalt prepare a table before
me against them that trouble me :*

thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

1 Peter 2.19 - end

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. **This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 459

Turn to face the Book of the Gospels as it moves to the centre of the nave. A Gospel proclamation is sung.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 10.1-10

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. 'This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

A sermon is preached.

The Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Intercessions & Peace

Kneel or sit to pray. The following response may be used: Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer** *At the end:* Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Stand for the Peace The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

The altar is prepared while we sing.

A collection, taken as the congregation arrived, is offered up to God. If you would like to make a donation



please leave it in the safe beside the north porch after the service, use the cardreader there, scan the QR code here, or head to:

www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/donate

Thank you.

Hymn Number 457

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Celebrant prays over the offerings, and all respond Amen.

The Lord be with you. And also with you. 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.

The Celebrant prays the Preface, leading into:

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. *All kneel or sit*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of

your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; 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.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Mary, Clement, Peter, Paul, and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. *All say boldly:* **Amen.**

Preparation for Communion

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.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Jesus, lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast, alleluia.**

Holy Communion

Sidespeople will indicate when to move for Holy Communion. All who are baptised are welcome to receive Communion, or do bring this booklet with you to indicate that you wish to receive a blessing instead.

*After all have received Holy Communion, **Stand as the Celebrant says*** Let us pray: Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All say Amen.*

All say 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.

Hymn 391

Going out into the World

This is followed by the blessing and dismissal: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** *The Celebrant blesses and dismisses the congregation.* Go in the peace of Christ, alleluia, alleluia. **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

The organ postlude is part of our act of worship, please remain quiet.

If you are able, do please stay for refreshments after the service - served this week from in front of the High Altar, while Vestry roof repairs are undertaken

Vestry Roof Repairs

Please bear with us while urgent repairs are carried out to the Vestry roof and walls, following flooding last year. The Sunley (Coffee) Room is acting as the Vestry, and will be kept locked during the week.

Zoom Compline

Join us for our service of quiet prayer and reflection on Zoom, hosted by St Clement's Church, Sandwich. Next Compline: Tuesday 28th April, 7:30 pm (Duration 25 minutes)

To join, please visit: www.stclementsandwich.org.uk and go to Services -> Worship & Prayer -> Zoom Compline for login details.



Sandwich Celebrates 800 YEARS OF MAYORS

Friday 1st May
9:00pm, at The Quay
 Lighting of the beacon,
 with medieval music, and
 St Clement's Choir

Saturday 2nd May
1:00pm

Line the streets from
 The Quay (along the
 path on the left marked
 in red), to watch an
 unmissable parade of
 Cinque Port dignitaries,
 medieval re-enactors,
 and Sandwich volunteer
 groups

*To include your community group, email:
townclerk@sandwichtowncouncil.gov.uk*

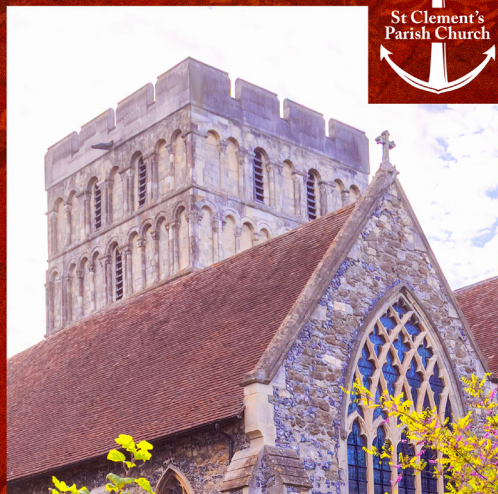


Sunday 3rd May
10:30am, St Clement's
 Celebratory Service of
 Thanksgiving, with premier
 of new choral anthem,
 specially commissioned to
 mark the occasion

**And keep an eye out for many
 local groups celebrating with
 special events and exhibitions**

Discover St Clement's

The ancient Parish Church
of Sandwich



1,000 years of
history & faith

Free audio tours


Free entry daily




www.stclementsandwich.org.uk



Discover the history of
St Clement's with two
exciting, free events
this May. Everyone is
invited:

 The publication of a
new, 60-page **full
colour guidebook**

*Launch party Saturday 9th
May 4:00pm at Spellbound
in Sandwich bookshop*

 The launch of a **free
audio tour** of the
Church, available
in-person and online,
recorded by members
of the congregation
and community -
including a **full-cast
re-enactment of St
Thomas Becket's
landing in Sandwich**

*Enjoy the audio tour over
the Church's speakers, with
a glass of something
refreshing, Saturday 16th
May 4:00pm in St
Clement's*



£7.50

TICKETS ON THE
DAY FROM SAINT
CLEMENT'S PARISH
CHURCH (CT13 9EH)
- CASH, CARD, OR
CONTACTLESS

UNDER 16s
GO FREE

8 PRIVATE GARDENS
NEW GARDENS FOR 2026!

BELL RINGING TOURS

AFTERNOON TEA IN THE
RECTORY GARDEN

PARISH PUNCH

GRAND RAFFLE

WWW.LITTLEGARDENS.ORG.UK
SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 2026 1:00^{PM}-5:00^{PM}

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our Vestry/Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (essentially our Annual General Meeting) will be held on **Sunday 24th May, which is Pentecost, after the 10:30am Parish Eucharist.**

Though only those on the Electoral Roll may vote during the APCM itself, any who feel an affinity with St Clement's are welcome and encouraged to attend as we reflect on 2025, discuss plans for the future, and elect our Parochial Church Council.

Annual Reports and Accounts will be published shortly.

'From the Desert to Evensong: A History of Morning and Evening Prayer, and how they can be used today'

Morning and Evening Prayer are ancient ways of offering the day to God, and of praying in company or in private. Over the centuries they have taken many forms, in this 30 minute presentation (delivered on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, after the service) the Rector talked through some of their history, with suggestions of how these services could be used by any of us today.

This talk can now be listened to at:
www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/dailyprayer

Parish Directory

PARISH OFFICE

Caroline Flynn
Parish Administrator

St Clement's Hall,
Church Street St Clement's,
Sandwich. CT13 9EH.

Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:30pm (1:00pm Fridays)

020 3089 4745 - please leave a message with BT Callminder.
admin@stclementsandwich.org.uk
www.stclementsandwich.org.uk

THE RECTOR

The Reverend Sebastian Hamilton
fr.sjm.hamilton@gmail.com + 01304 746033
Day of Rest: Monday, Study Day: Saturday

CHURCHWARDENS

Val Oates + val.oates@stclementsandwich.org.uk +07811359788
Howard Evans + h.evans@stclementsandwich.org.uk + 07810 835389

HON. SECRETARY

Ros Daniels +Secretary@stclementsandwich.org.uk

HON. TREASURER

Steve Kirkpatrick + treasurer@stclementsandwich.org.uk

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Julian Sampson + sampson@supanet.com

SACRISTAN

Diane Coller +d.coller@stclementsandwich.org.uk

The week ahead

Monday 27th April - Feria

Tuesday 28th April - Feria

7:30pm Zoom Compline

Wednesday 29th April - Feast of St Catherine of Siena, V, D

10:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Thursday 30th April - Feria

Friday 1st May - Philip and James the Apostles

9:45am Morning Prayer

10:05am Eucharist

From 10:00am Coffee Pot (*Parish Hall*)

Saturday 2nd May - Feast of St Athanasius, B, D

**Sunday 3rd May - The Fifth Sunday of Easter: Celebrating 800 Years of
The Mayors of Sandwich**

8:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

10:30am Parish Eucharist

Celebrant: The Rector

Preacher: The Archdeacon of Ashford

Day	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Monday	Ps 103+ Exodus 32.1–14	Ps112, 113, 114 + Ephesians 4.1–16
Tuesday	Ps139 + Exodus 32.15–34	Ps 115, 116 + Ephesians 4.17–end
Wednesday	Ps 135+ Exodus 33	Ps 47, 48 + Ephesians 5.1–14
Thursday	Ps 118 + Exodus 34.1–10, 27–end	Ps 81, 85 + Ephesians 5.15–end
Friday	Ps139;146 + Proverbs 4.10–18	Ps149 + John 1.43–end
Saturday	Ps 34+ Exodus 40.17–end	Ps 84, 86 + Ephesians 6.10–end

www.stclementsandwich.org.uk