



# St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

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

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

Church Office: 01628 622733

[admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto:admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

Vicar: [sally514@btinternet.com](mailto:sally514@btinternet.com)

**British summer time:  
don't forget to put your clocks forward an hour this weekend**

**Week commencing: 26<sup>th</sup> March, Passion Sunday**

This weekend we move into Passiontide and the last two weeks of Jesus' life. Our 10 am service on Sunday is a Parish Communion service, and at 6pm we are invited to All Saints church to walk the Stations of the Cross.

## The Collect

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection  
of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
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

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers  
and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

## Readings for Sunday

### First reading

#### A Reading from Ezekiel

1The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' 4Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.'

7So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' 10I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." 12Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

*Ezekiel 37. 1-14*

### **The Gospel reading**

A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. 3So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' 4But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' 5Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, 6after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

7Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' 8The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' 9Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. 10But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.'

11After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' 12The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' 13Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. 14Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. 15For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' 16Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

17When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, 19and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. 20When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. 21Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' 23Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' 24Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' 25Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, 26and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 27She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

28When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' 29And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. 30Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. 32When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' 33When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' 35Jesus began to weep. 36So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' 37But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

38Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already

there is a stench because he has been dead four days.’ 40Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’ 41So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. 42I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’ 43When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’ 45Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

*John 11. 1-45*

### Hymns for Sunday

- 147 My song is love unknown (omit \*vv)
- 806 There is a wideness in God’s mercy
- 157 When I survey the wondrous cross
- 784 Stand up, stand up for Jesus

### Thought for the week



The (long, but) beautiful story in today’s gospel is the turning point in John’s account of the lead-up to the passion and death of Jesus. As a result of Jesus raising Lazarus from death, the Jewish leaders seek to have him put to death himself. He has gone too far for them, and will cause upset with the Roman occupiers, ‘one man must die for the nation’ (to prevent discord), they say – how true, though not as they mean it.

For Jesus, this story is one of love and compassion before his actual passion. We see him weeping at the loss of his friend, before he brings Lazarus back to life.

The lovely mosaic to the left is in the church found in Bethany today at the site of Lazarus’ tomb. It must have been both terrifying for those who witnessed it – and perhaps a little unsavoury too – notice the man on the right holding his nose! – and also an awesome and

amazing demonstration of Jesus’ power from his father.

The incident also raises many questions – why does God not save everyone who dies ‘too soon’ - then and today? There are no easy answers to why a loving God does not do this. We should remember that Jesus only raised a few people to life – a widow’s son, a little girl, Lazarus.

The incident revolves around important teaching by Jesus. He says to Martha: *‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die’*. Jesus (and the evangelist John) uses this opportunity to teach that there is eternal life for those who trust in him and in his saving death and resurrection.

That can offer us hope and comfort as today we mourn our ‘lost’ loved ones, and as we look to our own demise.

In the mosaic picture Lazarus emerges from the tomb bound in the traditional fashion. As Jesus commands the bystanders to ‘unbind him’, perhaps we might also invite Jesus to unbind us from all that restricts and prevents us from trusting in his eternal promises.

### **Prayer suggestions for this week:**

- That we may keep a holy Lent.
- For the people of Ukraine and Russia, and for the UN. 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 our ministry with children and for our plans to appoint a Children and Family Leader.
- For a new Director of Music / organist.
- For our care for creation for our work towards becoming an Eco church.
- Those whose anniversary of baptism falls in March: Faith Porro, and for Lola Rose to be baptised this week.
- For all those who live and work in Belmont Vale.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Howard Baxter, Julienne Grobler, Clarice, Andy, Ann Hockham, Pat Brooks, Andrew, Jim Mundy, Naila Watanabe, Valerie Bosley, Joan Lynch, Harry, Robert Lewis, Joy Richmond, Kathy Marsden, Pauline Norris, Barbara Lewis
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Nicholas Clutterbuck, Mike Lynch
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in March: Sandy Raffan, Brian King, Ernest Gammon, Arthur Harris, Audry Eggleton, Rex Hugo, Victor Garroway, Anna Meredith, Dora Newcomb, Marjery Lawson, Ellen Ritson, Anthony Wright, Lilian Vizard, Edgar Walford, Christine Sawyers, Caroline Wood, Robert Russell, Jacqueline Mundy, Alan Moss, Beryl Bintcliffe, Francis (Jack) Garnett, Jillian Sinclair-Hill, Eileen Herbert, Stella Lee, Andrew Curtis, Susan Robinson, Jill Cotterill, John Marshall, John Cox.

### **Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023:**

Sunday	Psalm 86	John 12.20-33	
Monday	Psalm 73	Jeremiah 21.1-10	John 11.28-44
Tuesday	Psalm 35	Jeremiah 22.1-5, 13-19	John 11.45-end
Wednesday	Psalm 55	Jeremiah 22.20-23.8	John 12.1-11
Thursday	Psalm 40	Jeremiah 22.9-32	John 12.12-19
Friday	Psalm 22	Jeremiah 24	John 12.20-36a
Saturday	Psalm 23	Jeremiah 15.1-14	John 12.36b-3rd

### **Rotas for next week:**

#### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, Palm Sunday in church and on zoom**

Read: Jacqueline Lewis

Intercede: Ministry Team

Welcomers: Jacqueline, Simon and Ben

Coffee: Lisa and Kim

### **Our church is floodlit at night.**

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

*Mr T Autos*

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) 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:**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom

5.00 pm, Evening Prayer, on zoom

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> 9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom

9.30 am – 3.15 pm Quiet day, in church

Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am, Parish Communion, in church and on zoom 12.00 pm, Baptism of Lola Rose
<i>Passion Sunday</i>	6.00 pm, Sundays at Six, Stations of the Cross at All Saints (not on zoom)
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm, WAMCF Ladies meeting, Gurdwara
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom St. Luke's School in all day 6.30 pm Archdeacon's inspection, in church
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00 am Holy Communion 11.00 am, Lent course (church and zoom)
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 9.30 am, Baby and Toddler Group 7.30 pm, Lent course (parish office)
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 4.00 pm, Messy Church
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 9.30 am onwards, church and garden spring clean
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 am, All Age Holy Communion, in church and on zoom
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	6.00 pm, Sundays at Six, Taize service at ChoGS

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

26 <sup>th</sup> March	Stations of the Cross, in church at All Saints (Passion Sunday)
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Taizé service, in church Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green (Palm Sunday)
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Easter reflections, on zoom Led by St Luke's

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

## Coming up..

### 'Open the Box' for The Children's Society, Sunday 26 March

Sincere thanks to everyone who keeps a collection box for The Children's Society and so generously supports its vital and life-changing work with children and young people in our country who are most vulnerable and at risk. We would love you to bring your boxes to church on Sunday 26 March, when they will be opened, and funds counted, during coffee. If you can't come along on that day, please let Terrie know ([terrie.robinson2702@gmail.com](mailto:terrie.robinson2702@gmail.com) or 01628 634107) and she will arrange something with you.

If you don't have a Children's Society collection box but would like one, please let Terrie know. Huge thanks for your kindness and generosity.

**Messy Church** our next Messy church is on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March when we will be thinking about Messy miracles – Jesus' resurrection. 4pm. £2 per child. All welcome. Do email Revd. Sally to book places (so we know how many to cater for). NB the May Messy Church has moved to 28<sup>th</sup> April due to the Coronation weekend.

**Easter flowers:** we have a team who will be decorating the church for Easter, if you would like to join them please let Joan Harnby or Revd Sally know – all very welcome.

**Donations** towards the cost of Easter flowers and lilies are now invited. Please give your donations directly to Rita Salter. If you prefer to give by bacs or by card please will you also drop a note to Rita ([jandsalter@btinternet.com](mailto:jandsalter@btinternet.com)) so that the flower team know how they have in total. Thank you. You may wish to give to the flowers in **memory of loved ones**. There is a sheet at the back of church on which you are invited to write their names. These will be displayed in church as usual at Easter.

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March: Quiet day:** the Revd. Canon Geoffrey Connor will lead a in church day focussing on the Anglo Saxon poem: the Dream of the Rood. This is a perfect lead into Passiontide and will allow plenty of space for reflection and quiet. 9.30 am – 3.00pm with lunch provided. Please sign up in church as usual.

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April, Church spring clean morning** everyone is warmly invited to join us to help clean and tidy the church and churchyard for Easter. If you can bring along your own gardening tools that would be a great help. From 9.30 am until we collapse! Any time you can spare would be valued.

### **Holy Week and Easter at St. Luke's**

#### ***Palm Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April***

10.00 am All Age Holy Communion, with procession from vicarage to church

6.00 pm, Sundays at Six: Taize service at Cox Green

#### ***Monday – Saturday***

Morning Prayer (8.30 am daily) and Evening Prayer (5.00 pm – not Friday and Saturday) on zoom

#### ***Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April***

Church open for quiet, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

8.00 pm, Stations of the Cross (also on Zoom, use MP link)

#### ***Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April***

Church open for quiet, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

8.00 pm, Holy Communion, with meditation (also on Zoom, use MP link)

#### ***Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April***

Church open for quiet, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

8.00 pm, Sung Compline, with meditation (also on Zoom, use MP link)

#### ***Maundy Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> April***

11.00 am, Chrism Mass at Christchurch cathedral (contact clergy to come along)

8.00 pm, Holy Communion followed by Watch until 11.45 pm

11.45 pm, Compline

#### ***Good Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> April***

11.00 am, CTiM Walk of Witness, meet outside Sainsburys

1.00 pm, An hour at the cross – quiet service of music, meditation and silence

2.00 pm, The Liturgy of the Last Hour

3.15 pm, Evening Prayer and church 'sealed'

#### ***Holy Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> April***

From 9.30 am, decorate for Easter

4.00 pm, All Age Easter Egg Hunt and service

#### ***Easter Day, 9<sup>th</sup> April***

6.30 am, Dawn service – meet in Kidwells Park near the pond

7.15 am, Breakfast in church

8.00 am, Holy Communion and lighting of the paschal candle

10.00 a, Festal Holy Communion

No services 10<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> April

**APCM:** in order to allow more time for the accounts to be finalised and inspected, the PCC has decided to delay the APCM until **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April**, at 11.15 (ish) after the 10 am service.

**Church Electoral Roll:** If you are not on the Electoral Roll, please ensure that you register asap – there are now forms at the back of church for this purpose, a welcomer can find one for you if you fail!. Please return the form directly to the parish office, the PCC secretary or one of the ministers. Anyone wishing to stand for PCC or to vote at the APCM must be on the Electoral Roll. There is a copy of the current Roll on the table at the back of church if anyone wishes to check it. The Roll will close on 9<sup>th</sup> April, and then be published (names only) in church before the APCM.

**Quench pop-up shop:** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm at the Salvation Army, East Road, SL6 1PJ. Advance orders also taken - see [Quench Latest News \(mailcentric.co.uk\)](http://mailcentric.co.uk)

**Coronation Celebrations:** do book Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May in your diaries for a church family bring and share lunch – details to come.

## From the PCC

Key issues discussed at the most recent PCC meeting include:

- Our three main charities for 2022 had each received £1300 as the main part of our outward giving: Tear Fund (Ukraine support), A Rocha (Climate support) Brett Foundation (Fuel poverty). Members were asked to consider which three charities we should support this year.
- The laminated notices in pews about how to give to the church were noted.
- The Eco day had been a great success- now for action!
- The Annual Report and Accounts for 2022 were approved and to be sent for inspection
- The number of places vacant for election at the APCM is 9 (including three deanery synod reps)
- Further work is needed on the boiler and spare parts are to be purchased before they become obsolete so that we can keep it going while working on long term plan
- A group will be established to work on the development of the churchyard as a pleasant space
- We have no applications yet for the Director of Music or Children and Family Leader post (this latter may be supported through a scholarship programme ) but two candidates would be interviewed for the assistant Admin post.
- The replacement of the lights with LED lights, funded by J. Raffan's legacy, was approved
- A varied nurture programme was proposed (to start after Easter)
- Safeguarding risk assessments were reviewed.
- Policies reviewed and approved were: Social Media Policy
  - Baptism Policy
  - Recruitment of Ex-offenders Policy
  - Pastoral Ministry Policy
  - Health and Safety Policy
  - Safeguarding Policy.

We have been chosen by the CoOp as a recipient of their **Community Fund** for the coming year. By shopping in the CoOp now 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>

**Music books to a good home...** Lauren Cathro has 11 old books. There is a mixture of symphony music, hymns, dance music. Mendelssohn. All related to the piano. She writes: *They look to have been gifted to my deceased relatives as prizes. My grandmother Cindy and her sisters were very musical.*

*Cindy studied at the guildhall school of music on scholarship. Unfortunately, no one in my family plays piano, and it would be a shame for someone not to get the use of out them.  
Of course I am not looking for any money for them, just hope they can find a good home. I can be contacted on 07972 315 219 if anyone is interested and would like to take a look at them.*

**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. We meet in church.

**Messy Church** continues on the first (usually) Friday, monthly, 4-5pm. Next, 31<sup>st</sup> March, then 28<sup>th</sup> April (not May). Email Revd. Sally 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 20<sup>th</sup> April.

**Thursday Teas** meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 9<sup>th</sup> March.

**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. Both in church and on zoom, 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly. The next is 27<sup>th</sup> April.

**Please note that for all 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=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