



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week Commencing: 19th November, Second Sunday before Advent

This Sunday the national church keeps as Safeguarding Sunday and we will reflect on this a little at our main 10 am service of Parish Communion. There will be an activity for any children present. Sundays at Six is a service of Wholeness and Healing at All Saints, to which all are warmly invited.

Some of us are going to join in with Mitzvah Day at the synagogue after the morning service. If anyone would like to contribute to the charitable collections as part of that please do bring items to church Sunday morning so that we can take them with us:

We are collecting donations for 2 Berkshire charities, to which your congregation is welcome to contribute if they wish. The Cow Shed needs good quality second hand or new children's books, toys and clothing. In addition, First Days is running their Christmas grotto where they collect new toys so parents who can't afford them can choose a new toy for their children at Christmas. They link to what they need is here if this might be something people could support: <https://www.firstdays.net/christmas-2023>.

The Collect

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy
the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God
and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear
in power and great glory
we may be made like him
in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you, in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever

Post Communion

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

First Reading

¹Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get

drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

Gospel Reading

Jesus said to his disciples, ¹⁴‘The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’’

Matthew 25. 14-30

Sunday’s Hymns:

676	Immortal, invisible	657	Help us to help each other
511	Your voice, O God, outsings the stars of morning	127	Lord Jesus, think on me
595	Be thou my vision		

Thought for the week:

In the parable of the talents Jesus shows us that by using well what God has given us, there is much in which to invest our gifts, talents and hope. And that includes money.

Christians sometimes have an uneasy relationship with money, feeling that it is somehow wrong to be anything other than poor. Yet this passage tells us pretty clearly that it’s not the possession of money that is wrong, but what we do (or don’t do) with it. Neither silver nor gold will buy us into God’s good books, and keeping money for ourselves (if you interpret the story of the talents literally) is just not on. The money we have, or something else that we could regard as ‘in kind’, is a gift from God; think of it as a loan if you like – which means it must be paid back. How might we do that? If action inconveniences us, as it did the man who buried his talent, is that a reason for doing nothing? Does doing nothing make us complicit?



From Roots on the Web

Next week we will all receive our annual 'thank you' note for what we have given to the life of this church, this year, and we will be invited to pray about what we might offer in the coming year (so that PCC can budget). This parable might help us as we pray through our giving.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For the diocesan Safeguarding Team, for Barbara Essam, our parish Safeguarding Officer and for all who are vulnerable or unsafe (of any age).
- For peace throughout the world.
- For the people of Israel and Palestine, for an end to the violence there and for strength for all those who are suffering loss and fear. For our sisters and brothers in the Jewish and Muslim communities of our own town, especially those worried for loved ones.
- For Sam, as she develops our work with children and families.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For a new church music leader.
- For our growth in faith and for the developing Alpha team. For God to be moving guests to join the course next year.
- For all that is involved in our Christmas Tree Festival – smooth practicalities, lots of volunteer help, stamina, and that those who visit might meet with God.
- For our care for creation.
- For Jude Ridley, Levi Patton and Elsie Trillow baptised recently, and for all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in November: Owen Green, Lilly Hutchinson, Robert Midgley, Beatrix Ribton, Isabella Burdett, Fred Wilson, Harper Hutchinson, Poppie King-Couling, Klarissa Obwianu.
- For all those who live and work in Cherwell close.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Alice, Jean Jackson, Ken and Lucy Young
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Paula Clayton-Nuth, Dorothy Stanley
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in November: Mary Church, Thomas Speakman, Alice Newman, Roy Rance, Ruth Keys, Mary Fox, Marcus Lawes, James Herbert, Eileen Hurst, Francisca Knowles, Stuart Courtier, Joan Joyce, Trevor Headington, Catherine Vincent, Peter Bell, Margaret Bowdery, George Newman, Brian Roberts, Charles Hummer, Evelyn Surridge, Olive Powell, Beryl Maguire, Jack Jones, John Lovegrove, Dennis Jones, Christopher Haywood, Wayne Smith, Kenneth Rivers, Pamela Rivers.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 19th November 2023:

Sunday	Psalm 98	Proverbs 8.1-21	Luke 17.1-19
Monday	Psalm 47	Isaiah 9.8-10.4	Mathew 7.1-12
Tuesday	Psalm 52	Isaiah 10.5-19	Matthew 7.13-end
Wednesday	Psalm 56	Isaiah 10.20-32	Matthew 8.1-13
Thursday	Psalm 62	Isaiah 10.33-11.9	Matthew 8.14-22
Friday	Psalm 63	Isaiah 11.10-end of 12	Matthew 8.23-end
Saturday	P78.1-39	Isaiah 13.1-13	Matthew 9.1-17

Rotas for next week:

Sunday the 26th November: Parish Communion

Read: Nicola Buckland

Intercede: Ruth Sheppard

Welcomers: Ralph, Sue and Lisa

Coffee: Jenny and Sally

Our church is floodlit at night.

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

Geneviève & Nicholas Usher

To celebrate the wedding of Ayaka and Matthew on 23rd November in Kyoto



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

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Given rising fuel prices, it is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is now £15. There are lots of weeks available.

What's on.... This week:

Sunday 19th	10.00am, Parish Communion 11.30am, Mitzvah day, Please sign up in church or e-mail Revd. Sally by Friday eve 6.00pm, Sundays and Six, Service of Wholeness and Healing, All Saints
Tuesday 21st	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
Wednesday 22nd	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion
Thursday 23rd	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on Zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler Group 3.00pm, Gaynor's Gifts 7.30 pm, Christmas Tree Festival meeting, on zoom
Friday 24th	8.30am, Morning Prayer on zoom 1.45pm, Riverside School visit to church 5.00pm, Evening prayer on zoom
Saturday 25th	9.00am, Morning prayer on zoom
Sunday 26th	10.00am, Parish Communion 6.00pm, Sundays at Six, Taize Service, Church of the Good Shepherd

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

19 th November	Service of Wholeness and Healing At All Saints
26 th November	Taize service, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
3 rd December	Christ Child Market at All Saints 12.00 – 3pm
10 th December	Christmas Tree Festival Service, at St. Luke's (Tree Festival 8 th – 10 th December)
17 th December	Carol Services at each church at 6.00 pm

Coming up..

Messy Church our next Messy church is on 1st December. £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). we will be thinking about celebrating Jesus' birth and making decorations for our tree. Dates for following Messy Church sessions will be confirmed soon.

And Looking Ahead...

There is lots coming up, do note in your diaries, and come along to what draws you.

Alpha course: we have committed to running an Alpha course next year and are now recruiting the team to run it. If you feel called to help in leading small group discussion, catering or prayer ministry please speak to Revd Sally asap. And, of course, we will all be able to pray for the Alpha course – team and guests.

2nd Dec **Quiet morning**, 9.30 – 12.30 in church, led by Revd. Sally. Sign up in church or just come along

Wednesdays in Advent: 9pm, Compline on zoom. Use the Morning Prayer link.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: 8th – 10th December (set up day Weds 6th)

Catering for the Christmas Tree Festival

Just a reminder about cakes that we need for the festival. The three basics are Lemon drizzle, Victoria Sandwich and any chocolate cake. The Victoria sandwich must have just jam through the middle and caster sugar on the top. Some people who have not made cakes before have already volunteered to start baking and it would be lovely to have even more people joining us. Please do not cut your cakes as we have to standardise the portions.

As Reverend Sally said, if you start now but have no freezer space, we can help. My phone number is 01628 783618. Sally Somerville

We have a further **planning meeting** for anyone who wishes to zoom in: 23rd November, 7.30 pm, Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82393086871?pwd=SkZCRHVFWGludHNibkZsQUxubGQyQT09>

Meeting ID: 823 9308 6871 Passcode: 902314

Help staff the CTF we need lots of volunteers from Wednesday through to Sunday to staff the door, refreshments, raffle and other needs. Please sign up in church to say when YOU can help. The more people help the less time all need to give!


TREE VOTING POTS – NO CASH PLEASE!

As many people no longer carry cash we are moving to a token system in the tree voting pots. Bags of tokens may be bought in advance from the parish office (Tue – Fri 9.30 – 11.30 am) or after church services using a card. Bags of 10 tokens cost £5 (ie tokens are worth 50p). They will also be available for purchase on the door – but buy in advance and save queuing! For this year cash will also be accepted in the voting pots (but not encouraged!).



CoOp Community Fund

Thanks to everyone who has supported this church via the CoOp Community Fund in the last year. The total raised is £ 2749. This money has been earmarked for our work to develop our churchyard and will be well used as we do this.

**Windsor and Maidenhead
Community Forum
Women's Group**



Ladies of all beliefs and none
are warmly invited to our next meeting
from 7.30 - 9.00 pm
on
Monday 20th November 2023
at
St. Luke's Church
Norfolk Road, Maidenhead SL6 7AX
Reflections on PEACE
Further details from:
sally514@btinternet.com
www.wamcf.org


St. Luke's Nursery
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We are an **OFSTED OUTSTANDING** setting
providing a fun and creative learning experience for all.
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and exciting ways to engage the children in our care.

Spaces available now for 3 & 4 year olds
Monday to Friday - 8:45 to 15:30*
TERM TIME ONLY
*Morning and Afternoon Sessions available
- Early Risers 08:00 to 08:45 -



Please contact our main school office for application details
and to arrange a visit, alternatively details can be found at
st-lukesprimary.com
St. Lukes Nursery, Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7EG
01628 621600

Fraudsters target church congregations

Criminals are experts at impersonating people,
including clergy and church officers. The criminals are
becoming more confident with church language and
hope that you'll let your guard down.

How to spot an impersonation scam


- You receive a call, text, email, or message with an urgent request to make a payment, buy a gift card or move money to another account.
- You receive a message from someone in the church requesting urgent financial assistance.
- You're pressured to act immediately, or they demand secrecy.
- They ask for confidential information or your bank details.
- The sender's email address isn't one usually used by the church or diocese, or looks very slightly different.

Stay safe from fraud

- Stop and think before clicking links or replying to a message
- Email the church office or the diocese to check if a message is genuine
- Report suspicions of fraudulent activity to Action Fraud: 0300 123 2040 | actionfraud.police.uk


Clergy and leaders will never ask you for gift vouchers or an urgent transfer of money.

oxford.anglican.org/stop-fraud



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Christmas
POP UP SHOP



WHERE? ...Maidenhead Salvation Army...
...East Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1P.J.

WHEN? 2nd, 16th & 30th Nov, 9:30am-12:30pm

www.quenchshops.com

Advent and Christmas at St. Luke's Church

Sunday 3rd December

10.00 am **All Age Holy Communion for Advent Sunday**

Christmas Tree Festival 8th – 10th December

Friday 8th December

10.00 am - 7.00 pm, Church open to view decorated trees;
stalls and refreshments

Saturday 9th December

10.00 am - 7.00 pm, Church open to view decorated trees;
stalls and refreshments

Sunday 10th December

midday – 6.00 pm, Church open to view decorated trees;
stalls and refreshments

6.00 pm 'Christmas Tree' Service

Sunday 17th December

6.00 pm, **Nine Lessons and Carols, by candlelight**
followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Thursday 21st December

3.00 pm, **Keeping Company**

Tea, cake and reflection for those bereaved at any time

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December

4.00 (younger families) and 5.00 (older families) pm, **Candlelit Crib Services**

10.00 pm '**Midnight Mass**'

Christmas Day, Monday 25th December

10.00 am, All Age Christmas Holy Communion

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 1st December 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 21st December

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 14th December

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. Next is 23rd November

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

Sunday Morning Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFhVjNad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzd09>

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/85378796960?pwd=dUNTnRZVFJBY2xiS3QyVHlYZ1BaZz09> Meeting ID:

853 7879 6960

Passcode: 386635



The poster features the Quench Christian Bookshops logo at the top, with the text 'Christmas POP UP SHOP' in a large, stylized font. Below the text is an illustration of a stack of colorful books with a red Santa hat on top. The background is dark blue with white snowflakes. The bottom section of the poster is green and contains the following text:

WHERE? Maidenhead Salvation Army.....
..... East Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1PJ

WHEN? 2nd, 16th & 30th Nov, 9:30am-12:30pm
.....

www.quenchshops.com