



**LAUGHTON, RIPE & CHALVINGTON**  
Three Churches in the Heart of Rural East Sussex



*Please take this sheet with you when you leave.*

**This Sunday (Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026)**

**Holy Communion (BCP)**

8.30 am at Chalvington

**Holy Communion**

9:30 am at Laughton

**Family Communion**

11:00 am at Ripe

All services due to be led by Revd Steve Osei-Mensah.

**Bible Readings**

*(For the BCP service at Chalvington)*

**New Testament**- Colossians 3: 1-7

**Gospel** - John 20:1-10

**Bible Readings**

*(For the services at Laughton and Ripe)*

**New Testament**- Colossians 3:1-7

*Living as Those Made Alive in Christ*

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**New Testament:** Acts 10: 34 -43

Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

'We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel** - John 20 :1-18

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Empty Tomb*

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!'

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped round Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen.

Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

*Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene*

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying?' 'They have taken my Lord away,' she said, 'and I don't know where they have put him.' At this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus.

He asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?' Thinking he was the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.'

Jesus said to her, 'Mary.' She turned towards him and cried out in Aramaic, 'Rabboni!' (which means 'Teacher').

Jesus said, 'Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."'

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: 'I have seen the Lord!' And she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Next Sunday

### Morning Prayer

10.30 am at Chalvington

Led by Revd Steve Osei-Mensah

## Rectory News

Well Easter is here and this Sunday we celebrate the incredible news that Jesus rose from the dead conquering death and sin (rebellion against God). He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, and then over several days to groups of his disciples.

The Christian faith is built on the certainty of this and the opportunity to have a right relationship with the one who created us.

In a world troubled by so many things it is good news that lasts beyond time into eternity.

He is Risen - He is Risen indeed – Alleluia!

Steve

## Churchwardens' Update

Please note that the Barn Dance with the Sussex Pistols due to take place next Saturday (11<sup>th</sup>) has been postponed.

## Prayer

*"Our Lord has written the answer to our prayers in the empty tomb."* –Anon.

### '10 Minutes of Prayer at 10.10'

If you can, please spend a short time in prayer before the services. Pray for those leading the service and undertaking duties of welcoming, reading, leading intercessions, and providing refreshments. Please also pray for the congregation - newcomers as well as regular worshippers, and that our friendship and fellowship will be blessed.

### Our Parish Prayers

Dear Father in Heaven, at the end of Holy Week, we thank you for your love, for Jesus' sacrifice, and for the life and hope you give through his resurrection.

Continue to fill us, your children, with your promised gift of the Holy Spirit so that we may be witness for you and a blessing to all we meet. Help us to carry the joy of Easter with us—not just on Easter Sunday, but every day.

In such troubled times, fill our hearts with your peace, our minds with your truth, and may our lives reflect your grace to those around us.

We ask all these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Just Who Did Jesus Appear to After His Resurrection?

*After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to both individuals and groups, affirming His victory over death.*

**Mary Magdalene:** Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene early on the morning of His resurrection. She encountered Him outside the empty tomb, where He called her by name, and she recognized Him (John 20:11-18).

**Other Women:** Jesus also appeared to other women who had come to the tomb, greeting them and allowing them to worship Him (Matthew 28:8-10).

**Two Disciples on the Road to Emmaus:** Later that day, Jesus appeared to two disciples traveling to Emmaus. Initially, they did not recognize Him until He broke bread with them (Luke 24:13-32).

**Peter:** Jesus made a special appearance to Peter, affirming him after the resurrection (Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5).

**The Eleven Disciples:** On the evening of the resurrection, Jesus appeared to the eleven disciples (minus Thomas) in a locked room, showing them His wounds and bringing them peace (Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-23).

**Thomas:** A week later, Jesus appeared again to the disciples, this time including Thomas, who had doubted the resurrection (John 20:24-29).

**Over 500 People:** At one point, Jesus appeared to more than five hundred followers at once, as noted by Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:6. This event is significant as it provided collective testimony to His resurrection.

**James:** Jesus also appeared to James, His half-brother, which is mentioned in 1 Corinthians 15:7.

**The Great Commission:** Finally, Jesus appeared to His disciples in Galilee, where He gave them the Great Commission to spread the Gospel (Matthew 28:16-20).



### Visiting Us for the First Time?

Welcome – it is good that you have been able to join with us today. If you would like more information about our parish, please visit [www.lrcchurches.co.uk](http://www.lrcchurches.co.uk).

### Feedback

We hope that you find the 'Weekly Sheet' helpful. It is collated by Maggie Teager and Martin Chilvers.

If you have any feedback, please speak to Steve or the churchwardens or direct to us at [weekly.sheet@lrcchurches.co.uk](mailto:weekly.sheet@lrcchurches.co.uk). Many thanks.

The Weekly Sheet is also available each week by email. If you would like to be added to the circulation list, please email your request to the above email address.