



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week commencing: 4th December 2022 , Second Sunday of Advent

This Sunday our service is an All Age Communion service as we keep Advent. All ages are very welcome to come along and worship together.

The Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Post Communion

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A reading from Isaiah

1A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. 2The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. 3His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; 4but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. 5Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. 6The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. 7The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. 9They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. 10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. *Isaiah 11.1-10*

The Gospel Reading

1In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 2'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' 3This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' 4Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, 6and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their

sins. 7But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8Bear fruit worthy of repentance. 9Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 10Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Matthew 3. 1-12

Sunday's Hymns: All on screen

Colours of Day

Make Way

Longing for Light

Colours of day dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return,
Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.*

Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing a friend.

Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has come, the sun came to die,
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.
Make way, make way, for Christ the King
in splendour arrives.

Fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.

Make Way

*Make way, make way for the
King of kings. Make
way, make way!
and let his kingdom in.*

He comes, the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.

And those who mourn with heavy hearts
who weep and sigh;
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.

We call you now to worship Him
as Lord of all;
to have no gods before Him
their thrones must fall!

Longing for Light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
 Longing for warmth, many are cold.
 Make us your building, sheltering others,
 walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
 many the hearts that yearn to belong.
 Let us be servants to one another,
 making your kingdom come.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For Klarissa and Poppie baptised last week.
- For space to keep Advent well.
- That our Christmas Tree Festival may be a blessing to all who come along and may go smoothly too.
- For the work of the Alexander Devine Children’s Hospice.
- For Aaron and Laura Wilson as they move away.
- For the people of Ukraine and Russia, and for the UN. For all world leaders. For peace.
- For all who are worried and struggling with the cost of living, for those who are hungry, or who eat alone every day.
- For our ministry as part of the Warm Welcome scheme, and Thursday lunches.
- 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 our care for creation for our work towards becoming an Eco church.
- Those whose anniversary of baptism falls in December: Herbie Prater, Lily Edmonds, Arlo Ridley
- For all those who live and work in All Saints Avenue.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Tony Boaks, 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.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Pamela Rivers
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in December: John Sheppard, Beryl Jenkins, Evelyn Rose, Roy Horsham, John Norris, Margaret Swansborough, Joan Parker, Dorothy Scott, Penelope Hutchings, Peter Brown, John Dickson, Anne Seagrove, Max Neale, Eileen Pond, David Sawyers, Robert Gardener, Peggy Harris, Colin Bowerman, Robert Gill, Pamela Barber, Sheila Mayers, Joyce Bryant, Isabella Monk, David Jones, Bernard Bowdery, Patricia Walker, Roy Goff, Jean Judd, David Jesson.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 4th December 2022:

Sunday	Psalm 80	Luke 1.5 -20	
Monday	Psalm 44	Isaiah 45.14-end	1 Thessalonians 1
Tuesday	Psalm 56	Isaiah 46	1 Thessalonians 2.1-12
Wednesday	Psalm 62	Isaiah 47	1 Thessalonians 2. 13 - end
Thursday	Psalm 54	Isaiah 48. 1-11	1 Thessalonians 3
Friday	Psalm 86	Isaiah 48. 12-end	1 Thessalonians 4.1-12
Saturday	Psalm 145	Isaiah 49. 1-13	1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

Rotas for next week:

Sunday 11th December, Advent III, Parish Communion, in church and on zoom

Read: Bridget Morris Intercede: Jacqueline Lewis

Welcomers: Jacqueline, Sue and Ralph Coffee: None - CTF

Our church is floodlit at night.

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by Ruth Sheppard:

"In loving memory of John"



To sponsor the floodlighting please fill in the form at the back of church or email:

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Given rising fuel prices, it is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is now £15.

Thought for the week:



Our Knitivity began its journey around the parish last Sunday – starting with one of our newly baptised babies – Poppie – who is clearly enjoying it! There is something special about hosting the holy family and their entourage for a short time. It helps to settle us into the season of Advent waiting and can remind children of the story of that first Christmas.

But it also serves as a gentle reminder to all of us that God longs for us to host him in our hearts and lived every day, not just for one night during Advent.

May our prayer echo the words of a familiar carol:

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray,
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

What's on... This week:

- Friday 2nd 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 4.00 pm, Messy Church
 8.00 pm, Choir practice
- Saturday 3rd 9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
- Sunday 4th 10.00 am, All Age Holy Communion
~~6.00 pm, Sundays at Six: Taizé service at ChoGS~~
- Monday 5th 6.00 pm, St. Piran's School Carol service, in church
- Tuesday 6th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 9.30 am, St. Luke's School, Reception Nativity, in church
 1.00 pm, Funeral of Pamela Rivers, RIP
- Wednesday 7th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 10.00 am, Holy Communion, and coffee
 10.30 am Board covering in church
- Thursday 8th 6.00 pm, Trees siting – all help welcome at this and above
 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
 NO Baby and Toddler group
 10 am – 7pm TREE SET UP DAY
 12.00 – 2.00 pm, Midday meals – open to all

Friday 9th 8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
10 am – 7pm Church open to view trees

Saturday 10th 9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
10 am – 7pm Church open to view trees

Sunday 11th 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am, Parish Communion
Midday – 6pm, church open to view trees
6.00 pm, Christmas Tree Festival service

Church news

Aaron and Laura Wilson leave us this week as they move north with Aaron's work. We send them with our love and our thanks for all that Aaron has done as Assistant Churchwarden and Chair of the fabric Committee.

Ralph Hinchliffe will take on the role of Assistant Warden and Simon Bader will chair the Fabric Committee.

Adam Went has decided that he needs to focus on work and has resigned as Director of Music from the end of January.

Christmas

Christmas help

There are lots of things happening in church this Advent. If you are able to help with any of these please contact the office or Revd, Sally – thank you. (there is also a sheet to sign in church!)

Monday 5th St. Piran's Carol Service 6.00 – 7.00 pm
Possibly steward, Set church out for next day at end

Tuesday 6th School Reception Nativity 9.00 – 10.00 am (starts 9.30)
Steward and sign in parents, Set church up for funeral at end

Tuesday 13th St. Luke's school Carol service 9.00 – 10.30 am
Steward and sign in parents, Make and serve refreshments to parents

Wednesday 14th Claires Court Carol services, 9.30 / 11.00
Steward if necessary, Set up for Baby and Toddler party at end

Saturday 17th church cleaning etc, 9.30 onwards

Sunday 18th Carol service, 6.30 pm (7pm start)
Welcomers, Serve mulled wine and mince pies

Saturday 24th Crib services, 4pm / 5pm Welcomers

Love Christmas

This year we will not join with St. Peter's but will simply buy plants to take to people as a gift of love at Christmas. You can get involved by:

- Buying a small plant (poinsettia or cyclamen) and bringing to church before 7th December – with a plant saucer of some sort please
- Making a donation towards plants in the pot that will be in church
- Suggesting the names of recipients to Revd. Sally / the office
- Coming along on 17th December at 10 am to collect plants to deliver.

The Christmas Tree Festival:

How YOU can be involved:

- Sign up to help during the event
- Deliver flyers
- Contribute a quality raffle prize (perhaps from a firm you know...)
- Help cover boards on Wed 7th from 11 am
- Make jams etc for the produce stall
- Make cakes
- Take posters

Sunday 18th December
6.00 pm, Nine Lessons and Carols, by candlelight
followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December
4.00 (younger families) and 5.00 (older families) pm, Candlelit Crib Services
10.00 pm 'Midnight Mass'

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December
10.00 am, All Age Christmas Holy Communion

Getting the church ready for Christmas...

On Saturday 17th December, we will be making the church look beautiful for Christmas... flower arranging, cleaning cobweb removing, brass polishing...

Please do consider coming along to help – even if you can only give an hour... any time between 9.30 am and midday. Thank you.

Wednesday Holy Communion date change: please note that in the week beginning 12th December the midweek holy communion service will be at 11 am on Tuesday rather than Wednesday.

We are delighted to 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> #ItsWhatWeDo

Our particular project is to redevelop the churchyard to make it a more useable community space for quiet and to support the natural environment.

Sundays at Six, this Autumn, All Services are at 6.00pm Zoom link: use Sunday morning

11 th December	Christmas Tree Festival Service, at St. Luke's
18 th December	Carol Services at each church at 6.00 pm

And next year:

8 th January	Evensong and Benediction, in church at All Saints
22 nd January	Night Prayer with reflection, on zoom Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
29 th January	Taizé service for Candlemas, in church at St Luke's
12 th February	Iona Evening worship, on zoom Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green

26 th February	Eucharist for St. David, in church at All Saints
12 th March	Lenten Reflections, on zoom Led by St. Luke's
26 th March	Stations of the Cross, in church at All Saints (Passion Sunday)
2 nd April	Taizé service, in church Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green (Palm Sunday)
23 rd April	Easter reflections, on zoom Led by St Luke's

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.

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, 2nd December. 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 15th December.

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

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, 4th 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=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

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