



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead



www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week commencing: 17th May 2020 **Easter 6 / Rogation Sunday**

This week we keep Rogation Sunday and reflect on our care for all of God's creation. I hope that you have all had a good week as restrictions have lifted a little and we are able to see some light at the end of the tunnel. We know, of course, that Jesus is the light of the world and is not apart from us, at the end of anywhere, but very much in this mess of life with us, and gives us the strength to keep going. Let's keep trusting him for our deliverance.

What we also now know is that the very earliest that we might be able to open up churches in some way is 4th July. Although this is disappointing, at least we have some time line to work to – and in the meantime the ministry team here will continue to offer a variety of worship and other opportunities to worship and support our faith.

Last week I wrote that, having started to 'do things differently', we will need to reflect on how that will impact on what we offer in the future. Do keep praying about how we can best 'be church' as God's people gathered here.

This week's worship offering from St. Luke's includes a recorded Word service for Sunday based on Rogationtide (nature, order of service attached) and also Zoom Morning Prayer, live worship at 9 am Tuesday through to Sunday. You will also find a video story for children on our website, as Ruth tells a story about Jesus and nature.

This coming Thursday is Ascension Day when we would normally have an evening service together. There will be a live Zoom service of the Word at 7.15 pm on Ascension Day, the order of service will be available in advance (in the mid-week mailing) for anyone who wishes to follow it at a different time or offline.

As ever, all orders of service and recordings can be found on our website, along with many other resources. To access the service, and all our recorded worship, go onto

our website and click on the right-hand side for 'recordings of Sunday worship', and 'order of services'. The hymns, readings and collect for this week are in the order of service.

A reminder that you can now join Zoom Morning Prayer on Sunday at 9am, as well as Tuesday to Saturday. This updated link works for all days:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77299700733?pwd=K01jTkdCZmh2WERXTldwSExsVnRZZz09>

And the order of service for Eastertide can be found on our website, or via the Daily Prayer App (<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/daily-prayer>) or on the Church of England website (<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/morning-prayer-contemporary-sunday-3-may-2020>).

Or just ask me to drop you off a hard copy!!

The Apps and website put in all the relevant readings and prayers so all you have to do is log on. 😊 I am still thinking about what we will do when we move to daily orders of service after Ascension Day!

Readings for this week are: (including Monday if you are doing it at home)

Monday	Psalm 65	Numbers 16.1-35	Luke 6.27-38
Tuesday	Psalm 126	Numbers 16.36-end	Luke 6. 39-end
Wednesday	Psalm 132	Numbers 17.1-11	Luke 7. 1-10
Thursday (Ascension Day)	Psalm 150	Isaiah 52. 7-end	Hebrew 7. 26-end
Friday	Psalm 81	Exodus 35. 30-36.1	Galatians 5. 13-end
Saturday	Psalm 47	Num. 11. 16-17, 24-29	1 Corinthians 2
Sunday	Psalm 104. 26-35	Revelation 2.1-8	

Lighting candles and prayers: As we are unable to access the church building, I have a candle tray and prayer basket in the vicarage. Do email me or call if you'd like me to light a candle for you or anyone you know, or add any prayer to the prayer basket. Some of these prayers are read at Morning Prayer and some by myself daily.

Virtual worship and other activities coming up: everyone is welcome to join in any of these activities:

- Calendared **Bible study** 4 week series, Thursdays in May, just after 8 pm, on Zoom. All welcome. Have a Bible in front of you for our study of Paul's letter to the Philippians. Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88495847133?pwd=eXEwVktCcGZqdDI3YXNiOFRRMldrUT09>

As this week is Ascension day we miss this week out and add a session on 4th June.

- The next virtual **Messy Church** is on Friday 5th June at 4pm. This link will get you in. If you'd like a craft pack please let me know.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82228649607?pwd=WnBNb0wrWEZPSGNpNIVFdzRySDITQT09>

- And we are thinking about how we might manage a virtual **Summer Fair** on Saturday 13th June – ideas to me please!!

Prayer suggestions for this week:

See also our Facebook page for daily prayer intentions

- For our government and bishops, making difficult decisions about the current situation
 - For those who are very sick in hospital, and for those who have died
 - For the most vulnerable in our society and for those in isolation
 - For all NHS and medical staff, Police and Armed service personnel
 - For Dr. Harriett Burdett, Hannah Hirst (paramedic, TV Air Ambulance), Eleanor Kershaw (frontline nursing), Phyl Sopp (nurse practitioner), Dr Chris Moulton
 - For all in prison, finding life very tough with all visiting stopped
 - For staff and patients at Huntercombe Clinic
 - For all the volunteer counsellors at Number 22 and Youth Talk, supporting people in difficult times
 - For Adam Went as he oversees care homes now under huge pressure
 - For all Funeral Directors and arrangers, under huge pressure, and for families unable to attend funerals.
 - For our schools as children learn at home and teachers under pressure teaching online, and parents / grandparents home schooling, and for staff as schools prepare to return in places
 - Those whose anniversary of baptism fall in May: Elise Rutland, Harry Portsmouth, Daisy Stevens, Travis Romero, and for Jesse and Florence, who were due to be baptised today, and their families, and godparents
 - For all those who live and work in College Glen
 - The sick and those who care for them: Stephen Sands, John Francis, Tony Lucas, Monica Olley, and Susan Smith
 - Those who died recently, and those who mourn them: Reginald Jacobs, Maureen Williams, Jack Hepburn, Alice Smith, George Hayward, Brian Webb, and John Mclean
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- Those whose anniversary of death falls in May: Bernard Kellerman, John Wells, Geoffrey Thrift, William Mayers, Helen Bailey, Kathleen Heskith, Gerald Gunner, John Crampin, Ronald Birch, Geoffrey Hutson, Michael Poynter, Terence Comley, Glyn Jackson, Alicia Teare, Patricia Kealey, Robert Ashby, Priscilla Evans, David Trinkwon, Edwina Richardson and Ivy Trillow

The church is still floodlit at night.

This week the floodlighting has been sponsored by

*Ann Hockham,
in thanksgiving for the NHS and carers*



To sponsor the floodlighting just call or email Revd. Sally

Diocesan worship continues to be offered via the usual link and Facebook and website. **It is also available to people dialling in by phone as well.**

- The number to dial each week is 01865 920930
- press zero for the short service and 1 for the full Church at Home service
- it takes a few seconds to retrieve the recording then the service will start.

This Sunday:

17 May 10am - Church at Home: watch online or dial in

Revd Canon Sue Booyes presides at our 10am Church at Home service this Sunday and we shall hear a reflection from the Very Revd Professor Martyn Percy in the Deanery at Christ Church. The order of service will be available on the website on Friday and the viewing link is emailed to all subscribers each Sunday morning. Parishioners unable to access the internet can dial 01865 920930 to hear the service.

[\(https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/\)](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/)

There will also be a **diocesan Eucharist at 8.15 pm on Ascension Day**. Details from the diocesan website.

You may also like to follow **Bishop Steven's podcast: Reflections for a church in lockdown**, available from the diocesan website, or: <https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/>

Roots at home this week:

www.rootsontheweb.com/adultsathome17may for adults

and

www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome17may for families

For more worship options see our website.

Please do email me links to anything that you are finding really helpful so that we can share that with others.

This week's suggestion: **Kids Blessing / the UK Blessing**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uiWZXLsdE9w> and

<https://www.google.com/search?q=the+uk+blessing&oq=the+UK+blessing&aqs=chrome.0.35i39j0l7.4464j0j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

This week's news and information

A reminder that the **church is still closed completely.**

Do email prayer requests to: sally514@btinternet.com

Or requests for books, DVDs and CDs

You should know who your **contactor** is. If you don't have one do also make contact and we will set you up with someone.

Thy Kingdom Come – prayer for our nation.

As usual, our Archbishops are calling us to pray for our nation during the ten days between Ascension Day and Pentecost (21st – 31st May). You might like to look at the TKC website to find out more: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

Joan, Jeremy and myself have agreed that we will work together as three churches to pray for 12 hours continuously on one day as our response to Thy Kingdom Come. So... on **Saturday 30th May** we are committing our churches to pray from 8 am – 8pm, with individuals (or families) offering to pray in 30 minute or one hour slots (starting on the hour and half hour) in whatever way suits them, at home. We aim to cover the whole time and it may be that there are six people praying at any one time, or one, across our three churches. We can offer prayer booklets if that would help, but just being quiet with God is also good.

We will start with a very short Zoom prayer at 8 am for anyone who wishes to join, and end with Zoom Compline / Night Prayer at 8pm.

Please do consider joining in and encouraging others to do so too. Clearly we can't have the ubiquitous sign up sheet, **so please do email me with the time slot(s) that you would be willing to cover** – or even better, if you could offer any time so that we can slot you in where needed. We will then get the list of who is praying when out nearer the time. thank you to those who have already offered – we'd love more. If you have never done this before, why not give it a go!

Generous Giving: if you usually give to the work of the church through your bank, this is unaffected. If you give by cash or envelopes, we suggest that you put this aside somewhere safe and bring to church when we meet again. If you would like to start giving by direct debit please contact our treasurer: richard@arembec.com

You may also wish to give online / by bacs and Richard has kindly updated the details to allow for this. There are details on our website.

The PCC has pledged that we will continue to pay our parish share so that we can fully support the whole ministry and mission of God's church in this diocese.

Thank you to everyone who is keeping giving.

Foodshare: please don't forget to give what you can to Foodshare – there is great need at the moment. Sadly, we can no longer collect in church but do use a local collection point, or the supermarkets. If you are stuck for where to donate you can always call me and I will collect from you. Sally. I am also attaching a list of possible drop off points across town.

Faculty application: We have been kindly offered a gift of new legillum hangings in memory of May Reeve and to match the nave altar frontals. I draw your attention to the faculty application for these on the website (Under About us / Our Church Building). A copy is also on the main church noticeboard. The closing date for comments is 17th May.

Week of accompanied prayer Joan, Jeremy and I feel that, sadly, we need to postpone this exiting opportunity until 2021 to allow us time to plan fully.

Inspire : Louisa is now ready to work on a lock-down edition of Inspire. Please do send articles to: stlukes.inspire@gmail.com. You may like to write about how you kept VE day, what has kept you sane in lockdown, how you see the church of the future...

Your news

Please email news of what you are up to at home to Revd. Sally so that we can share it!

Ann Hockham wishes to thank people for their good wishes for her recent birthday, which was very, very happy.

Gill Boaks reports that Bourne End Garden Centre is open and has both bedding plants and flour! Also that Davies Brothers Nursery is open and making deliveries.

Don't forget the knitting ideas on last weeks sheet (on the website) for sheep and hearts.

Ruth Sheppard has kindly offered to make a **face mask** for anyone who is unable to access on e- speak to Revd. Sally in the first instance.

Further information about online worship opportunities and local help information can be found on our website (under latest news).

If you know of someone who would like to receive this update and does not have access to the internet, please do print a copy for them.

Likewise, if you know of anyone who would like to receive this by email, please ask them to email me (not the office for now) to be added to the mailing list.

Please do keep us up to date with both how you and your family are faring at this time, and with your own health. You can call or email Revd. Sally or your contactor at any (reasonable!) time. Please note that the church office is now completely closed and all communication should be to the vicarage telephone and my email.

Vicar: The Reverend Sally Lynch (01628) 783033; Vicarage: 26 Norfolk Road, SL6 7AX