



# 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: 29th October, Bible Sunday

This week we have a 10.00am Parish Communion. All are warmly invited to worship. There will be an activity for children during the service.

### The Collect

Blessed Lord,  
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written  
for our learning:  
help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn  
and inwardly digest them that, through  
patience, and the comfort of your holy word,  
we may embrace and for ever hold fast  
the hope of everlasting life,  
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus  
Christ, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Post Communion

God of all grace,  
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry  
with the bread of his life  
and the word of his kingdom:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your true and living bread;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever

### First Reading

<sup>12</sup>As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. *Col.3. 12-17*

### Gospel Reading

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>30</sup>'The sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup>And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

<sup>32</sup>'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>33</sup>So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>34</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>35</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.' *Matthew 24.30-35*

### **Sunday's Hymns:**

390 Thanks to God, whose word was spoken  
388 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you  
421 All for Jesus

screen God's Spirit is in my heart  
666 I cannot tell

### **Thought for the week:**

Today is Bible Sunday.

I wonder if we sometimes view the Bible today as a bit like a maker's hand book. When you buy a new washing machine, or microwave or other electrical gadget you used to get a (huge) book with it – telling you how to get the best out of it – what to do and what not to do to make it work well. Now you have to look at a guide online. Isn't the Bible a bit like that? Through the vast variety of literature in it, guiding us about how to get the best out of life – how to live the right way, how to follow and to trust in Jesus, the Saviour of the world, to live well in the world and in preparation for the next.



That is where the problem sets in for me. I don't know about you, but I'm not very good at reading the instruction manual when I buy a new anything. I learn how to use it by trial and error – fiddling with it and making mistakes. The book is usually too big and I am too lazy to read it, or the language is too complicated. So I make mistakes and might even mess it up.

I guess the same could be said of the Bible. We may be out off reading the bible because it is so huge it looks daunting, or the language is difficult to understand, or it feels out of date. Yet, the Bible is our main line to God. We hear it here in worship, we use it in prayer and it does guide us in life – though we have to interpret it for ourselves, prayerfully and with help from wise church leaders and others.

Jesus read the OT scriptures, he knew them inside out and he knew how they would help him in his daily life. He also knew that he fulfilled them. We are called also to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest God's word that we may have life, as Jesus promises, life in all it's fullness.

Approaching Advent is a good time to think about our Bible reading afresh. What can we start now to do to reinvigorate our own study and reading of the Bible? How can we put it once again at the centre of our lives so that we may allow it to guide us through this life into the next?

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

- 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.
- That we may each play our part in the ministry of our church and care for its building.
- For our care for creation.
- For those who fear the autumn months and dark evenings.
- For Jude Ridley, and Levi Patton baptised recently, and for Elsie Trillow to be baptised on Sunday, 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 Castle Drive.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Alice.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Robert Colin Sloan, Peter Sheppard
- 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.

There are times when we struggle to pray – this time of turmoil in the Middle East may be one for you – this link offers a helpful aid to prayer, at any time: (with thanks to Jeanette Lock)

['When we don't know how to pray'](#)

*Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 29th October 2023:*

Sunday	P119.137-152	Isaiah 59.9-20	Luke 14.1-14
Monday	Psalm 1	Ecclesiasticus 39.1-11	John 17.1-5
Tuesday	Psalm 5	Ecclesiasticus 39.13-end	John 17.6-19
Wednesday	Psalm 15	Isaiah 35	Luke 9.18-27
Thursday	Psalm 15	Ecclesiasticus 43.1-12	John 18.1-11
Friday	Psalm 19	Ecclesiasticus 43.13-end	John 18.12-27
Saturday	Psalm 23	Ecclesiasticus 44.1-15	John 18.28-end

**Rotas for next week:**

**Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> November: All Age Holy Communion, in church and on zoom**

Read: James Ellins

Intercede: Preacher

Welcomers: Clare, Ann and Ben

Coffee: Simone and Season

**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](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 29th	10.00am, Parish Communion
	12.00pm, Baptism of Elsie Trillow
Tuesday 31st	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
Wednesday 1st	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
<i>All Saints Day</i>	10.00am, Holy Communion
	8pm, Bible Study group, in Church, then 9 pm, Compline

Thursday 2nd 8.30am, Morning Prayer, on Zoom  
 9.30am, Baby and Toddler Group  
 Friday 3rd 8.30am, Morning Prayer on zoom  
 4.00pm, Messy Church  
 Saturday 4th 9.00am, Moring prayer on zoom  
 Sunday 5th 10.00am, All Age Holy Communion  
 4.00pm, Memorial Service, in Church

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

5 <sup>th</sup> November <b>NB: 4 pm:</b>	Memorial services, in church, at St. Luke's, and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
5 <sup>th</sup> November At 6pm	All Souls Eucharist at All Saints
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Service of Wholeness and Healing At All Saints
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 3<sup>rd</sup> November. £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). Dates for following Messy Church sessions are, 1<sup>st</sup> December.

## And Looking Ahead...

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

**Growing in Faith:** our journey exploring Matthew's gospel continues – an informal time of looking at the gospel together and wondering how it might speak to us today / Going Deeper – a small group reflecting on using the Bible imaginatively.

First and third Wednesdays, 8pm, last two this year: 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November, in church.

**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 and be able to come along to a training session on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in church. The session will start with a shared meal, as all Alpha sessions do and last no more than 2 hours. Please let Revd. Sally know if you have particular dietary needs.

**5th Nov Memorial service** 4pm in church to remember all those whom we have loved and lost. Everyone is invited to this service to remember, reflect and light candles. If you would like the name(s) of loved one(s) read out please check and add to the list at the back of church.

- 12<sup>th</sup> Nov**      **Remembrance Sunday.** NB our Word service that day will start at 10.30 am, with an 8 am service of Holy Communion.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Nov**      **Mitzvah day** join friends from faiths across town for practical community service activities at the synagogue. Those who would like to join in will go together after our 10 am service. see below for details. **Please sign up in church or email Revd. Sally if you would like to join in.**
- 2nd Dec**      **Quiet morning,** 9.30 – 12.30 in church, led by Revd. Sally

The co-ordinator of Mitzvah Day, Alexandra, writes this...

***Mitzvah Day** is the UK's largest faith-led day of social action, with 55,000 volunteers worldwide. At Maidenhead, we will have a range of activities (10-12), and we do a variety of things. Some will be outdoors - we want to get the compost up and running, and we're organising a litter pick as well. We always do a cooking activity for the Brett Foundation and Foodshare, and that tends to run into the afternoon. I'm also hoping that a local knitting group, Knit Your Socks Off will be joining us, and they always have a local project for charity to which we contribute. There are card-making activities and we also visit the care home next door, Herewards House.*

*We are also 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>.*

*Please ensure that anyone who might wish to do something outside on the day is dressed for the weather. People are welcome to join whatever activity they like. Due to security measures at the synagogue, I'll need names of people attending, number plates of all cars coming to the synagogue (and who is in each vehicle) at least by 9:45am on Sunday 19 November. Thank you for your understanding.*

*So looking forward to seeing you on Mitzvah Day!*

### **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> December (set up day Weds 6<sup>th</sup>)**

Forms are now available (with further details) for those who would like to sponsor and decorate a tree. Please speak to Revd. Sally for further details or pick up a form and letter from the back of church.

#### **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

## **Everywhere is Heaven:** Malcolm Guite, Christopher Southgate, Roger Wagner

A poetry reading to open 'Everywhere is Heaven: Stanley Spencer/Roger Wagner', an exhibition at the Stanley Spencer Gallery in Cookham

Sat, 18 Nov 2023 02:00

Holy Trinity Church Ferry Lane Cookham SL6 9SP

Tickets £10

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/everywhere-is-heaven-malcolm-guite-christopher-southgate-roger-wagner-tickets-731127300437?aff=oddtcreator>

## **Our sponsored charities**

Embrace the Middle East, one of the charities St Luke's is supporting this year, has on its website four very enlightening webinars, "Conversations with Middle East Christians" about the daily lives of people in Palestine-Israel, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt, and the work being done there by Christian organisations. There is also a recording of the Annual Lecture, which was given by Archbishop Justin Welby on Reconciliation in the Middle East, with a contribution from a Palestinian activist. The links are:

<https://embraceme.org/conversations-with-middle-east-christians-course-material>

<https://embraceme.org/annual-lecture-23>

## **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 3<sup>rd</sup> November 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 19<sup>th</sup> October

**Thursday Teas** meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 12<sup>th</sup> October

**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> October

**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) **NB: new link**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85378796960?pwd=dUNTTnRZVFJBY2xiS3QyVHlYz1BaZz09>

Meeting ID: 853 7879 6960                      Passcode: 386635

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CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOPS

*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)