



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week Commencing: 18th May, Easter 5

This Sunday we have Parish Communion service at 10am, with activities for children, all are welcome. At 6pm there is a service of Choral Evensong here. Do come along.

The 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.

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

First Reading

¹The apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." ⁸But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

Acts 11. 1-18

Gospel Reading

³¹During the supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

John 13. 31-35

Sunday's Hymns:

P: 691 (i) Jesus shall reign, where're the sun
G: 609 Brother, sister, let me serve you
O: 454 Love is his word, love is his way
R: 748 O Jesus, I have promised

Thought for the week:

Who is the church for?

Archbishop William Temple is famously reported as saying that the Church is the only institution that exists primarily for the benefit of those who are not its members.



Our readings this week, and especially that from Acts, corroborates that – and is in fact a turning point in the life of the early church – we could even go so far as to say that we are here now because of the vision that God gave to Peter and which is re-told in Acts 11.

As a result of the vision that Peter has there, he realises that the emerging church is open to ALL people and not just his Jewish comrades.

Through his vision and his openness to God's Spirit, Peter took the new church into a new direction – one that was generally unexpected (though perhaps with hindsight he might have seen it coming) and it spread – as Jesus at his Ascension had commanded his disciples to do – from Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria and the ends of the earth.

A new and exciting direction for the church... but less exciting and rather more terrifying for those apostles who were left in Jerusalem. What on earth was that wretched man Peter up to now? They spoke openly against him. Why was he mixing with and eating with Gentiles?

And so Peter called the church leaders together and what we read in Acts is Luke's account of that meeting. It is a beautiful account of the sheer grace that Peter has learned. Luke tells us that Peter explained it to them – 'step by step' – outlining the whole story and the meaning of the vision clearly. Luke emphasises the role of the Holy Spirit and of God's call – 'if God then gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed, who was I that I could hinder God?' Peter told them.

And the outcome was that the church was opened to ALL people – the unexpected had happened and been accepted, 'then God has given EVEN to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life'. Or we might say... the Church is the only institution that exists primarily for the benefit of those who are not its members.

This is what mission is.

This is what we are called to be, to do, in Jesus' names, as his church, in this place, building on that amazing foundation.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For Pope Leo XIV and the worldwide Roman Catholic church.
- For our PCC and church officers, and for those planning to cover the forthcoming vacancy.
- For our Church leaders and those selecting a new Archbishop of Canterbury
- For Bishop Mary Gregory, our new Bishop of Reading, and for blessing on her day in the Deanery next week.
- For survivors of abuse and those who support them.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, between Israel and Hamas, in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For the situation in the Indian subcontinent.
- For the work of our Hospices.
- For all those who live and work in Moor Lane
- For Darcy, to be baptised next week.
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in May: Tajus Ramanauskas, Amanda Simana, Jaxson Williams
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Valerie Bosley, Bridget Morris, Emily Buckwell, Jacqueline Lewis, Angela Baldwin, Baby Keeon, Aram Hakobian, Joan Lynch, Alicia Little, Mandy Salter, Mair Bright, Tina Botting, Ralph Hinchliffe, Paul Bader, Colette Baxter, Baby Dean.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Barbara Sharp
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in May: Glyn Jackson, Michael Poynter, Edwina Richardson, Ivy Trillow, Brian Webb, Michael Curley, Joyce Turpie, Beryl Eaton, Ken Young .

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 18th May 2025:

Sunday	Psalm 16	2 Samuel 7. 4-13	Acts 2. 14a, 22-32 (33-36)
Monday	Psalm 145	Deuteronomy 16. 1-20	1 Peter . 1. 1-12
Tuesday	Psalm 19	Deuteronomy 17. 8-end	1 Peter . 1. 13-end
Wednesday	Psalm 30	Deuteronomy 18. 9-end	1 Peter . 2. 1-10
Thursday	Psalm 57	Deuteronomy 19	1 Peter . 2. 11-end
Friday	Psalm 138	Deuteronomy 21. 22-22.8	1 Peter . 3. 1-12
Saturday	Psalm 146	Deuteronomy 24. 5-end	1 Peter . 3. 1-12

Rotas for next week

Sunday 25th May Easter 5: Parish Communion

Read: Joan Harnby Intercede: Revd Sally Lynch Chalice: Rachel B Sound: warden
Welcomers: Ralph, Sue, Fiona Coffee: Simone and Season Children: Ruth

Our church is floodlit at night.

This week the church floodlighting has been sponsored by Lucy Young.
"In loving memory of Ken"

and also sponsored by Richard and Ann Burdett
*"in grateful thanks for the safe arrival of Lucy Elizabeth Burdett,
daughter of Matthew and Clare, and sister to Isabella and Arthur."*



What's on.... This week:

Sunday 18 th	10.00 am, Parish Communion 6.00 pm, Choral Evensong
Tuesday 20 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
Wednesday 21 st	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion 8.00pm, Bible Study
Thursday 22 nd	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30 am, Baby and Toddler Group 3.00 pm, Gaynor's Gift
Friday 23 rd	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 5.00 pm, Evening Prayer
Saturday 24 th	9.00 am, Morning Prayer on zoom
Sunday 25 th	10.00 am, Parish Communion 12.00 pm, Baptism

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

18 th May	Choral Sung Evensong, at St. Luke's
1 st June	Desert Island Hymns and Readings, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
15 th Jun	International Taizé service, at St. Luke's
6 th July	Evensong and Benediction, at All Saints
13 th July	NB changed date Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island

'Not the Summer Fair' day

Thank you for all contributions to this fund raiser.

Messy Church. Messy Church dates for 2025 are as follows: 6th June, 4th July, 5th September, 3rd October, 7th November, 28th November

Church Calendar for the Spring (apart from regular activities)

Saturday 17 th May	Quiet Day, St. Michael's convent, Gerrards Cross
Saturday 28 th June	Garden Party
Sunday 20 th July	Rev. Sally's Thanksgiving service

Pastoral Roll

As well as the formal Electoral Roll, the church has a Pastoral Roll – a list of people, who have asked to be kept in touch with the church and who each have an assigned contactor. We have just reviewed the roll with some contactors leaving and a couple of others joining the pastoral team. Over the next few weeks your contact will make contact either by email or phone or just a word in church so that you know who they are. That person is your first port of call if you have any need or just to stay in touch with church. If no one makes contact please do call Ruth in the office or Rev. Sally who can let you know who your contactor is.

Bible Study: a study of the book of Genesis, Wednesday evenings at 8pm in church, started 7th May.

Garden Party: Saturday 28th June, 3pm in the vicarage garden. Tickets £15 pp, available now.

Revd. Sally's final services..

Revd. Sally leaves the parish at the end of July. She would like the final Eucharist on Sunday 27th to be a time for current church family and invites us to the vicarage garden for a bring and share picnic afterwards.

Everyone is warmly invited to a **Thanksgiving service on Sunday 20th July at 3pm in church**. This will be a simple service of Evening Prayer and will be followed by afternoon tea. A number of other guests will also be invited, recognising those wider links that Sally has developed during her time here. To assist with catering and places please book your place by signing up on the list in church.

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 6th June 2025
admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk to book a place.

Pram Service is a monthly simple service of songs and story for ages 0-4 and their carers. Followed by coffee for adults, snack and crafts for little ones. Second Friday, 9.30am- 10.30am. Next one 13th June
Keeping Company is our monthly meeting for those bereaved (at any time). Third Thursday at 3pm, in church.

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly, 1.30 pm.

Thursday Lunches meets fourth Thursday of the month, usually at the Toby Cavery but please contact Jean Tyrwhitt-Drake on jeant-d2@outlook.com for further details.

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.

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

Sunday Morning Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFxVINad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzd09>

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

Scroll down for flyers...



Messy Church
St Luke's Church
Norfolk Road
Maidenhead
SL6 7AX

6th June
4.00-5.30pm



Peter

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk to book
Craft, worship, 2 course tea
£2.00 per child
www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

GARDEN PARTY
with raffle

Saturday 28th June 2025
3.00 pm, in the Vicarage Garden

Tickets £15.00
From the Parish office: 01628 622733
admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk
Or after services in church

