



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

Church Office: 01628 622733

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Vicar: sally514@btinternet.com

Week Commencing: 23rd February, Second Sunday before Lent

This Sunday we have a service of Parish Communion at 10am.

Everyone is very warmly invited to worship with us.

The Collect

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator,
by your gift the tree of life was set
at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life
at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished
at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory
of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

¹I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' ²At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! ³And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. ⁴Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. ⁵Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; ⁶and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: ⁷the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. ⁸And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.'
⁹And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, ¹¹'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created

Revelation 4

Gospel Reading

²²One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, ²³and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. ²⁴They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. ²⁵He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

Luke 8. 22-25

Sunday's Hymns:

P: 691(i) Jesus shall reign
G: 276 Holy, Holy, Holy
O: 623 Eternal father, strong to save
HC: 764 Peace, perfect peace
R: 702 Lead us heavenly father, lead us



Thought for the week:

As this photo shows, the Sea of Galilee can be pretty bleak at times. Some of us who have visited have experienced a choppy crossing and can identify with Jesus' disciples, terrified by the sudden gale in this week's gospel reading.

Sudden storms were not unusual so this one must have been quite fierce to terrify experienced sailors on that sea. Maybe they were a bit cross also that Jesus seemed to be able to sleep through it. At their cries (and perhaps arm tugging) he woke and dealt with the problem.

It is a bit corny to state, but isn't life like that for us too. We are sailing blithely through life and then some terrible storm brews which really gets to us – something perhaps unsettling, a bereavement, loss of job or relationship, a challenge or decision that just seems too much to bear. AND it feels as if God is silent, unaware of our need and despair.

That is when we too need to tug at God's metaphorical sleeve and cry out in prayer. God may not take away the problem as he did on the Sea of Galilee, but God can certainly quell the storm going on inside each of us and make it more bearable.

We might try that next time a storm brews up in our lives.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For our preparations for our APCM
- For Revd. Phyl and Dave as they prepare to move to Harrogate
- For our Church leaders and those selecting a new Archbishop of Canterbury
- The Revd. Canon Mary Gregory, as she prepares to become Bishop of Reading (and the Revd Canon Dave Bull who will be the Bishop of Buckingham).
- That the ceasefire between Israel and Palestine might hold and further hostages and prisoners be released.
- For survivors of abuse and those who support them.
- For our sisters and brothers in the Jewish and Muslim communities of our own town.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For all those who live and work in Laggan Square
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in February: Harry Ford, Oscar Ford, Zara Mean, Lucy Walwyn Salisbury, Harriet Walwyn Salisbury, Daniel Hulse

- 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.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Jean Meadows, Marina Andrian.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in February: Rodgers Murwisi, Peter Curtis, Joan Bartholomew, Harvey Lovegrove, Stanley Swansborough, Christine Dawson, Walter Horwood, Judy Galvin, Oliver Mercer, Barbara Stevens, Douglas Thomson, Julienne Grobler, Leslie Timmins, Beryl Sankey.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 23rd February 2025:

Sunday	Psalm 104	Job 28.1 -11	Acts 14. 8-17
Monday	Psalm 71	Ecclesiastes 7. 1-14	John 19. 1-16
Tuesday	Psalm 73	Ecclesiastes 7. 15-end	John 19. 17-30
Wednesday	Psalm 77	Ecclesiastes 8	John 19. 31-end
Thursday	Psalm 78. 1-39	Ecclesiastes 9	John 20. 1-10
Friday	Psalm 55	Ecclesiastes 11.1-8	John 20. 11-18
Saturday	Psalm 76	Ecclesiastes 11.9-end 12	John 20. 19-end

Rotas for next week

Sunday 2nd March: All Age Holy Communion

Read: n/a Intercede: Preacher Chalice: Kim Rumble Sound: Raja
 Welcomers: Clare, Ann, Rita Coffee: Sally, Marc Children: n/a

Our church is floodlit at night.

The flood lighting has not been sponsored this week

To sponsor the floodlighting please fill in the form at the back of church or email:
admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

It is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is £15. There are lots of weeks available.



What's on.... This week:

Sunday 23rd 10.00am Parish Communion
 Tuesday 25th 8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
 11.00 am, Funeral of Jean Meadows
 Wednesday 26th 8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
 10.00 am, Holy Communion
 7.30 pm, Christian Enquirers course (vicarage)
 Thursday 27th 8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
 3.00 pm, Gaynor's Gift
 Friday 28th 8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
 5.00 pm, Evening Prayer
 Saturday 1st March 9.00 am, Morning prayer on zoom
 Sunday 2nd March 10.00 am, All Age Holy Communion
 11.15 ish APCM
 6.00pm, Sundays at Six: Eucharist for St. David, at All Saints

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

2 nd Mar	Eucharist for St. David, at All Saints
16 th Mar	Iona service with reflection, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
6 th April	Stations of the Cross, at All Saints
13 th Apr	Taize service, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
4 th May	Eucharist of Wholeness and Healing, at All Saints
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
20 th July	Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island

Messy Church. Messy Church dates for 2025 are as follows: 7th March, 4th April, 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July, 5th September, 3rd October, 7th November, 28th November

Our next monthly lunch will take place at the Toby Carvery this Thursday, 27th February at 12.00. Please let Jean T-D (626671) know if you would like to come.



Church displays & decorations

You are warmly invited to join us at the next meeting of the 'flower-power' team, to help plan our displays and decorations for the coming year.

Date: 9 March
Time: 11.30 (after service, before Lent lunch)

All are welcome – no previous experience needed.



Our APCM (the church's annual business meeting)

Will be held after the morning service NEXT Sunday 2nd March. Everyone is warmly encouraged to attend. The full set of accounts is currently with the inspector and will be available asap.

The Bulletin – the informal parish record of church life in 2024 (which includes the agenda for the APCM and minutes of the last meeting) – is now available as a pdf on the website and attached to the weekly email. Hard copies are available on request for those without email. The full accounts will follow asap.

Please pray about whether you are being called to stand for one of the places on the PCC: we have three places for 3 years and 2 for 2 years, plus a one year Deanery Synod place.

From the PCC / Standing Committee

Highlights of the recent meetings, FYI:

- The eco group was congratulated on achieving the Silver award
- Plans for a path round part of the church are with the DAC, seeking approval (funded by a legacy and CoOp Community Fund grant)
- We have a small regular cleaning team
- Our MAP (mission Action Plan) was further updated to include ways of becoming more financially viable on a day to day basis
- The Prayers of Love and Faith (for same sex couples in church) would probably reach General Synod in July. As an Inclusive church the PCC affirmed support.
- Financial statements for 2024 were approved (and Bev - and Dave – thanked for their hard work on them)
- The main charities in 2024 had been:
 - o Embrace the Middle East; Green Christians. Foodshare, with also: Kori, Inclusive Church and New Brainstorm school in Uganda
- Key charities for 2025-7 were agreed as
 - o Embrace the Middle East; Christians Against Poverty; The Baby Bank
- It was agreed that the chapel should be re-carpeted, using a gift for this purpose
- The impact of Ministry Team members leaving / away from post was discussed
- An in-house Basic Safeguarding training would be provided for all who need to do it
- Theology week had taken place at St. Luke's school – and been amazing.

Basic Safeguarding Training

A number of people are required to do the Church of England Basic Safeguarding course (e.g. welcomers, pastoral team...). To make that easier Barbara and Revd. Sally will lead a session on this course after church on Sunday 16th March. It will not take long but will fulfil our legal requirements and it will be good to do the course together. You will be notified if you must do this but it is open to anyone at all.

Taking it Further...

A morning (note change) for those who attended Alpha or who would simply like to explore more about Christianity and living as a disciple of Jesus. Saturday 8th March, 10 am – midday, in church. Please sign up via the office or in church.

Spring and Summer Recital series

We are planning a short series of recitals by young people at various times this year. Admission will either be free, with a retiring collection and refreshments to purchase, or by prior bought ticket if numbers are needed for catering. All proceeds will go to church funds.

Booked so far:

Friday 28th March, pupils from Queen Anne's School, Caversham, 12.15 pm recital, lunch available to purchase from 1pm.

Sunday 6th April, Andrew Gallacher on piano, following the last Lent Lunch (lunch donations to Christian Aid, recital to church)

More to come...

World Day of Prayer

This year the service takes place on Friday 7th March at St Marks Crescent Methodist Church at 2pm. It has been prepared by the women of the Cook Islands as they celebrate 200 years of Christianity in

the group of 15 islands in the Pacific Ocean. The theme is 'I made you wonderful' and is based on the words of Psalm 139. They invite us to recognise that God created each one of us with great attention and loving care.

All are warmly invited to attend this beautiful service with its uplifting message. The women have prepared it but men are welcome too! Tea will be served after the service.

We now have three St Luke's members on the committee as Gill Curry and I are pleased to welcome Smita Bora to join us. Further details from any of us or from the poster at the back of the church.

Ruth Sheppard

New Bishop of Reading: The Bishop-Designate Mary Gregory's Service of Welcome is planned for Sunday 2nd March at 3pm in Reading Minster. Please save this date in your diaries. This is an open public service, all are welcome.

Lent 2025

The Church programme for Lent... is now available as a leaflet – attached to this weekly sheet – and a hard copy can be found in church too. Do join in with some ways of keeping Lent.

Lent Lunches, are held on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of Lent. Please do sign up to help provide lunches – see the sign-up sheet in church.

Come and See...

A diocesan daily email during Lent and out Lent course this year. Come and See is completely free and all are welcome. Sign up: [Sign up for Come and See 2025](#)

Eco Church... thanks to Katty for these tips...

Eco-Friendly Gardening Tips for Everyone

Inspired by BBC Gardeners' World, here are some fun and eco-friendly gardening tips to help you get started:

What is Eco-Friendly Gardening?

Eco-friendly gardening means creating a garden that supports nature and uses resources wisely. It's great fun and anyone can do it, regardless of age or experience!

Water Conservation

What: Saving water while keeping your garden hydrated.

How: - **Collect:** Use rain barrels to collect rainwater. - **Water Wisely:** Water plants early in the morning or late in the evening to reduce evaporation.-

Why: Conserving water helps the environment and can lower your water bills.

Community News

At **Healthwatch Windsor, Ascot and Maidenhead**, the local consumer champion for health and social care, we are thinking about our priorities for our working year starting 1st April. Our prioritisation survey 'What Matters Most' is now live - should we be focusing on people's experiences of dementia care, of hospital outpatient service, of waiting times? What else?

Please could you share our survey for local residents with your clients/contacts and include in any newsletter you are sending out soon, asking for replies by 31st March?

It will take less than 5 minutes for people to give us their thoughts and it is so valuable to have as many local views as possible to help our Advisory Group to work with us on our developing work plan.

RBWM website link- [What Matters Most | Healthwatch Wam](#)

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 7th March 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 14th March

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. Next is 27th February.

Church Calendar for the Spring (apart from regular activities)

March

Sunday 2 nd ,	11.15 am (ish) Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Wednesday 5 th	Ash Wednesday: 10 am and 8 pm services of Holy Communion with Ashing
Sundays 9 th , 23 rd	Lent lunches
Wednesday 12 th	11.00 am, Lent course starts (5 weeks)
Friday 28 th	12.15 pm Recital and lunch
Sunday 30 th , 10 am	Mothering Sunday service (Word)

April

Tuesday 1 st , 11 am	School service
Sunday 6 th	Last Lent lunch, Recital
Saturday 12 th	Church Care session (maintenance)
Sunday 13 th	Palm Sunday, start of Holy Week
Sunday 20 th	Easter Day
Friday 25 th	St. Luke's School in all day
Saturday 26 th	PCC planning morning

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

Sunday Morning Worship:

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

Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400

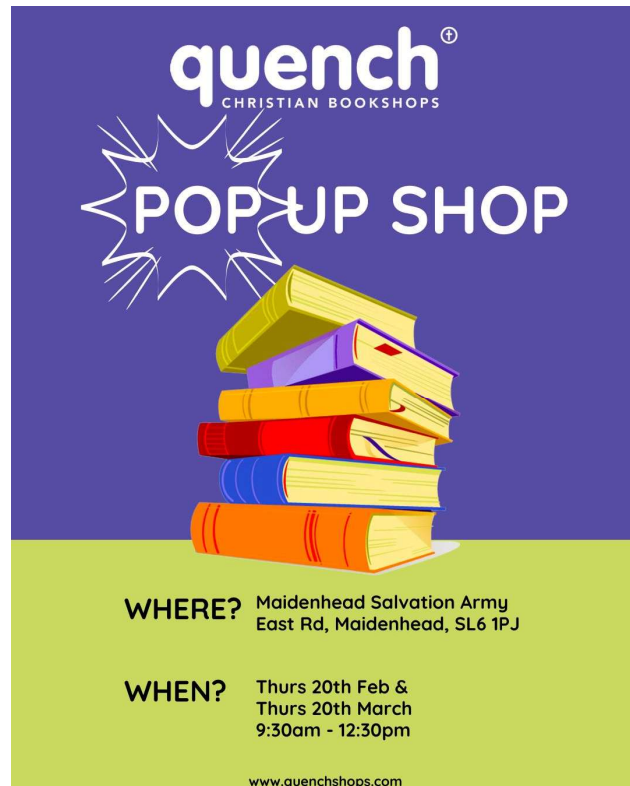
Passcode: 526076

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81459090925?pwd=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmllU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925

Passcode: 180609



The poster features a dark blue background with the 'quench' logo at the top, which includes a small trademark symbol and the text 'CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOPS' below it. A white starburst graphic surrounds the text 'POP-UP SHOP'. Below this is a stack of five colorful books (yellow, purple, yellow, red, blue) with an orange book lying horizontally in front of them. The bottom half of the poster has a light green background and contains the following text:

WHERE? Maidenhead Salvation Army
East Rd, Maidenhead, SL6 1PJ

WHEN? Thurs 20th Feb &
Thurs 20th March
9:30am - 12:30pm

www.quenchshops.com