

St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Weeks Commencing: 4th August, Trinity 10 and 11th August, Trinity 11

Our Arts Project: **More than Sparrows**, runs later this month – don't forget to sign up to come along and join in. If you can help in any way please email Revd. Sally asap.

We welcome friends from the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green, joining us while the centre is closed over August.

4th August

This week we have an All Age Holy Communion with activity available for children. All are warmly invited to worship.

The Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel Reading

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were at the place where Jesus had given the bread, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?'

²⁶Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' ²⁸Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' ²⁹Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' ³⁰So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?' ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ³²Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' ³⁴They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' ³⁵Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

John 6.24-35

Sunday's Hymns

712 Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us
433 Broken for me, broken for you
Screen I am the bread of life
Screen Jesus put this song into our hearts

11th August

This week we have an 8.00am Holy Communion and a 10.00am Parish Communion. All are warmly invited to worship. There will be an activity available for children during the latter service.

The Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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

Lord of all mercy
we your faithful people have celebrated
that one true sacrifice
which takes away our sins
and brings pardon and peace:
by our communion keep us
firm on the foundation of the gospel
and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

²⁵Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 4.25-5.2

Gospel Reading

³⁵Jesus said to the crowd, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' ⁴²They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' ⁴³Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the

wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.' *John 6.35, 41-51*

Sunday's Hymns

4 New every morning is the love
725 Make me a channel of your peace
445 God is here
566 Put peace into each others' hand
812 Through all the changing scenes of life



Thought for the weeks...

You can't beat a sandwich – it is the British staple – it is good wholesome comfort food. Unless we are allergic in some way, we really need bread to keep us going.

Jesus reminds his followers of that when he comes out with that most remarkable statement in the gospel reading: I am the bread of life, he says. Those listening know that people need bread to live. The Hebrew for bread, *lehem*, literally means food – the means of life. But Jesus takes it further – beyond the literal - by saying that in fact actual bread / food is not enough. People need Jesus himself in order to live for eternity and to have the fullness of life that he promises a little later in the gospel. He deliberately plays on the literal meaning: I am the bread of life – whoever comes to me will never be hungry and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Some of those who hear are both confused and offended. They know this man. He is a tradesman – the son of Joseph and Mary. They have seen him grow up and are not happy with the claims he is making – how can he have come down from heaven? He is a pretender, making huge claims for himself. He is just a man, and an offensive one at that. Cannibalism was against the law and distasteful. He was talking rubbish.

But Jesus explained to them that he was talking on a different level to their understanding. They knew that they needed bread to live, everyone did. But everyone also died ultimately – look at their ancestors who had eaten the special heavenly bread during the wilderness wanderings – the Manna. They had still died. What Jesus was now talking about was eternal life – life for ever with God, a resurrection once this earthly life was over – starting in this life. I imagine this must have been confusing for his hearers then but of course we have the whole picture and we know that Jesus died to offer his body in order that people might have eternal life.

So in our lives we need Jesus himself, as well as ordinary food and better than any sandwich!

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For rest and re-creation for all on holiday over the summer and for our schools, staff and children, for safety and refreshment.
- For our Summer Holiday Arts Project: for enough helpers and for people to join in... and know of God's love through the project.
- 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.
- For the King and the Princess of Wales as they are treated for cancer
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For a new church music leader.

What's on for the following two weeks:

Sunday 4th	10.00am, All Age Holy Communion	
Tuesday 6 th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom	
Wednesday 7th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion	
Thursday 8th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on Zoom 2.00pm, Thursday Teas	<i>(office closed 8th and 9th August)</i>
Friday 9 th	8.30am, Morning Prayer on zoom	
Saturday 10th	9.00am, Morning prayer on zoom	
Sunday 11th	8.00am, Holy Communion 10.00am, Parish Communion	
Tuesday 13 th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom	
Wednesday 14th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion 11.00am-2.15pm, Spacemakers, in Church, see below for details	
Thursday 15th	8.30am, Morning Prayer, on Zoom 3.00pm, Keeping Company	
Friday 16th	8.30am, Morning Prayer on zoom	
Saturday 17th	9.00am, Morning prayer on zoom	
Sunday 18 th	10.00am, Parish Communion	

Evening prayer: please note that there will now be no Evening Prayer on Fridays until September.

Hospitality fund

it is really good to welcome people to fellowship through coffee and other refreshments at church. We don't charge for this but clearly we do have to cover the cost of refreshments. If you would like to make an occasional contribution to the hospitality fund you will find a box on the table at the back of church, or use the card machine or bacs, with the reference: Hospitality. You might even like to bring in the occasional packet of biscuits and leave at the servery! Thank you.

Coming up...

Garden party, Saturday 7th September. As is usual, it would be great to have offers of cakes made for the event – please let Sally Somerville know if you can make a cake. We will also need teams of helpers:

- On Friday 6th from 6pm to help erect gazebos in the vicarage garden
- On Saturday from 10 am to help make sandwiches.

Thank you!

Messy Church our Messy church dates are as follows: 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, 29th November

Spacemakers, opportunity for reflection: Wednesday 14th August, 11 am – 2.15pm (including lunch). The Revd. Charlie Kerr from the Diocese will be leading a session on Spacemakers, a programme used in schools and churches to aid reflection and offer space. Everyone is invited to come along and take part either for your own benefit or to be able to lead these sessions with others. A light lunch will be provided. Free! Please sign up in church.

More than sparrows, 20th - 24th August.

This all age Arts Project will be a great chance to welcome in the community and share together. We will have crafts for all ages to do together, as well as games, snack time and quiet reflection. If you are able to offer any time to help, or have craft skills to share, please email Revd. Sally or sign up in church. Booking forms are now available to sign up to take part – attached to this weeks email, on the church website and hard copy in church. Please return booking forms to the church office.

Items needed for Arts Project:

Please leave in the box at the back of church, marked MORE THAN SPARROWS, any of the following that you can donate:

Lego (not duplo) material ribbons wool Board games (named if on loan)

Looking further ahead:

Save the dates....

Saturday 7th September: Garden Party (3pm, tickets £15 pp, to include a glass of prosecco, available now from the parish office or after services)

Friday 13th/ Sat 14th September: Heritage weekend

Friday 18th October, 7.30 pm, A Time to Mourn, A Time to Dance, Dance production, here

Sunday 22nd September, 1pm: the Johanna Raffan Memorial Lecture.

Sunday 7th October: Church Harvest Festival and lunch for all

The Bishop of Reading, Bishop Olivia, is retiring at the end of September. We have a card and small gift for her from this parish. Everyone is warmly invited to her farewell service on Sunday 29th September, at 3pm in Reading Minster. We will put out a list soon for folk to sign up so that we can let the Minster know numbers and arrange shared cars.

Windsor Pantomime Trip: Ann Burdett is again organizing a trip to the Theatre Royal Windsor to see Dick Whittington on Sunday 5th January 2025 at 4:30pm. Tickets are £16.00 per person. If you would like to come please ask Richard for a booking slip or call us on 07860 814998.

Working groups: we have four church working groups meeting to support the mission of the church. Every PCC member is on one group and anyone else is warmly invited to join a group if you think you could offer support, advice or just join in.

Eco group: find out more from Revd. Phyl

Churchyard Committee: talk to Simon Bader or Anne Child

Nurture group: Revd Sally leads this group, which will meet on 17th September

Zero Carbon Project Committee (heat and light): find out more from Clare Price

Ride & Stride: This national event happens every year across the country, and is a great way to raise funds for the support of our historic churches.

Any mode of transport is fine – you could walk, cycle, ride: simply choose a route and find lots of sponsorship from all your friends and family

More details will be provided closer to the event from your local co-ordinator (Peter Goford) or from the BHCT Ride & Stride website <http://www.berkschurchestrust.org.uk/ride-and-stride>

At St. Luke's we will combine this with the Heritage Open weekend – see above...

Inspire Magazine: last call...email articles to admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk by 8th August

The Charles Davis Trust: each year this Trust invites applications from residents of the Old Borough of Maidenhead for supermarket vouchers. Residents must be over 70 and have savings which do not exceed £23,250. A poster at the back of church offers more information and application forms are available from Revd. Sally.

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, 4-5.30pm. Next is 6th September 2024
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 15th August

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly, 1.30 pm. Next is 8th August

Thursday Lunches meets fourth Thursday of the month, usually at the Toby Cavery but please contact Jean Tyrwhitt-Drake on 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. 4th Thursdays monthly. Next is 22nd August

St. Luke's Church
Norfolk Road, Maidenhead 

More than sparrows!

An All Age Activity week

Tue. 20th—Sat. 24th August

10 am - 1pm daily, in church

£2 per person per day

For adults and accompanied children of all ages

CRAFTS GAMES SNACK TIME
ECO FUN STORYTELLING

For more details call 01628 622733

Please register at:
admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

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