



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week commencing: 14th August Trinity 9

Our service on Sunday is a Parish Communion service at 10 am, in church and on zoom, with a said service of Holy Communion at 8 am.

The Collect

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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. Amen.

The Post Communion Prayer

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal
with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal
the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language
to share in the eternal banquet
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews

By faith the people of Israel passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets – ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented – ³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. ¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 11. 29 – 12.2

The Gospel reading

Jesus said to his disciples: ⁴⁹I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time? *Luke 12. 49-56*

Sunday's Hymns:

1 Awake, my soul, and with the sun
423 Fight the good fight
605 Through the night of doubt and sorrow

Thought for the week:

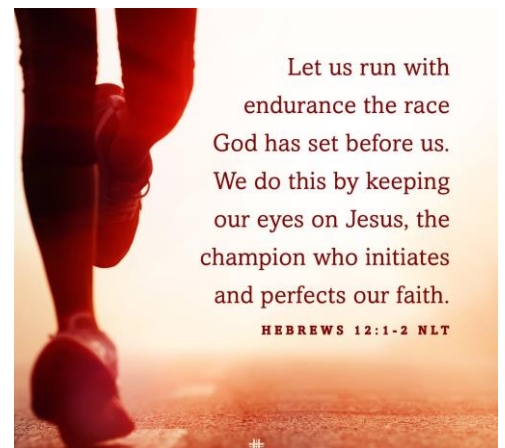
The commonwealth Games, and the European Women's Football tournament, have both demonstrated how important focus is – keeping an eye on the goal (literally in the latter case!) and looking ahead in order to succeed - and to succeed very well, victoriously even. Those who compete in sporting activities know what it is to train hard and to focus fully in order to attain their desired outcome.

The recipients of the letter to the Hebrews would also have been familiar with competitive sport, particularly races. So, the author of the letter chooses a helpful metaphor to describe the Christian life – it can feel like a (marathon) race which is hard going – then and now. But by keeping our focus wholly on Jesus – who is both end goal and accompanying trainer, we can succeed in leading full and purposeful lives.

This is the whole of our lives – Jesus is always leading us further on. As the poet R S Thomas writes, 'He is such a s fast God, always before us, and leaving as we arrive'. We finish the race only when we draw our last breath, but what a race it will have been, if we keep our focus on Jesus.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For the people of Ukraine and Russia, and for the UN. For all world leaders. For peace.
- For our government and the contest for leadership of the Conservative party.
- For children and families over the summer holidays; for our ministry with children and for our plans to appoint a Children and Family Leader.
- For folk to take on the role of vergger and of flower co-ordinator for our church.
For our care for creation and sustainable living, for our work towards becoming and Eco church.
- For the international refugees currently living in Maidenhead and the people who are supporting them
- Romain and Myles, to be baptised today, and for Margot and Mabel to be baptised on 28th.



Tuesday 16th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 Wednesday 17th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 10.00 am, Holy Communion
 Thursday 18th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 12.30 pm, Eco group meeting, with lunch, in church
 3.00 pm, Keeping Company
 7.00 – 9.00 pm, Quiet evening, in church
 Friday 19th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 5.00 pm, Evening Prayer, on zoom
 Saturday 20th 9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 Sunday 21st 10.00 am, Parish Communion, in church and on zoom
 11.30 am, Fabric Committee meeting

Looking ahead...

Garden party, Sunday 4th September, 3pm. Join us in the vicarage garden for a fund raising Garden party to draw the summer to a close. Tickets are now available at £12.50 per adult (and £5 under 14s). Includes a glass of prosecco on arrival. Full tea, raffle and produce stall.

If you have produce (preserves, sweets, craft etc) that you would like to donate to the stall they would be warmly received! Ann Darracott is staffing it.

Ride and Stride: advance notice that this is on Saturday 10th September. Do note the date if you would like to take part. more to come...

Eco Church: anyone interested in making a start at looking at how we can become more of an eco friendly church is warmly invited to an initial meeting in church on **Thursday 18th August** at 12.30 pm - light (eco friendly!) lunch provided. It would help with catering if you could let Revd. Sally know if you plan to be there.

Quiet evening: space for quiet and to think, reflect or read... **Thursday 18th August**, from 7-9pm in the vicarage garden if dry (if wet, church). Short introduction at 7pm (come later if you need to) and Night Prayer at 9pm. All welcome.

The Big Question: the first of a series of discussion groups exploring topical issues from a standpoint of faith. Thursday 25th August, 7.30 pm, in church. Open to all. Why not bring a friend!

The Season of Creation: The Parish Community of St Joseph and St Elizabeth, Maidenhead, would like to invite the Parishioners and Communities of Churches Together In Maidenhead (CTIM) to attend an Ecumenical Service, at St Joseph's Church on Thursday 1st September 2022, to mark the start of this year's Season of Creation. The Service will begin at 2:00 pm and will be followed by a reception in Parish Centre. It is hoped that other Members of CTIM will join in the Readings and Reflection as we "Listen to the Voice of Creation.

Sundays at Six, this Autumn, All Services are at 6.00pm

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFhVlNad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzdz09>

Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400

Passcode: 526076

4 th September	Compline, on zoom, led by St. Luke's
18 th September	Evensong and Benediction, in church at All Saints

2 nd October	Harvest Service, in church and on zoom (TBC) led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
16 th October	Sung Evensong (BCP), in church and on zoom, at St. Luke's
30 th October NB: 4 pm:	Memorial services, in church, at St. Luke's, and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
6 th November	All Souls Eucharist at All Saints
20 th November	Interfaith walk and tea Starts 2pm from St. Luke's, ending around 3pm back at St. Luke's.
4 th December	Taize service, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
11 th December	Christmas Tree Festival Service, at St. Luke's
18 th December	Carol Services at each church at 6.00 pm

And on the 4th Sunday monthly: (except December)

3pm, Deaf Church, at Cox Green 4pm, Sundays at 4, at All Saints 4pm, Café church, at St. Luke's

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. We meet in church. Starts again on 8th September after the summer break.

Messy Church continues on the first (usually) Friday, monthly, 4-5pm. The next is actually the second Friday - 12th August. 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 18th August.

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 11th August.

Gaynor's Gift is a prayer shawl knitting ministry that anyone can take part in at home. We meet together fortnightly to pray, knit and drink tea. Both in church and on zoom, 4th Thursdays monthly. The next is in September.

Sundays at Six A chance to worship with friends from All Saints and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green. We will continue to meet fortnightly, mix of zoom and in-church services. Starts again in September.

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

Sundays at Six:

Use the Sunday morning link

Gaynor's Gift: Prayer Shawl Ministry 3pm, 4th Thursday, monthly

Link for 19th May:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88627244304?pwd=q-AMP0lnkyLAIA_vgbwenjXHzCxyxo.1

Meeting ID: 886 2724 4304

Passcode: 042474