



# 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> November, the Feast of Christ the King

We have come to the last Sunday in the church year as we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. This week we have a 10.00am Parish Communion. There will be an activity for children available during the service. All are warmly invited. Our Sundays at Six is a Taize service at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green. If you have not been to a Taize service why not come along to experience the gentle quietness of this simple service with accessible chants, space and silence.

As we approach the busy-ness of Advent all are warmly invited to take a little time out for quiet and space at our Advent Quiet Morning on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. *What are you waiting for?* runs from 9.30 am – 12.30 pm in church with a brief input and then space to read, pray, snooze, reflect and be more ready to face the coming season. Sign up in church or just come along. Anyone who wishes to join Morning Prayer in person on church at 9am is welcome to do so.

### The Collect

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended  
to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things  
as Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order  
to worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Post Communion

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing forth  
the fruit of good works,  
may by you be plenteously rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### First Reading

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason  
<sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our  
Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to  
know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to  
which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what  
is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great  
power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at  
his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and  
above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all  
things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body,  
the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*Ephesians 1.15-end*

## Gospel Reading

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>31</sup>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

*Matthew 25.31-end*

## Sunday's Hymns:

769 Rejoice, the Lord is King

704 Let all the world, in every corner sing

612 Christ triumphant

811 Thou didst leave thy throne

357 All people that on earth do dwell

## Thought for the week:

Earlier this year we celebrated the coronation of King Charles III. It was a day of great spectacle and pomp. The new king, and his queen were enthroned and wore beautiful gowns and ancient crowns.

As we come today celebrate the kingship of Jesus, the contrast could not be more marked.

Jesus' crown is a crown of thorns. His throne is a wooden cross. The laws he seals are based on acts of love for God and neighbour. His rule is not spatial but spiritual – in the hearts of those who follow him.

Many would say that, despite the privilege of royalty, King Charles models servant leadership on his work. That is most certainly what Jesus did, and calls us to do too.

At this service last year we were invited to use three strands of wool plait a crown for ourselves - to symbolise Jesus' rule in our lives. The three strands symbolised our stewardship of our time, talents and money. No wool this year, but, as we reflect on how Jesus impacts on our lives, we are also each invited to consider what we offer back to him in service, of our time, our abilities, and our money.

You may like to use this prayer:

Thank you Jesus that you are our king and that you welcome us to paradise with you.

Take my time and talents and money to use in your kingdom. Amen



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

- 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 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 Jude Ridley, Levi Patton and Elsie Trillow baptised recently, and for all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in December: Herbie Prater, Lily Edmonds and Arlo Ridley.
- For all those who live and work in Chesnut close.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Jean Jackson, Ken and Lucy Young, Mark Lemon
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Paula Clayton-Nuth, Dorothy (June) Stanley, Val Scott
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in December: John Sheppard, Denis Rayfield, Beryl Jenkins, Evelyn Rose, Roy Horsham, John Norris, Margaret Swanborough, Joan Parker, Dorothy Scott, Penelope Hutchings, Peter Brown, John Dickson, Anne Seagrove, Max Neale, Eileen Pond, David Sawyers, Robert Gardener, Peggy Harris, Colin Bowerman, Robert Gill, Sheila Mayers, Joyce Bryant, Isabella Monk, David Jones, Bernard Bowdery, Patricia Walker, Roy Goff, Jean Judd, David Jesson, Dorothy Chalk, Steven Robinson and Carol Kharas.

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

Sunday	Psalm 29	Ecclesiastes 11 and 12	John 19.13-end
Monday	Psalm 96	Isaiah 14.3-20	Mathew 9.18-34
Tuesday	Psalm 97	Isaiah 17	Matthew 9.35-10.15
Wednesday	Psalm 112	Isaiah 19	Matthew 10.16-33
Thursday	Psalm 47	Ezekiel 47.1-12	John 12.20-32
Friday	Psalm 139	Isaiah 22.1-14	Matthew 11.2-19
Saturday	Psalm 145	Isaiah 24	Matthew 11.20-end

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

#### **Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> December: All Age Holy Communion for Advent Sunday**

Read: Rachel Beaumont

Intercede: Preacher

Welcomers: Clare, Kim and Jeanette

Coffee: Helen and Carl

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

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

**Colette and Howard Baxter**

*In celebration of our special wedding anniversary*



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)

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 26th	10.00am, Parish Communion 6.00pm, Sundays at Six, Taize Service, Church of the Good Shepherd
Tuesday 28th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 2.30pm, Funeral of Penelope Bide
Wednesday 29th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion
Thursday 30th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on Zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler Group 7.45pm, Carol Service Rehearsal, choir
Friday 1st	8.30am, Morning Prayer on zoom 11.00am, Holy Communion Swift House 4.00pm, Messy Church
Saturday 2nd	9.00am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30-12.30, Quiet morning in Church
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am, All Age Holy Communion, Advent Sunday

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

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

## Coming up..

**Messy Church** our next Messy church is on 1<sup>st</sup> December. £2 per child. All welcome. Do email the office at [admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto: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 Messy Church in 2024 are as follows: 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1<sup>st</sup> March, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 7<sup>th</sup> June, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 29<sup>th</sup> November

**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.

The course will start on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Please speak to Revd. Sally if you think you would like to join the course.

**2nd Dec**      **Quiet morning,** What are you waiting for?  
9.30 – 12.30 in church, led by Revd. Sally. See start of sheet

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

The order of service can be found here (or download the daily prayer app):  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/daily-prayer/night-prayer-compline>





# 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](http://actionfraud.police.uk)

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

[oxford.anglican.org/stop-fraud](http://oxford.anglican.org/stop-fraud)

## Christmas POP UP SHOP



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

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

[www.quenchshops.com](http://www.quenchshops.com)

## Diocesan Bible study courses



The next group will be looking at Opening up the Bible. Our aim is to start people on the journey of making the most of biblical scholarship in an easy-to-relate-to and approachable way.

The pre-registration page (deadline 8 December) has all the information required. Please do consider being part of the group.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/study-group-opening-up-the-bible-tickets-758958905517>

## Advent and Christmas at St. Luke's Church

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

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

### Christmas Tree Festival 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> December

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>: Set up day, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>: Schools Day, **5pm Evening Prayer in church, all welcome**

#### *Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December*

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

#### *Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December*

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

#### *Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December*

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

6.00 pm 'Christmas Tree' Service

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December

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

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

3.00 pm, **Keeping Company**

Tea, cake and reflection for those bereaved at any time

### Christmas Eve, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December

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

10.00 pm '**Midnight Mass**'

### Christmas Day, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> 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 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 1<sup>st</sup> December e-mail [admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto: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 21<sup>st</sup> December

**Thursday Teas** meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 14<sup>th</sup> 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. 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly. Next is 26<sup>th</sup> January

**Please note that for all 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

**Zoom Evening Prayer** at 5pm on Fridays (except first Friday)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85378796960?pwd=dUNTnRZVFJBY2xiS3QyVHIYZ1BaZz09> Meeting ID:

853 7879 6960                      Passcode: 386635