



# St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

[www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](http://www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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## Week Commencing: 26<sup>th</sup> January, Third Sunday of Epiphany

This Sunday we have a Service of Parish Communion at 10am when there will be activities for children. Everyone is very warmly invited to worship with us.

### The Collect

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Post Communion Prayer

Almighty Father,  
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
is the light of the world:  
may your people,  
illumined by your word and sacraments,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshipped, and  
obeyed to the ends of the earth;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

### First Reading

<sup>12</sup>Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot would say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear would say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. <sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup>But strive for the greater gifts.

*1 Cor. 12. 12-31a*

### Gospel Reading 33

<sup>14</sup>Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

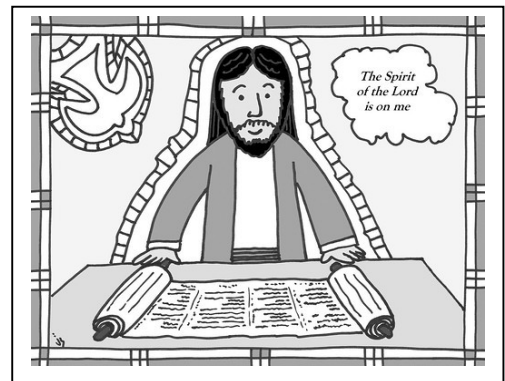
<sup>18</sup>'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

*Luke 4. 14-21*

### Sunday's Hymns:

P: 445            God is here! As we God's people (Tune 337)  
G: 698 (i)        King of glory, King of Peace  
O: 795            The Kingdom of God is upon you  
HC: 168          God is love  
R: 634 (i)        Firmly I believe and truly



### Thought for the week:

In this week's gospel reading Jesus begins in his ministry, chosen to read from the scrolls in the synagogue at Nazareth, his hometown. All spoke well of him but read on the rest of the passage, not set for this week, and we see that Jesus did not enjoy the adulation but challenged the men of Nazareth for their insularity.

When Jesus told them that Isaiah's prophecy of healing and redemption was fulfilled he meant that it was for all people, not just a special group of Hebrew people who had become so insular, so self-obsessed that they looked down on the Gentiles around them as unclean. Jesus reminded them of other stories in their past which even then had shown God's care for 'the other' – the widow whom Elijah helped was a Gentile, as was Naaman the Syrian, cleansed from leprosy by God.

The men of Nazareth were furious because they were no longer special and exclusive. Their holy bubble has been burst by Jesus' radical way of interpreting and teaching, of proclaiming the true kingdom of God.

At the very start of his work Jesus makes it clear to whom he has come and to whom the Kingdom of God is open. His teaching will turn the world upside down. His final action in dying will change the course of history. And Luke emphasises that this is possible through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit – made fully clear from Jesus' baptism onwards.

What of us? Are we like those early Nazarenes? Exclusive? Keeping the gospel, the good news, God, to ourselves? Are we willing to place ourselves alongside Jesus? In the firing line, upsetting the apple cart, but opening up the life and hope and joy and peace and healing and wholeness of God to absolutely all people?

That is a tough ask, but as Jesus was filled with the power of God's Spirit from his baptism – so too are we.

**Prayer suggestions for this week:**

- For the new president and the people of the USA.
- 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 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 Keble Road.
- For Isabel Nixon, Keeon Obianwu and Cole Brooks who were all baptised in December
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in January: Otilie Beresford Jones, Grace Mondal, Ryan Westbury, Ritchie Westbury, Jonas Lanyon, Sebastian Lanyon, Arthur Smith.
- 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.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Bill Bowyer, Laurie Holloway, Pauline Norris, John Francis.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in January: Clifford Collier, David Bateman, Peter Joyce, Roger Martin, Alice Wellman, Ann Hancock, Charles Woodman, Julie Brazenor, Florence Hampton, Derek Jones, Eileen Gulrayani, Edward Hylton Jones, Dawn Crampin, Nora Searle, Michael Marriner, Christine Bowyer, Phyllis Boshier, Trevor Tilbury, Tony Boaks, Dorothy Nicks, Florence Woodruff, Joey Colton.

**Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025:**

Sunday	Psalm 113	Deuteronomy 30.11-15	1 John 1, 5-8
Monday	Psalm 108	Hosea 2.18 -end of 3	1 Cor. 9.15 -end
Tuesday	Psalm 36	Hosea 4. 1-16	1 Cor. 10. 1-13
Wednesday	Psalm 46	Hosea 5.1-7	1 Cor. 10.14 -11.1
Thursday	Psalm 47	Hosea 5.8 -6.6	1 Cor. 11. 2-16
Friday	Psalm 65	Hosea 6.7 -7.2	1 Cor. 11.7 -end
Saturday	Psalm 68	Hosea 8	1 Cor. 12. 1-11

**Rotas for next week**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February: All Age Holy Communion**

Read: n/a      Intercede: Preacher      Chalice: Emma Cameron      Sound: Dave  
Welcomers: Clare, Ben and Shula      Coffee: Simone and Season

**Our church is floodlit at night.**

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

**Gill Boaks**

*In memory of her husband Tony Boaks*



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

[admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto: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 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am, Parish Communion
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 7.30 pm, WAMCF Ladies meeting, here
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00 am, Holy Communion
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30 am, Baby and Toddler Group
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 5.00pm, Evening prayer on zoom
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.00 am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00 am, Christingle making 7.00 pm, Marlow Community Choir Concert
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 am, All Age Holy Communion – Christingle 6.00 pm Sundays at Six: Taize Service for Candlemas, here

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

2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Taizé service for Candlemas, at St Luke's
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Evensong and Benediction, at All Saints
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Eucharist for St. David, at All Saints
16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Iona service with reflection, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
6 <sup>th</sup> April	Stations of the Cross, at All Saints
13 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Taize service, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Eucharist of Wholeness and Healing, at All Saints
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Choral Sung Evensong, at St. Luke's
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Desert Island Hymns and Readings, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
15 <sup>th</sup> Jun	International Taizé service, at St. Luke's
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Evensong and Benediction, at All Saints
20 <sup>th</sup> Jly	Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island

## Eco Church Silver Award

We are delighted to announce that St. Luke's has been awarded the silver Eco Church award. Very well done and huge thanks to Phyl and the Eco Team for all of their work on this – and to each of you for helping to live out a better way of caring for the environment as a church. Find out more about the award at:

<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/how-eco-church-works/>

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

**Church Breakfast:** the first breakfast of 2025 will be held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February from 8.45 (doors open) to about 10.30 am. We are delighted that Mrs Sam Stevenson, Headteacher of our Primary School will speak (and answer questions) about: St. Luke's School today. Tickets at £5 pp are now available after services or from the Office. Includes a hearty breakfast! All welcome.

**Christingle service and making:** our Christingle service will be at the All Age Holy Communion service on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Everyone is very warmly invited and there will be a Christingle for everyone. We will have a Christingle making working party on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 10 am – do join us if you can – coffee and biscuits (and left over sweets) available!

### **Electoral Roll 2025: 6 year complete update:**

Every six years we have to draw up an entirely new Roll and this is one of those years. **Everyone who wishes to be on the Roll must fill in a fresh application form and return it by Wednesday 5th February** at the latest. You need to be on the Electoral Roll if you wish to vote at the Annual Parish Meeting (Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March this year) or to be considered for the PCC or Deanery Synod.

Ruth Humphreys is our Electoral Roll Officer (i.e. it is maintained by the parish Office).

Anyone can apply to be on the Roll – provided they live in the parish or have been attending this church regularly for at least 6 months.

Forms are available from church or can be emailed on request from the parish office.

The new Electoral Roll which will be on display from 14th February onwards when you can check that your entry is correct. Please contact Ruth (Parish office) with any queries.

### **Revd. Phyl and Dave Sopp**

Phyl and Dave are moving away, as previously notified. Their last Sunday with us will be 16<sup>th</sup> February.

We would like to celebrate their ministry among us and thank them for their contribution to our church family. Individuals will wish to offer their own appreciation, but we will also have a whole church collection in order to give a cash/ token gift which will enable them to buy something that they need / like to remember us by. If you would like to contribute, please give cash/ cheque in an envelope marked Phyl and Dave gift to Jacqueline, Clare or Bev, or indicate the same on the card reader (use the 'message' action on the new reader).

On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February we will have a parish lunch at which we can share memories and thanks with Phyl and Dave. This will be a formal two course meal, from 1pm (with a vegetarian option available). Please sign up in church or via the office if you would like to attend so that we can cater and lay sufficient places. Guests will also be invited.

There is no charge for the meal, but if you would like to make a financial contribution to the cost please do so in the same way as the gift, labelling it 'lunch contribution'.

**WAMCF Ladies group:** our next interfaith ladies meeting is from 7.30 – 9.00 pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January here at St. Luke's. our speaker will be T/Superintendent Louise Warbrick about women in Policing today. All ladies welcome – do tell others.

### **Not the Alpha course! - Christian Enquirers**

Rather than run an Alpha course this year we have decided to run a shorter course for those wanting to know more about the Christian faith. It will run from 7.30 – 9.00 pm on Wednesday evenings, in the vicarage, starting 5<sup>th</sup> February, last session 19<sup>th</sup> March (week off for Ash Wednesday).

It will cover: God as Father, Jesus, Trinity / Holy Spirit, the Bible and prayer, and Church and sacraments. Coffee and biscuits and a chance to explore the basics of Christian belief.

Please sign up via an email to office or in church. Do tell others about this opportunity.

### **And also... Taking it Further...**

A day for those who attended Alpha or who would simply like to explore more about Christianity and living as a disciple of Jesus. Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 10 am – 3pm (with lunch) in church. Please sign up via the office or in church.

## **Christmas Tree Festival 2025 – yes, really!**

**Marmalade for the 2025 Christmas Tree Festival.** We know the Festival is a long way off, but Seville oranges are only available around January/February so now is the time to make marmalade. We need lots as we ran out very quickly at the 2024 Festival. A basket will be put at the back of church for donations of Seville oranges and sugar (Sainsburys online are selling these oranges at £3 for 1.5kg ) and the Vicar has promised a retiring (CASH only) collection on 26<sup>th</sup> January that will help cover costs.

If you plan to make marmalade, please contact Ann Darracott (07761 221937) or Dorothy Strack Hankey (07743 323635).

We also need Bonne Maman & Frank Cooper jars, and Christmassy patterned cloth.

Many thanks from the Produce Stallholders.

## **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:

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

More to come...

**New Bishop of Reading:** The Bishop-Designate Mary Gregory's Service of Welcome is planned for Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 3pm in Reading Minster. Please save this date in your diaries.

More details to follow. This is also an open public service, all are welcome.

**Diocesan E-News:** this weekly update from the diocese is really useful and anyone can subscribe:

[Subscribe to our mailing lists - Diocese of Oxford](#)

## **Our Regular activities:**

**The 8.00 Holy Communion service** will continue to be monthly, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025 [admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**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](mailto: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. 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly. Next is 27<sup>th</sup> February.

## Church Calendar for the Spring (apart from regular activities)

### February

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> , 10 am	Christingle making
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 10 am	Christingle and All Age Holy Communion service
6pm	Taize service
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> , 8.45 am	Church breakfast
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> , 1pm	Church lunch to say farewell to Revd. Phyl and Dave Sopp
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> ,	Consecration of the Bishop of Reading (details to come)

### March

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> ,	11.15 am (ish) Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday: 10 am and 8 pm services of Holy Communion with Ashing
Sundays 9 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lent lunches
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am, Lent course starts (5 weeks)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	St. Luke's School in all day
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> , 10 am	Mothering Sunday service (Word)

### April

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> , 11 am	School service
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Last Lent lunch, Recital
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Church Care session (maintenance)
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Palm Sunday, start of Holy Week
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Day
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	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=MTFxVINad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzdz09>

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