



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week commencing: 2nd April, Palm Sunday

Our main service this Sunday is **an All Age Holy Communion** at 10 am, which is both in- person and zoomed. We will be following the story of Jesus' passion using a child friendly version. Those of us who are able bodied will **process** from the vicarage into church with our palm crosses - do go to church first to collect books etc.

At 6pm, we are invited to the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green, for a **Taize service** – this is in-person only.

As we move into Holy Week, everyone is warmly invited to join in our daily zoomed **Morning Prayer**. Details of the Holy Week services are later in this news sheet.

The **church will be open** for private prayer and quiet between 7.30 pm and 9 pm Monday – Thursday and anyone is welcome to drop in.

On **Maundy Thursday**, at our service of Holy Communion, we will be offering hand or foot washing for any who wish for this. You may prefer to bring your own hand towel for this service. we will also be offering the chalice for any who wish to receive from it – alongside the usual intincted wafers. Following the service, we are invited to keep watch in church until 11.45 when Compline will be said, and the church locked at midnight. You are welcome to come and go for the Watch, but please do not leave the service until the reading of the Gospel of the Watch is completed. There are Bible readings that can be read and meditated upon during the Watch and these are attached with this weekly sheet.

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example
of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
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 humbled yourself
in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross
for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.

Readings for Sunday

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2.5-11*

The Palm Gospel

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' ⁴This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵ 'Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,
'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' ¹¹The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

Matthew 21. 1-10

The full passion story may be read in Matthew 26.14 – 27.66

Hymns for Sunday

Procession	We have a king who rides on a donkey	160	Make way
159	All glory, laud and honour (omit v 6, 7)		
143	Here is love, vast as the ocean		
811	Thou didst leave thy throne and kingly crown		
161	Ride on, ride on, in majesty		

Thought for the week

We have had some groups of school children into church in the last couple of weeks, all exploring the story of Holy week and Easter. Using the technique, 'I wonder...' they have been encouraged to reflect and to ask questions. Some were very deep.

Thinking about Jesus' suffering, one boy asked, 'did it hurt Jesus, or did he get used to it?'

What a fabulous question from a nine year old!

We cant know for sure, but if Jesus was fully human (as well as fully God) then surely he felt every lash of the whip, every jeer, every slap, the point of each thorn as it pierced his scalp; and every heaving breath on the cross will have been truly agony.

So why did he do it?

Why go through with what he could have escaped? He was, after all, also fully God.

Quite simply out of love.

It was love for each one of us that kept Jesus going through the agony of the cross and the 'terrible kiss of the nails'.

How many of us have wanted to take the place of a suffering loved one – out of our sheer love for them?

That is why Jesus suffered and died – he didn't get used to it but he endured it out of love for us, his beloved. We know the ending that his friends at the time did not – he rose again to open to us the absolute heart of God's love, for all eternity.

So, as we journey through another holy week, have we 'got used to it'? Has the keeping it, the rituals and readings, become old hat and so familiar that they wash over us?

We might do well to look on this Holy Week afresh with the eyes of a child and ask deep questions, and, most importantly, allow ourselves to be bathed in Jesus' gracious, wholly self-offered, love.



Prayer suggestions for this week:

- That we may enter fully into the keeping of Holy Week.
- For our church leaders at this time.
- 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 April: Abigail and Jazmin Porro and the forthcoming baptisms of Smita Bora and Iris and Albert Bithell
- 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, Bridget Morris
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Nicholas Clutterbuck, Mike Lynch
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in April: Peter Brown, Philip Agnew, David Sherwood, Elsie Taplion, Josephine Aldridge, Myra Ford, Peter Petter, Leonard Reynolds, Paul Hill, Joan Carpenter, Muriel (Betty) Smith, Irene Weller, John Henry, Penelope Lawrence, Fiona Nunn, John Quinn, Lesley Griffiths, Doreen Headington, John Rogers, Vivienne Sewell, Roy Howton, Helen Poynter, Alma Rookie, Roger Bevitt, Diana Philps, Elsie Cummings, Pamela Neville, Bertha Selby, Dorothy Main, Philip Davies, Alan Coombs, Keith Morris, Ernie Thomas, Brenda Clark, Brian Pitts, Patricia Lovering, Brian Beard, Rita Redhead, Maureen Williams, Reginald Jacobs, Francis (Frank) Hepburn, Alice Smith, George Hayward, John McLean,

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 2nd April 2023:

Sunday	Psalm 61	Luke 16.19-to end	
Monday	Psalm 41	Lamentations 1.1-12a	Luke 22.1-23
Tuesday	Psalm 27	Lamentations 3.1-18	Luke 22.39-53
Wednesday	Psalm 102	Jeremiah 18.20	Luke 22.54- to end
Thursday	Psalms 42,43	Leviticus 16.2-24	Luke 23.1-25
Friday	Psalm 69	Genesis 22.1-18	Hebrews 10.1-10
Saturday	Psalm 142	Hosea 6.1-6	John 2.18-22

Rotas for next week:

Sunday 9th April, Easter Sunday in church and on zoom

Read: James Ellins

No intercessions

Welcomers: Clare, Kim and Lisa

Coffee: Sally and Jeanette

Our church is floodlit at night.

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by: Jill Bevitt

*In memory of Roger, "love is a many splendid thing"
from Jilly B*



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

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:

Holy Week and Easter at St. Luke's

Palm Sunday, 2nd 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 3rd April

Church open for quiet, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

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

Tuesday 4th April

Church open for quiet, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

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

Wednesday 5th 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, 6th 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, 7th 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, 8th April

From 9.30 am, decorate for Easter

4.00 pm, All Age Easter Egg Hunt and service

Easter Day, 9th 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 10th -15th April

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

2 nd April	Taizé service, in church Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green (Palm Sunday)
23 rd 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..

Messy Church our next Messy church is on Friday 28th April when we will be thinking about Messy miracles – Jesus calms a storm. 4pm. £2 per child. All welcome. Do email the office at admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk to book places (so we know how many to cater for).

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) 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 1st 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.

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 30th 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 9th April, and then be published (names only) in church before the APCM.**

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

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>

Thames Valley Police Race Action Plan: Below is a link for Thames Valley Police race action plan on the public TVP website. The link on the site is for anonymous feedback, which we would appreciate being submitted. <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/au/about-us/our-commitment/our-race-action-plan/>

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, 4-5pm. Next, 28th April and then 2nd June e-mail 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 20th April.

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 13th April..

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, 4th Thursdays monthly. The next is 27th April.

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/88677688468?pwd=WnF3aEQ2dTdLYjB1dDEvQ2YwcTJJZ09>

Meeting ID: 886 7768 8468

Passcode: 132142