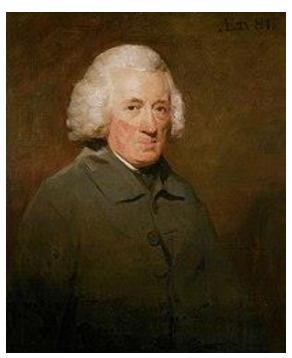


Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

# THE FEAST OF WILLIAM LAW Wednesday, 10 April 2024, 9:30 AM



From Wikipedia

**William Law** (1686 – 9 April 1761) was a Church of England priest who lost his position at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, when his conscience would not allow him to take the required oath of allegiance to the first Hanoverian monarch, King George I. Previously, William Law had given his allegiance to the House of Stuart and is sometimes considered a second-generation non-juror. Thereafter, Law continued as a simple priest (curate), and when that too became impossible without the required oath, Law taught privately and wrote extensively. His personal integrity, as well as his mystic and theological writing, greatly influenced the evangelistic movement of his day, as well as Enlightenment thinkers such as the writer Samuel Johnson and the historian Edward Gibbon. In 1784, William Wilberforce (1759–1833), the politician, philanthropist, and leader of the movement to stop the

Continued Pg11

**Rev Allison Cornell** 

#### **Salutation**

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Presider: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify you Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gloria— H1982 #S-278

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,

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;

we praise you for your glory.

The Collect of the Day:

The Lord be with you Presider: And also with you. People:

Presider: Let us pray

All: Almighty God, whose servant William Law taught us to hear and follow your call to a devout and holy life: Grant that we, loving you above all things and in all things, may seek your purpose and shape our actions to your will, that we may grow in all virtue and be diligent in prayer all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honor and glory now and for ever. Amen.

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.

# **The Liturgy of the Word:** (Please be seated for the lessons)

## First Lesson: A Reading from the Book 2 Peter (1:3–11):

Our Lord Jesus' divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Thus he has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust, and may become participants of the divine nature. For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, and knowledge with selfcontrol, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For anyone who lacks these things is nearsighted and blind, and is forgetful of the cleansing of past sins. Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the more eager to confirm your call and election, for if you do this, you will never stumble. For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you.

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God

#### The Psalm:

Psalm: 1 (read in unison)

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \* nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, \* and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \* everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; \* they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, \* but the way of the wicked is doomed.

**Gospel Lesson:** (Please stand as you are able)

Deacon: Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (6:1-8):

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord **People: Praise to you, Lord Christ** 

## **HOMILY**

- **Nicene Creed:** Traditional Version (Said aloud by all, in unison)
- 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

**Prayers of the People** 

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive - in the beauty of the earth:

People: in the rhythm of the seasons, in the mystery of time and space,

Alleluia

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive - in the tenderness of touch

People: in the heartbeat of intimacy, in the insights of solitude, Alleluia

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive - in the creative possibility

People: of the hardest conversation, of the dreariest task, of the most

threatening event, Alleluia

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive - to offer re-creation

People: to every unhealed hurt, to every deadened place, to every damaged

Heart, Alleluia.

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive – to give us encouragement

People: to face our fears, to wrestle with our doubts, to overcome our

disappointments, Alleluia.

Leader: You set before us a great choice, death in our souls without you or Life

abundantly and eternally with you.

People: Therefore, we choose life.

Leader: The dance of resurrection soars and surges through the whole creation,

People: This is your grace through which we live. So let us live fully and

thankfully. Alleluia.

#### The Peace:

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you

#### The Offertory:

Presider Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself as an offering and sacrifice to God.

Doxology #380 vs. 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise him all creatures here below Praise him above, ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

## **The Holy Communion -** The Great Thanksgiving BCP Rite 2A

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

#### Presider:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Pascal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his

rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus -

Hymnal 1982 #S-128

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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

### Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit (+) to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also (+) that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and

for ever. AMEN.

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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.

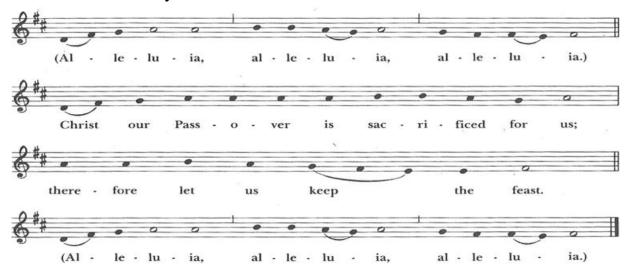
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread (Presider breaks the consecrated bread)

Fraction Anthem: Hymnal 1982 #S-154



#### **Invitation to Communion:**

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and rose again for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

(All are invited and welcome to come forward and receive communion in this church. We have two different ways to receive communion. First way = go to the right of the altar, receive the bread, eat the bread, then take a sip of wine from the cup. Second way = go to the left of the altar, receive the bread, dip the bread in the wine in the cup and then eat the bread. If you are not ready to receive the bread and wine, we invite you to come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing instead. Bread is gluten free).

## **Prayers for:**

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayers, Travelers, and Gratitude

**Post Communion Prayer** (The people stand as they are able.)

Presider; Let us pray.

All: Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. ....

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

#### **Blessing**

Presider: May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### **Dismissal**

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

**People:** We are called to love and serve.

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, (Alleluia!)

Continued from front slave trade, was deeply touched by reading William Law's book *A* Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life (1729). Law's spiritual writings remain in print today.

#### Early life

Law was born at <u>King's Cliffe</u>, <u>Northamptonshire</u>, in 1686, the son of Thomas Law, a grocer. In 1705 he entered Emmanuel College, Cambridge, as a <u>sizar</u>, where he studied the classics, Hebrew, philosophy and mathematics. In 1711 he was elected <u>fellow</u> of his college and was ordained. His brothers Farmery and Nathaniel also studied at Cambridge University and were ordained. He resided at Cambridge, teaching and taking occasional duty until the 1714 accession of <u>George I</u>, when his conscience forbade him to take the oaths of allegiance to the new government and of abjuration of the <u>Stuarts</u>. His <u>Jacobitism</u> had already been betrayed in a <u>tripos</u> speech. As a <u>non-juror</u>, he was deprived of his fellowship. [2]

For the next few years Law is said to have been a curate in London. By 1727 he lived with Edward Gibbon (1666–1736) at <u>Putney</u> as tutor to his son Edward, father of the <u>historian</u>, who says that Law became the much-honoured friend and spiritual director of the family. In the same year he accompanied his pupil to Cambridge and lived with him as governor, in term time, for the next four years. His pupil then went abroad but Law was left at Putney, where he remained in Gibbon's house for more than 10 years, acting as a religious guide not only to the family but to a number of earnest-minded people who came to consult him. The most eminent of these were the two brothers <u>John</u> and <u>Charles Wesley</u>, the poet <u>John Byrom</u>, the Newtonian physician <u>George Cheyne</u>, and <u>Archibald Hutcheson</u>, MP for <u>Hastings</u>. [2]

The household dispersed in 1737. Law retired to King's Cliffe by 1740, where he had inherited from his father a house and a small property. There, he was joined by Elizabeth Hutcheson, the rich widow of his old friend (who recommended on his death-bed that she place herself under Law's spiritual guidance), and Hester Gibbon, sister to his late pupil. For the next 21 years, the trio devoted themselves to worship, study and charity, until Law died on 9 April 1761. [2]

#### **Bangorian controversy and after**

The first of Law's controversial works was *Three Letters to the Bishop of Bangor* (1717), a contribution to the <u>Bangorian controversy</u> on the high-church side. It was followed by *Remarks on Mandeville's Fable of the Bees* (1723), in which he vindicated <u>morality</u>; it was praised by <u>John Sterling</u>, and republished by <u>F. D. Maurice</u>. Law's *Case of Reason* (1732), in answer to <u>Tindal's Christianity as old as the Creation</u>, is to some extent an anticipation of <u>Joseph Butler's argument in the Analogy of Religion</u>. His *Letters to a Lady inclined to enter the Church of Rome* are specimens of the attitude of a <u>High Church Anglican</u> towards <u>Roman Catholicism</u>. [2]

## **Writings on practical divinity**

A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life (1729), together with its predecessor, A Practical Treatise Upon Christian Perfection (1726), deeply influenced the chief actors in the great evangelistic revival. John and Charles Wesley, George Whitefield, Henry Venn, Thomas Scott and Thomas Adam all expressed their deep obligation to the author. The Serious Call also affected others deeply. Samuel Johnson, Gibbon, Lord Lyttelton and Bishop Home all spoke enthusiastically of its merits; and it is still the work by which its author is popularly known. It has high merits of style, being lucid and pointed to a degree.

In a tract entitled The Absolute Unlawfulness of the Stage Entertainment (1726),

More online

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# Welcome Visitor!!!

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Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



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