



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week Commencing: 3rd March, Lent 3

This week we have a 10.00am Parish Communion, with activity for children. All are warmly invited. We have our second Lent Lunch at midday (ish) – everyone is warmly invited to join us for homemade soup, bread and cheese. At 6.00pm there is a Eucharist for St. David's day, at All Saints.

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy
but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory
before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we,
walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other
than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord...

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace
to withstand the temptations of the world,
the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you,
the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. ⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. ¹²Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

Exodus 20.1-17

Gospel Reading

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' ¹⁹Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' ²⁰They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. *John 2.13-22*

Sunday's Hymns:

584	All my hope in God is founded
563	Jesus Christ is waiting
294	We love the place, O God
608	Christ is our cornerstone



Thought for the week:

Have you noticed that John places the cleansing of the Temple, today's gospel reading, at the start of his gospel. In the other three gospels it occurs during holt week. Perhaps John places it at the start because it summarises all that is the follow, leading up to Jesus' death – which seems foolishness and failure, but in fact is both the wisdom and the love of God for his people.

It is Passover, and the Temple is busy with people selling the animals required for sacrifices, and changing ordinary everyday coinage into the currency needed to buy anything in the Temple. Nothing wrong with any of that. But Jesus makes a whip, turns over the tables and drives the animals out of the precincts. He objects to the crass commercialism (v.16), and his disciples see this as evidence of a zeal for the house of God. Naturally, the Temple authorities take umbrage and want an explanation. But Jesus cryptically says that if they were to 'destroy this temple' (v.19), he will raise it in three days. His interrogators miss his point – but then his point is obscure (John has to tell us what he was talking about!).

Perhaps Jesus' answer explains why this episode begins John's story: Jesus has come to die, and his death has something to do with what happens in this place. Furthermore, after three days he will rise again. John notes that his disciples remembered this incident after the resurrection. In this story, we see the passion of Jesus – his anger leading to dramatic and controversial action – and we get a foretaste of his Passion, the offering of his life for the sins of the world, a temple-replacing once-and-for-all act of redemption.

To the eyes of the world this is God's foolishness. But Jesus knows, we know that although God is so much bigger than us, yet he loves us, he stooped down to be with us – to be one of us - and on the cross in utter foolish abandon he died for us.

The Gospel story illustrates the elaborate system the people of the time had built up for dealing with sin. All manner of wrong actions could be efficiently dispelled by the appropriate sacrifice or 'sin offering'. What systems have we put in place to atone for sins? What ways of 'double think' have we constructed to justify the things we say and do?

Just as Jesus sweeps the Temple clean, allowing the people to approach God directly, so we must be honest with ourselves and strip away our self-deceit and self-evasions, leaving us able to face God and receive his grace.

We can set up our own systems of piety and church and Lent keeping, but in reality what Lent does is give us breathing space to meet afresh with God, by his grace.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- Thanksgiving for the life of Bishop Alan Wilson and comfort for all who mourn him.
- That all may know themselves loved by God
- For the keeping of a holy Lent
- For His Majesty the King (and all the Royal family) in his illness.
- For those who are living on the breadline and on our streets, for shelter and support
- For the people of Israel and Palestine, for an end to the violence there and for strength for all those who are suffering loss and fear. For our sisters and brothers in the Jewish and Muslim communities of our own town, especially those worried for loved ones.
- For a de-escalation of the situation in the Middle East.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For our ministry with children and families.
- For a new church music leader.
- For our growth in faith and for the Alpha team and guests.
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in March: Henry Weber, Olivia Carter, Robyn Nash, Faith Porro, Lola-Rose Watkins
- For all those who live and work in Coln close.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Iris Brown, Lorraine, Ken Young, Olu Rowe, Bridget Morris, Janet Whitlock.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Julienne Grobler, +Alan Wilson, Margaret Morgan.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in March: Anthony Wright, Lilian Vizard, Edgar Walford, Christine Sawyers, Caroline Wood, Robert Russell, Jacqueline Mundy, Alan Moss, Francis (Jack) Garnett, Jillian Sinclair-Hill, Eileen Herbert, Stella Lee, Andrew Curtis, Susan Robinson, Jill Cotterill, John Marshall, John Cox, Christopher Druce

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 3rd March 2024:

Sunday	P18.1-25	Genesis 37	Matthew 18.1-14
Monday	Psalm 7	Genesis 47.1-27	Hebrews 4.14-5.10
Tuesday	Psalm 9	Genesis 47.28-end of 48	Hebrews 5.11-6.12
Wednesday	Psalm 38	Genesis 49.1-32	Hebrews 6.13-end
Thursday	Psalm 56	Genesis 49.33-end of 50	Hebrews 7.1-10
Friday	Psalm 22	Exodus 1.1-14	Hebrews 7.11-end
Saturday	Psalm 31	Exodus 1.22-2.10	Hebrews 8

Rotas for next week Sunday 10th March: All Age Mothering Sunday Word service

Read: Edgar Hakobyan

Intercede: Preacher

Welcomers: Jacqueline, Simon and Ben

Coffee: Simone and Season

Our church is floodlit at night.



This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

John Cotterill

In loving memory of my dear wife, Jill, who died on 7th March two years ago

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. There are lots of weeks available.

What's on.... This week:

Sunday 3rd	10.00am, Parish Communion 11.30am, James Ellins IT talk, followed by Lent lunch 6.00pm, Eucharist for St. David, in church at All Saints
Tuesday 5th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom
Wednesday 6th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion 11.00am, Lent course, in Church 7.00pm, Alpha Course, in Church
Thursday 7th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler group
Friday 8th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 11.00am, Funeral of Julienne Grober 5.00pm, Evening Prayer
Saturday 9th	9.00am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 9.30am, Church Care morning.
Sunday 10th	8.00am, Holy Communion 10.00am, All Age Mothering Sunday WORD service. 12.00pm, Baptism of Isla Hughes and Chrisopher Hickman

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

3 rd March	Eucharist for St. David, in church at All Saints
17 th March	Stations of the Cross, in church at St. Luke's (Passion Sunday)
24 th March	Taizé service at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green (Palm Sunday)
7 th April	Stations of the Resurrection, on zoom Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
21 st April	Eucharist of Wholeness and Healing, in church, at All Saints

The funeral of Julienne Grobler will take place in church at 11 am on Friday 8th March. Please do remember Julienne's family and friends in your prayers. The funeral will also be zoomed:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87325183602?pwd=RGFMSmZFd2VKRWJ0dEdLaFRCR0dKdz09>

Meeting ID: 873 2518 3602

Passcode: 735979

Coming up..

Messy Church our Messy church dates are as follows: 30th March, 3rd May, 7th June, 5th July, 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, 29th November

Alpha course: please be praying for the Alpha course – team and guests. The course has just started but it is not too late to join. Please speak to Revd. Sally if you think you would like to join the course.

Church Care Morning: Saturday 9th March. We would be grateful for any volunteers to come along between 9.30am and midday to help so the usual care tasks in the church and churchyard (high level dusting, deep clean, mending and weeding....). Everyone is welcome!

Defibrillator training, Saturday 27th April. Following the installation of the defibrillator outside the church, it would be good to have as many people, as possible trained to use it (or any other that you may pass when needed). Please book two hours in the morning f 27th April in your diary to come along if you can.

LENT

Lent Lunches are back this year! Sundays at midday (or just after) in church: 3rd March and 17th March. All are welcome to come along for a soup, bread and cheese lunch. We collect the money we would have spent on a full Sunday lunch and donate it to Christian Aid. Please sign up at the back of church to help – providing soup, bread or cheese, or serving / washing up. There will be a short film before the first and last, and an IT talk before the second, starting at about 11.30 am.

Lent Course: this year our Lent course will run from 11.00 – 12.15 pm on Wednesdays in church. We will be using the video course: Unanswered Prayer, by Pete Grieg. There is a book from which this is taken. There will be no online or evening course as Alpha is running at this time. If you cannot make the Wednesday session you may like to follow the course alone, or get together with a friend or two: <https://unanswered.prayercourse.org/sessions/>. Or read the book.

A Lent leaflet is available now with more ideas for Lenten activities.

Holy Saturday All Age Saving Stories / Messy Church: we are bringing back this lovely activity for all ages. If you think you might be able to play a part (acting with nom lines to learn – just a lot of fun) please let Sally or Sam know asap. Thank you.

Easter flowers: we have a team who will be decorating the church for Easter, if you would like to join them please let Joan Harnby, Rita Salter or Revd Sally know – all very welcome.

Donations towards the cost of Easter flowers and lilies are now invited. Please give your cash donations directly to Rita Salter, who is collecting them again this year. There will NOT be a box in church. If you prefer to give by card please note 'flowers' on the machine before making the payment. Thank you very much.

You may wish to give to the flowers in memory of loved ones. There is a sheet at the back of church on which you are invited to write their names. These will be displayed in church as usual at Easter.

Come and See

In three of the four gospels, Jesus is asked which commandment is the most important. He answers not with one commandment but with two: you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength, and you shall love your neighbour as yourself. How can these two commandments give a rhythm and a shape to our lives? Come and See...

We will be using the weekly films in church and you can also sign up for daily emails:

- Come and See - for groups and individuals (daily content)
<https://mailchi.mp/oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see>
- Come and See - for families (weekly content, each Sunday)
<https://mailchi.mp/oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see-for-families>

APCM (Church Annual Business Meeting)

Our annual meeting this year is on Sunday 21st April at around 11.30 and following the main Sunday service. Do please note this in your diaries and aim to be there.

Church Electoral Roll: If you are not on the Electoral Roll, please ensure that you register asap – there are now forms at the back of church for this purpose, a welcomer can find one for you if you fail!. Please return the form directly to the parish office, the PCC secretary or one of the ministers. Anyone wishing to stand for PCC or to vote at the APCM must be on the Electoral Roll. There is a copy of the current Roll on the table at the back of church if anyone wishes to check it. The Roll will close on 6th April, and then be published (names only) in church before the APCM.

Schubert and all that Jazz Concert. Please see details below about the forthcoming concert taking place at St Luke's Church on the 27th April. Tickets are now available to buy after services or from the office.

MensMatter. Please note details below about a Health and Wellbeing fayre for older men and all those who support them, 13th March. 1.30-4.30pm, Maidenhead library. Free admission.

A St Luke's Church Concert in aid of Thames Hospice

Schubert and all that Jazz



Saturday 27th April at 7.30pm

St Luke's Church

Norfolk Road, Maidenhead SL6 7AX

This will be a wonderful concert to delight all musical tastes and is guaranteed to put a smile on your face

Featuring

Peter De Souza	Piano	Geneviève Usher	Soprano
Chris Crocker	Piano	Andrew Smith	Clarinet

Tickets £10 with all proceeds to be given to

Thames hospice

For more information or to purchase tickets please call 01628 62273 or

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

MENSMATTERS

LIVING LONGER LIVING BETTER

HEALTH & WELLBEING FAYRE FOR OLDER MEN

and all those who support them!



Wednesday 13th March 2024

1:30pm - 4:30pm

Maidenhead Library, St Ives Road,
SL6 1QU

FREE ADMISSION

Men's Matters is a registered charity focus on social wellbeing for older men.

Renaissance Voices Concert. Please see details overleaf for a concert taking place at All Saints Church from 6.30pm on Saturday 9th March. The link for buying tickets is here: [Tickets | Renaissance Voices](#) There is a discount for buying tickets in advance!



For he will command his angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways. Psalm 91:11

The Titchfield Angel

People have gathered in faith at St Peter's for over 1300 years. They continue to welcome, celebrate and share the Christian message of love and hope. During Advent St Peter's focused on angels, God's messengers, guardians and protectors.

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:2

Hundreds of angels created by local people in Titchfield filled the church for a special festival weekend and now they are being sent across the world. They set up a Facebook page to see how far the angels travelled. You can see from the above photo that one angel visited St Luke's!
www.stpetertitchfield.org

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 30th March 2024
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 21st March

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 14th March

Thursday Lunches meets fourth Thursday of the month, usually at the Toby Cavery but please contact Jean Tyrwhitt-Drake on Jeant-d2@outlook.com for further details.

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. Next is 28th March

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=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmllU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925

Passcode: 180609

Zoom Evening Prayer at 5pm on Fridays (except first Friday)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85378796960?pwd=dUNTTnRZVFJBY2xiS3QyVHIYz1BaZz09> Meeting ID: 853 7879 6960

Passcode: 386635