



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week commencing: 14th May 2023, Easter 5

This week on Sunday we have the 8.00am Holy Communion followed by the 10.00am Parish Communion. Additionally, this month's Sundays at Six, being led by St Luke's (zoom only), will be based on the Reflections for Christian Aid week.

For Ascension Day on Thursday 18th there will be a Holy Communion service at 8.00pm in church.

The Collect

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us
to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Post Communion

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of
eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and
for ever.

Readings for Sunday

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him - though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring."

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

Acts 17.22-31

The Gospel reading

Jesus said to his disciples: ¹⁵'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a

little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

John 14. 15-21

Hymns for Sunday

584	All my hope on God is founded
625	Faithful one, so unchanging
721(i)	Love divine
602	Blest are the pure in heart
454	Love is his word

Thought for the week

'I will not leave you orphaned'.

Jesus chose his last words to his friends very carefully. He had grasped why they needed this promise. He got just how they would feel once he was gone – no one to look to, to take advice (and orders) from, no one to speak up for them and get them out of the mess that had gotten themselves into.

Jesus was, is, 'very God, very man' – as human he knew just what his friends needed – especially if they were to continue his work and to build God's kingdom and if they were to have real hope for the future. As God, he could supply that deep need.

But Jesus knew that they needed more than words to reassure them – they needed the real practical help and comfort that all humans have needed – in all time – and so he promised them 'another advocate'. It is easy to miss out that word, 'another' when we think of the Holy Spirit as advocate. Jesus himself has been their advocate – defending them and guiding them up to the point of his arrest. He promises to send ANOTHER – a being who will be there for them and do all the parent / leader things that Jesus has done - and even more because the new advocate will not be limited by time and space as he has been but will be truly omniscient – and able to support all people at all time. As we prepare to celebrate Pentecost in two weeks, we remember that we have Jesus' Spirit with us in power and essence. The whole Trinity is accessible to us through God's grace and through their mutual relationship. We simply have to trust Jesus' words and we have him with us for all time. Once we have accepted that, then we must share that amazing news with others too.



Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For King Charles and Queen Camilla as they are crowned and set apart for service.
- That we may represent God to those around us.
- For the people of Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan. For all world leaders.
- For all who are worried and struggling with the cost of living, for those who are hungry, or who eat alone every day.
- That we may embrace our ministry as an inclusive church, in every way.
- For a new Director of Music / organist and a Children and Family leader.
- For our care for creation for our work towards becoming an Eco church.
- For the process of seeking a new Headteacher for St. Luke's School, and the interim arrangements.

- For the forthcoming baptisms in May of Tajus Ramanauskas, Amanda Simana and Jaxon Williams
- For Miriam and Andy, following their wedding blessing and for John and Katty as they prepare for their marriage in June.
- For all those who live and work in Boulters Court..
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Howard Baxter, Julienne Grobler, Clarice, Andy, Ann Hockham, Pat Brooks, Andrew, Naila Watanabe, Valerie Bosley, Joan Lynch, Harry, Robert Lewis, Joy Richmond, Pauline Norris, Bridget Morris, Nicholas.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Eileen Daniel
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in May: Angela Beavis, Glyn Jackson, Alicia Teare, Geoffrey Hutson, Terence Comley, Ronald Birch, Gerald Gunner, John Wells, Kathleen Heskith, Bernard (Vic) Kellerman, Geoffrey Thrift, William Mayers, Helen Bailey, Michael Poynter, Patricia Kealey, Robert Ashby, Priscilla Evans, Edwina Richardson, David Trinkwon, Ivy Trillow, Brian Webb, Michael Curley, John Crampin.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 14th May 2023:

Sunday	Psalm 73.21-28	Job 14.1-2	Thessalonians 4.13-end
Monday	Psalm 75	Deuteronomy 7.6-13	Matthew 6.5-18
Tuesday	Psalm 126	Deuteronomy 28.1-14	Peter 4.12-end
Wednesday	Psalm 132	Deuteronomy 28.58-end	Peter 5
Thursday	Psalm 110	Isaiah 52.7 - end	Hebrews 7.(11-25) 26-end
Friday	Psalm 81	Deuteronomy 29.2-15	John 1.1 -2.6
Saturday	Psalm 47	Deuteronomy 30	John 2.7-17-end

Rotas for next week:

Sunday 21st May in church and on zoom

Read: Don Luff

Intercede: Jeanette Lock

Welcomers: Rachel, Anne and Ben

Coffee: Kate and Jenny

Our church is floodlit at night.

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:
The Revd. Sally Lynch
In thankfulness for the arrival of babies Daisy and Elsie



To sponsor the floodlighting please fill in the form at the back of church or email:

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk The 2023 form is now available.

Given rising fuel prices, it is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is now £15.

What's on... This week:

Sunday 14th	8.00am, Holy Communion 10.00 am, Parish Communion, in church and on zoom 6.00pm, Sundays at Six, Led by St Luke's Church (Zoom only)
Tuesday 16th	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 11.00am, Funeral of Eileen Daniel
Wednesday 17 th	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00 am Holy Communion 8.00pm, Bible Study, in church

Thursday 18th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 9.30 am, Baby and Toddler Group
 3.00pm, Keeping Company, in church
 8.00pm, Ascension Day Holy Communion, in church

Friday 19th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 5.00pm, Evening Prayer, on zoom

Saturday 20th 9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom

Sundays at Six: All Services are at 6.00pm Zoom link: use Sunday morning or as specified above

14 th May	Reflections for Christian Aid week, on zoom led by St. Luke's, Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400 Passcode: 526076
28 th May	Evensong and Benediction for Pentecost, in church at All Saints
11 th June	Desert Island hymns and readings, in church, led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
25 th June	International Taizé service, in church and on zoom at St. Luke's Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400 Passcode: 526076
9 th July	Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island, led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green

And on the 4th Sunday monthly: 3pm, Deaf Church, at Cox Green 4pm, Sundays at 4, at All Saints

Coming up..

Messy Church our next Messy church is on Friday 2nd June when we will be thinking about Messy miracles – Jesus walks on water. 4pm. £2 per child. All welcome. Do email the office at admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk to book places (so we know how many to cater for). Dates for following Messy Church sessions are; 7th July, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December.

THREE THINGS IN THIS COMING WEEK...

Keeping Company: is our monthly meeting for those bereaved (at any time). Third Thursday at 3pm, in church. The next is 18th May.

Growing in faith: we will be offering some nurture activities in church on alternate Wednesday evenings, at 8pm: 17th and 31st May, 7th and 21st June, 5th and 19th July. There will be the option of a Bible study on Matthew's gospel and also a small group exploring Ignatian spirituality using Paula Gooder's book, 'Women of Holy week'. Do put this in your diaries. These will be in person and not zoomed.

DISCOVER WHAT JOSEPHUS REPORTED ABOUT JESUS

You are invited to a talk on Josephus: hero or villain ...for Jews and for Christians? Why is Josephus - chronicler of the 1st century - so controversial...but also so important for both faiths?

It will be given by Professor Martin Goodman, of Oxford University and a leading expert on the 1st century period.

His talk will be at Maidenhead Synagogue, Grenfell Lodge, Ray Park Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8QX (there

is ample parking inside the Synagogue car park). It is being held under the auspices of the Council of Christians and Jews on Tuesday 16th May at 8.00 pm. It will be followed by refreshments and a chance to chat to him in person. There is no charge, but it is important you book a place, along with any guests, by emailing the Synagogue office: admin@maidshul.org

Fellowship and Fundraising opportunities

Summer lunchtime recitals: in church on Fridays. Lunches available to buy from 12.30 pm, recital at 1pm. free entry, donations invited.

14th July: Christina Brugger, flute recital. More dates to come!

Not the Summer Fair: with limited capacity a summer fair is not possible but on Sunday 23rd July we will have an opportunity for fellowship and donations in lieu of the fair. Watch this space.

Garden Party: a late summer afternoon garden party in the vicarage garden. Sunday 3rd September. Save the date, details to come.

The Inaugural Johanna Raffan Recital: Andrew Gallagher will give a piano recital at 3pm on Sunday 8th October. Save the date.

Inspire Thank you to all who contributed to the last edition and to Miriam our new editor. The next edition of Inspire will be published in late June so please do let Miriam have your articles, photos, etc now. Email to: miamii.mansour3@gmail.com

From the PCC

Key issues discussed at the recent PCC meeting:

- Officers were elected: Vice Chair – Jacqueline Lewis; Treasurer – Bev Botting; Secretary – Jeanette Lock; Health and Safety Officer – Simon Bader; Parish Safeguarding Officer – Barbara Essam; Electoral Roll – via the Parish Office; Standing committee reps – Anne Child and Ralph Hinchliffe.
- Deanery Synods rep confirmed as: Ruth Sheppard, Marc Capporiccio, Jeanette Lock
- The three main charities for this year were agreed as: local – Foodshare (Katty King to champion) National – Green Christians (Kim Rumble to champion) International – rebuilding after the Turkish/ Syrian earthquake (via Embrace the middle East, Barbara Essam to champion)
- Fabric team is exploring three key areas: lighting, boiler replacement and churchyard
- The Institute for Children Youth and Mission is supporting our search for a Children and Family leader
- Andrew Gallacher will give the inaugural Johanna Raffan memorial recital on Sunday 8th October at 3pm.
- A nurture programme will start this month (see this sheet)
- An anonymous donor was thanked for paying for the church to be deep cleaned, we need to find more cleaners to join the regular team.
- On finance, the church currently had an overspend of £32,115.99, largely due to boiler repair work along with the considerable rising energy costs. While it was hoped that planned giving and church collections for 2023 would match that from 2022, there would still be a need to raise additional money. (see below).
- A Garden party will be arranged for early autumn (Sunday 3rd September) and a 'Not the summer fair' collection will, be held on 23rd July.
- The PCC plans to install a defibrillator.

- It was noted that the Headteacher of St. Luke's School, will be leaving this summer.

Church finances

One of the simplest ways to raise funds for St Luke's at no cost to you when you shop online is to sign up to easyfundraising: www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Frequently used sites such as M&S, Argos, Booking.com, John Lewis, all the major supermarkets, Ebay, some airlines and travel companies donate a percentage of your purchase or a fixed amount. They may be small amounts each time, but if many of us nominate St Luke's those amounts will grow. If you add the site to your toolbar you will get automatic reminders to donate.

We have been chosen by the CoOp as a recipient of their **Community Fund** for the coming year. By shopping in the CoOp and using your blue card, you can support this church.

St. Luke's Church is part of the @Coopuk Local Community Fund, to find out more about our project and to choose us as your cause, click here : <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/68757>

Our Regular activities:

The 8.00 Holy Communion service will continue to be monthly, on the 2nd Sunday.

Midweek Holy Communion is at 10 am weekly, followed by coffee

Baby and Toddler group meets on Thursdays, 9.30 – 11.00 am term time only. We meet in church.

Messy Church continues on the first (usually) Friday, monthly, 4-5.30pm. Next is 2nd June e-mail admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk to book a place.

Keeping Company is our monthly meeting for those bereaved (at any time). Third Thursday at 3pm, in church. The next is 18th May

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 8th June

Gaynor's Gift is a prayer shawl knitting ministry that anyone can take part in at home. We meet together monthly to pray, knit and drink tea. 4th Thursdays monthly. The next is 25th May in the vicarage and on zoom (use the MP link)

Please note that for all Zoom services the links below are being used:

Sunday Morning Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFhVlNad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzd09>

Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400

Passcode: 526076

Zoom Morning Prayer at 8.30 am Tuesday – Friday, 9 am Saturday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81459090925?pwd=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmllldU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925

Passcode: 180609

Zoom Evening Prayer at 5pm on Fridays (except first Friday)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88677688468?pwd=WnF3aEQ2dTdLYjB1dDEvQ2YwcTJJZz09>

Meeting ID: 886 7768 8468

Passcode: 132142