



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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**Week commencing: 28th May 2023,
The Feast of Pentecost**

As we celebrate Pentecost, our service this Sunday is a Parish Communion at 10 am, to which all are warmly invited, in church and on Zoom. There is also an in-person Sundays at Six at All Saints.

The Collect

God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

Faithful God,
who fulfilled the promises of Easter
by sending us your Holy Spirit
and opening to every race and nation
the way of life eternal:
open our lips by your Spirit,
that every tongue may tell of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Sunday

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' ¹³But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷"In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Acts 2. 1.21

The Gospel reading

¹⁹It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

John 20. 19-23

Hymns for Sunday

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 589 | Angel voices ever singing |
| 389 | Spirit of God, unseen as the wind |
| 238 (i) | Come down, O love divine |
| 259 | She sits like a bird |
| 507 | We have a gospel to proclaim |

Thought for the week

How many of us who are parents here sat watching our newborn babies, checking that they are breathing? – however many years ago? I think it is instinct to check and watch with awe as our little ones breathe in and out – a beautiful and simple sign of life.

Breathing is second nature to us. It is what we do to stay alive. And it is the perfect metaphor to help us understand the Holy Spirit - whose fullest revelation we celebrate on Sunday. Breathing is just what Jesus does in the gospel reading as the risen Jesus, preparing to take his final leave of his disciples commissions them – sends them out to continue his work in the world – and breathes on them to impart the Holy Spirit.

It is a simple, beautiful account in John's gospel of the imparting of the Spirit. And quite different to the chaotic and lively account in Acts.

We need both to make sense of God's Spirit.

In our own lives our breath is close to us, totally intimate, and yet not quite under our control, stirring us inwardly to fullness of life and being. The people of Jesus' land also knew another *ruach* (the Hebrew word for Spirit) – the storm wind that gusted down the Palestinian hills and bringing powerful destruction in its wake, or, if harnessed, being used for energy today.

The two accounts that we have of Pentecost remind us that God breathes in and through each of our lives, enlivening us, empowering us to do everyday things and amazing things – all for his glory and to build up his kingdom.



Why not spend some time focusing on your own breathing, and as you do so allow God's Spirit to re-enliven you and in prayer ask how he will move you to serve him. You may be surprised what he will breathe into your life.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- That we may be empowered by God's Spirit to serve Him in the world.
- For our mission as a church and for our new PCC and officers.
- For rest and recreation for school children and staff over half term.
- For the people of Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan. 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 a new Director of Music / organist and a Children and Family leader.
- For our care for creation for our work towards becoming an Eco church.
- For the process of seeking a new Headteacher for St. Luke's School, and the interim arrangements.
- For Jaxon Williams, to be baptised on Sunday and Tajus Ramanauskas and Amanda Simana baptised last week.
- For Miriam and Andy, following their wedding blessing and for John and Katty as they prepare for their marriage in June.
- For all those who live and work in Boulters Gardens
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Howard Baxter, Julienne Grobler, Clarice, Andy, Ann Hockham, Pat Brooks, Andrew, Naila Watanabe, Valerie Bosley, Joan Lynch, Harry, Robert Lewis, Joy Richmond, Bridget Morris, Nicholas.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in June: Christine Collins, Philip Snelgrove, Robert Clark, Paul Luxton, Christa Blight, John Avenell, Ronald Bennett, Joycelne Wyman, Hazel Birch, Doreen Mavis Shields, Evelyn Allaway, Margaret Gammon, Alec Judd, Enid Barber, Johanna Raffan, Gerry Knight

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 28th May 2023:

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday | Psalm 87 | Genesis 11.1-9 | Acts 10.34-end |
| Monday | Psalm 126 | Chronicles 17.1-12 | Romans 1.1-17 |
| Tuesday | Psalm 132 | Chronicles 18.1-27 | Romans 1.18-end |
| Wednesday | Psalm 85 | Samuel 2.1-10 | Mark 3.31-end |
| Thursday | Psalm 143 | Chronicles 20.1-23 | Romans 2.17-end |
| Friday | Psalm 144 | Chronicles 22.10-end of 23 | Romans 3.1-20 |
| Saturday | Psalm 147 | Chronicles 24.1-22 | Romans 3.21-end |

Rotas for next week:

Sunday 4th June in church and on zoom

Read: Gospel only

Intercede: Preacher

Welcomers: Clare, Kim and Don

Coffee: Marc and Paul

Our church is floodlit at night.



This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

Jean T-D and Julienne

In loving memory of Richard Grobler and Caroline Friend on this their birthday

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:

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|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 28th | 10.00am, Parish Communion 12.00 pm, Baptism of Jaxon Williams 6.00pm, Sundays at Six, All Saints church |
| Tuesday 30th | 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom |
| Wednesday 31st | 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion 8.00pm, Bible study, in church |
| Thursday 1 st | 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom |
| Friday 2nd | 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 4.00pm, Messy Church |
| Saturday 3rd | 9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom |

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

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 28 th May | Evensong and Benediction for Pentecost, in church at All Saints |
| 11 th June | Desert Island hymns and readings, in church, led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green |
| 25 th June | International Taizé service, in church and on zoom at St. Luke's Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400 Passcode: 526076 |
| 9 th July | Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island, led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green |

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 2nd June when we will be thinking about Messy miracles – Jesus walks on water. 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). Dates for following Messy Church sessions are; 7th July, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December.

Growing in faith: we have started offering some nurture activities in church on alternate Wednesday evenings, at 8pm: next is 31st May, then 7th and 21st June, 5th and 19th July. There will be the option

of a Bible study on Matthew's gospel and also a small group exploring Ignatian spirituality using Paula Gooder's book, 'Women of Holy week'. Do put this in your diaries. These will be in person and not zoomed.

Reading Phoenix Choir: will be performing a 'Hope For Tomorrow' concert at the High Street Methodist Church, Maidenhead on the 10th June 2023 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15 (£3 under 16) and can be booked online via www.methodistmaidenhead.org.uk/concert

They are raising funds for Ukraine and church refurbishment.

Fellowship and Fundraising opportunities

Summer lunchtime recitals: in church on Fridays. Lunches available to buy from 12.30 pm, recital at 1pm. free entry, donations invited.

14th July: Christina Brugger, flute recital. More dates to come!

Not the Summer Fair: with limited capacity a summer fair is not possible but on Sunday 23rd July we will have an opportunity for fellowship and donations in lieu of the fair. Watch this space.

Garden Party: a late summer afternoon garden party in the vicarage garden. Sunday 3rd September. Save the date, details to come.

The Inaugural Johanna Raffan Recital: Andrew Gallagher will give a piano recital at 3pm on Sunday 8th October. Save the date.

2023 Christmas Tree Festival—An appeal from the Produce Stall Organisers

Yes, we know this is a long way off, but as the growing season is upon us, we are making an appeal now. We need your help to increase the amount of produce on this stall, eg jams, chutneys etc, Dorothy and I struggled in 2022 to keep it stocked.

We would like to make the following request: if you are offered free fruit and vegetables of whatever sort, accept it and either process if yourself or, if necessary, put it in your freezer and then let us know. Later in the year we will be asking for donations of sugar etc plus jam jars, especially the Frank Cooper marmalade ones. As in previous Christmas Tree Festivals we can supply the Spire label for fixing onto produce in due course. Many thanks.

Ann Darracott (phone 07761 221937)

Dorothy Strack-Hankey

Inspire Thank you to all who contributed to the last edition and to Miriam our new editor. The next edition of Inspire will be published in late June so please do let Miriam have your articles, photos, etc now. Email to: miamii.mansour3@gmail.com

Church finances

One of the simplest ways to raise funds for St Luke's at no cost to you when you shop online is to sign up to easyfundraising: www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Frequently used sites such as M&S, Argos, Booking.com, John Lewis, all the major supermarkets, Ebay, some airlines and travel companies donate a percentage of your purchase or a fixed amount. They may be small amounts each time, but if many of us nominate St Luke's those amounts will grow. If you add the site to your toolbar you will get automatic reminders to donate.

We have been chosen by the CoOp as a recipient of their **Community Fund** for the coming year. By shopping in the CoOp and using your blue card, 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>

Our Chosen Charities for 2023

Foodshare:

Foodshare is our local charity and Katty King is the champion.

John the Baptist told the Jews who came to him, **“Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same”** (Luke 3:11)

FoodShare is a charity that assists people who are unable to feed themselves and their families irrespective of their circumstances. It runs many projects in the local community that reach as many people as possible such as the good neighbour project, and meal programs for the homeless & isolated.

If you wish to kindly donate food, there is a basket to donate to near the entrance of the church on go on their website at:

<https://www.foodshare.charity/donate>

Green Christians:

Green Christians is our chosen national charity. Kim Rumble will be the champion. Green Christian exists to share Green insights with Christians and to offer Christian insights to the wider Green movement. We walk alongside those of faith and no faith.

Embrace:

Embrace is our chosen international charity. Barbara Essam will be the champion

Embrace is a Christian development charity, we support our [Christian partners](#) in the Middle East as they work to transform lives and restore the dignity of the most excluded and marginalised communities.

WAMCF News (Inter Faith)

All events are open to anyone...

WAMCF SUMMER PICNIC

Bring and share

Sunday 23rd July, 12 noon to 3pm

WAMCF members and friends are all very welcome

Boyne Hill Cricket Club, Bath Road, SL6 5AE

WAMCF Golf Tournament

Sunday 9th July 2023

Bird's Hill Golf Course Centre Drift Road, Maidenhead SL6 3ST

Team and Individual Prizes

If you are interested in playing in an Interfaith Golf Tournament, please contact Trip Pannu trip.pannu@sky.com 07413588524 for more information

The next Ladies meeting is on Monday 24th May at St. Thomas Colnbrook. Do ask Revd Sally for a lift!

Taplow Teas When: Sunday 18 June 2023 - from 2:30pm

Location: Taplow Court, Cliveden Road, Taplow, SL6 0ER

The Maidenhead Fundraising Group for Thames Hospice invite you to join them for cream teas and delicious homemade cakes at Taplow Court to in support of Thames Hospice.

There will be a plant stall, tombola stall and much more! Listen to the Thames Hospice Choir, enjoy a pop-up shop and explore the grounds of this historic Gothic mansion.

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 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 15th June

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

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.

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