



# St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

[www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](http://www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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**Week commencing: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023, Candlemas**

## The Collect

Almighty and ever-living God,  
clothed in majesty,  
whose beloved Son was this day  
presented in the Temple,  
as a human like us:  
grant that we may be presented to you  
with pure and clean hearts,  
by your Son Jesus Christ 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 God, the springing source  
of everlasting light,  
pour into the hearts of your faithful people  
the brilliance of your eternal splendour,  
that we, who by these kindling flames  
light up this temple to your glory,  
may have the darkness of our souls dispelled,  
and so be counted worthy to stand before you  
in that eternal city where you live and reign,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever

## A reading from the prophet Malachi

Thus says the Lord God: 1See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. 2But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; 3he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. 4Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

5Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

*Malachi 3. 1-5*

## The Gospel Reading

22When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. 23(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), 24and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

25Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 26It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, 28Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

29'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;  
30for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
31which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
32a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.'

33And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed 35so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

36There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. 38At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

39When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. 40The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

*Luke 2. 22-40*

### Hymns for Sunday

719: Lord, the light of your love is shining

2: Christ whose glory fills the skies

Taize: The Lord is my light

42: Longing for light

If you would like to purchase your own copy of the hymn book to use at home (or bring to church – named so we don't try to take it from you!) you can find it at this link:

<https://canterburypress.hymnsam.co.uk/features/the-new-am>

or order via Quench bookshop (see advert below). If you would like a copy of the old hymn book to keep please do take one from the box at the back of church.

### Thought for the week

*A Canticle for Candlemas*

*To accompany A celebration of St Brigid (1<sup>st</sup> Feb)*



Halfway between nativity,  
With the turning of the year,  
And halfway on to Passiontide,  
When snowdrops first appear  
At Candlemas, at her own time,  
Comes Brigid of Kildare,  
Apostle to her/our people,  
Her own concern and care.

At Brigid's well there stand five stones –  
And each one tells its tale –  
Have fifteen centuries endured  
Their message to unveil.  
Their ancient words still speak to us  
As if to our own age.  
May their eternal witness still  
Our hearts and minds engage.

The first stone says, 'There's food for all  
If you protect the earth.'  
Her bounty is for everyone,  
None needs to suffer dearth.  
But woe to those who plunder  
And keep from those in need,  
Destroying God's own providence  
For the sake of their own greed.

The second stone says, 'Work for peace.'  
So do not strive for war,  
And reconcile the nations  
To God's own holy law.  
May those within our nation  
Who stir up strife and pain  
Treat all with fellow-feeling  
And work for peace again.

The third stone says 'Befriend the poor'  
For they are Christ's own folk.  
He often comes in beggar's guise  
And bears the common yoke.  
To thread a needle with a rope  
Is easier by far  
Than rich to enter heaven's gate  
And stand at judgment's bar.

'A welcome for the stranger'  
The fourth stone bids us make  
Within our hearts, our lands,  
our homes  
For our dear Saviour's sake.  
The harlot and the outcast  
Were welcomed by our Lord.

All wrongly held and fleeing wrong  
Are heartened by this word.  
The last stone bids us, 'Meditate'  
And seek the Spirit's voice  
Within the still, small voice of God,  
And calm the wild world's noise.  
For she will teach us clearly  
What no ear has ever heard,  
No eye e'er seen, no hand e'er touch'd:  
God's everlasting word.

In Brigid's ancient oaken grove  
Near the Curragh of Kildare  
An everlasting flame was kept  
Within her people's care –  
The symbol of the Spirit  
Who came with tongues of fire.  
May that same Spirit dwell in us  
And all our hearts inspire.

FOR Brigid's generosity,  
And kindness to the poor,  
Her reconciling acts for peace  
Are still worth striving for.  
She first brought her Lord's message  
To country and to town,  
Now lies within Downpatrick  
At rest in the County Down

*Canticle for Candlemas used with permission.*

*© Kenneth MacKinnon for Brigid's Feast and Candlemas 200*

**Prayer suggestions for this week:**

- That we may follow Jesus faithfully and bring his light to those around us.
- 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.
- For all those to be baptised in February: Harry and Oscar Ford, Zara Mean, Lucy and Harriet Walwyn Salisbury.
- For all those who live and work in Alston Gardens.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Howard Baxter, Julienne Grobler, Clarice, Andy, Dorothy Nicks, Ann Hockham, Pat Brooks, Andrew, Jim Mundy, Naila Watanabe,
- Valerie Bosley, Joan Lynch, Harry, Eunice Goodman, Robert Lewis, Joy Richmond, Betty Mapletoft
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Carol Kharas, Tony Boaks.

- Those whose anniversary of death falls in February: Beryl Horsham, Kenneth Dovey, Daphne Lewis, Edward Dobson, Robert Crick, Peter Sharp, Valerie Merkel, Doreen Leverkus, Monica Macaulay Brown, Jean Glossop, Doreen Palmer, Melanie Stuij, Rodgers Murwisi, Peter Curtis, Joan Bartholomew, Harvey Lovegrove, Stan Swansborough, Christine Dawson, Walter Horwood, Judy Galvin, Oliver Mercer, Barbara Stevens.

*Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023:*

Sunday	Psalm 71.1-6, 16-17	1 Corinthians 3.10-17
Monday	Psalm 57	Hosea 9 1 Corinthians 12.12 -end
Tuesday	Psalm 93	Hosea 10 1 Corinthians 13
Wednesday	Psalm 95	Hosea 11.1-11 1 Corinthians 14.1-19
Thursday	Psalm 48	Exodus 13.1-16 Romans 12.1-5
Friday	Psalm 19	Hosea 13.1-14 1 Corinthians 16.1-9
Saturday	Psalm 23	Hosea 14 1 Corinthians 16.10-end

**Rotas for next week:**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February, All Age Holy Communion with Baptism, in church and on zoom**

Read: Kate Taylor

Intercede: preacher

Welcomers: Jacqueline, Simon and Ann

Coffee: Sally and Isobel

**Our church is floodlit at night.**

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by  
*Mr T Autos*

To sponsor the floodlighting please fill in the form at the back of church or email:  
[admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto: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:**

Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler Group 12 noon, Warm Welcome 3.00pm, Gaynor's Gift (vicarage)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 5.00 pm, Evening Prayer 6.30 pm, Choir social
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 12.45 pm onwards, concert booking in church 7.00 pm, Marlow Community Choir concert
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am, Parish Communion for Candlemas 6.00 pm, Sundays at Six, Taize service, here
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	7.45 pm, WAMCF ladies meeting, Mosque
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00 am Holy Communion
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler Group 12 noon, Warm Welcome 7.30 pm, Fabric cttee meeting

Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.30 am, Funeral of Carol Kharas 4.00 pm, Messy Church
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00 am, Baptism Stay and Play
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am, All Age Holy Communion and Baptism

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

29 <sup>th</sup> January	Taizé service for Candlemas, in church at St Luke's
12 <sup>th</sup> February	Iona Evening worship, on zoom Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Eucharist for St. David, in church at All Saints
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Lenten Reflections, on zoom Led by St. Luke's
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Stations of the Cross, in church at All Saints (Passion Sunday)
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Taizé service, in church Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green (Palm Sunday)
23 <sup>rd</sup> 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      4pm, Café church, at St. Luke's

## From the PCC

### Key notes from this week's PCC meeting:

- The organ project (with the exception of essential maintenance) will go on hold until a new Director of Music is appointed
- The three recipients of our charitable giving from last year are:
  - o Tearfund- to support Ukrainian refugees (international)
  - o A Rocha-to support climate awareness (national)
  - o Brett Foundation Fuel bank project-to support food and fuel poverty (local)
- The PCC had received a legacy of £255,000 from the estate of the late Johanna Raffan.
- Approval was given for role of Children and Family Leader to be put out to advert (c.£50, see advert below).
- Approval was given for 5 extra hour admin weekly (Thursday and Friday mornings)
- A faculty is being sought for a bench in memory of the late John Cox in the rear churchyard
- PCC fees for the coming year were approved. It was noted that it is currently costing around £75 per hour to heat the church (£25 pre pandemic).
- The boiler would be repaired further and the Fabric group would begin to explore future heating options.
- An Eco day will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> March (shared with All Saints and Cox Green)
- The Christmas Tree Festival had raised £4,903.29 for the church and just over £2000 for the nominated charity- Alexander Devine Hospice.
- A grant of just over £2000 had been received from the Diocese of Oxford to support heating and lighting costs.

# Called to Care for God's Creation



Sharing  
Ideas

Eco  
Church

Free

Carbon  
Footprint

## How can we live More Sustainably?

Speakers

Recycle  
Re-use

With

**Dr Martin J Hodson & Revd Margot Hodson**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**10 - 3pm**

**St. Luke's Church**

Norfolk Road

Maidenhead SL6 7AX

Locally  
sourced  
lunch

Eco Hub

**quench**<sup>⊕</sup>  
CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOPS

# POP UP SHOP



**WHERE?** Maidenhead Salvation Army  
East Rd, Maidenhead, SL6 1PJ

**WHEN?** Thurs 26th Jan, Thurs 23rd Feb  
& Thurs 30th March  
9:30am-12:30pm

[www.quenchshops.com](http://www.quenchshops.com)

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>

### **Three appointments:**

The PCC is seeking to appoint a **Director of Music**, asap. Details of the role and salary available from Revd. Sally.

The PCC wishes to appoint a **Children and Families Leader**. 20 hours per week for up to three years. To work with our team to develop Sunday children's ministry, develop further our existing children's ministry (Messy Church, Baby and Toddler group, Schools work) and to liaise with families. Full details also from Revd. Sally.

We also wish to appoint asap an **assistant administrator** to work on Thursday and Friday mornings in the parish office.

Please do pass this information to anyone who you think may be interested.

### **Also coming up..**

**Christmas Tree Festival de-brief:** Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm on zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83637233056?pwd=MWsvQ21lcmg1ODVYMW1hQzIGVHRsUT09>

Meeting ID: 836 3723 3056

Passcode: 554587

Do come along to feed back.

### **Lent course 2023**

We will be using a course based on Ruth Valerio's book: Saying yes to life.

The first session will follow the Ash Wednesday evening service at around 8.15 pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, thereafter Wednesdays at 11 am in church and on zoom, and Thursdays at 7.30 pm in person, venue TBC.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** ( formerly Women's World Day of Prayer) This year the service is to be held at the Salvation Army in East Road on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2 pm. It has been devised by the women of Taiwan and the theme is 'I have heard about your Faith'.

As there is limited parking in East Road, arrangements are being made with the police for parking in High Town Road to be available. All are welcome at this service, men included! It would be good to see you there. Ruth Sheppard and Gill Curry

**28<sup>th</sup> March** our school will be in church all day for the children's annual Holy Week experience. If anyone is able to help in any way please speak to Revd. Sally.

**1<sup>st</sup> April – a Quiet day on prayer** . Led by the Revd. Geoffrey Connor, in church - details to come.

### **From RBWM**

#### **HINES MEADOW CAR PARK**

The council is proposing to charge for parking in the Hines Meadow car park on Sundays.

This is not good as many families park there to attend church and may not be able to afford it in future. They proposed this once before and we (CTiM)opposed it, as did others. They withdrew the proposal at that time. There is a consultation open for the next week. Please use the link below to



take the survey and give your opinion. The key question is number 14.

<https://rbwmtogether.rbwm.gov.uk/budget-consultation-2023-24>

As you will be aware, the council has been allocated funding through the DWP Household Support Fund, to provide support to vulnerable households, to help with significantly rising living costs. More information about our approach to allocating the Fund is set out here - [Household support fund | Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead \(rbwm.gov.uk\)](#).

We would like to ask for your help, in making sure that residents who are in financial need, are aware that they may be able to receive a one-off cash payment of £145 to support them this winter. We would encourage you to share information with residents in your networks, who may benefit. We are keen to work with partners like yourselves to reach residents who are in our target groups for the Fund, especially those who may not yet have heard about the scheme. To help raise awareness with those in need, we will shortly be sending you:

- An e-shot with information about the scheme and how to apply – please feel free to forward this to residents you work with who may benefit from this targeted support
- A flyer version of the above – please feel free to print as necessary to help reach those individuals in need who are not online.

To access support, residents should speak to one of our nine partner organisations. Our partners are responsible for identifying residents for the scheme, and will provide them with a Unique Reference Number, which is needed to submit an application

### **And From River Church - Nancy Goudie's Spiritual Health Days**

We have an exciting event coming up for all ladies on Saturday 11 March 10.30am-4pm. We're really thrilled to be hosting Nancy Goudie as she brings her Spiritual Health Day - "Born to be Significant" - to Maidenhead. The day will be hugely encouraging and is designed to take us deeper in our walk with God and encourage us on our faith journeys.

Booking details are on the link below and bursary tickets are available if cost is an issue.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nancy-goudies-spiritual-health-days-tickets-264124542617>



### **Our Regular activities:**

**The 8.00 Holy Communion service** will continue to be monthly, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**Warm Welcome** Thursdays midday – 2pm, a warm space in church to meet with others (or just be quiet and warm) and have a warm meal. Free, and open to all.

**Messy Church** continues on the first (usually) Friday, monthly, 4-5pm. Next, 3<sup>rd</sup> February. 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 19<sup>th</sup> January.

**Thursday Teas** meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is February.

**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, 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly. The next is January.

**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=WnF3aEQ2dTdLYjB1dDEvQ2YwcTJJz09>

Meeting ID: 886 7768 8468

Passcode: 132142