

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 November, Second Sunday before Advent

This Sunday we have a 10.00am Parish Communion. An activity will be available for children during the service. All are warmly invited to join us in worship.

The Collect

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God
and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him
in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

First Reading

¹¹Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God', ¹³and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. ¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶'This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds',

¹⁷he also adds,

'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.'

¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrew 10.11-14 (15-18) 19-25

Second Reading

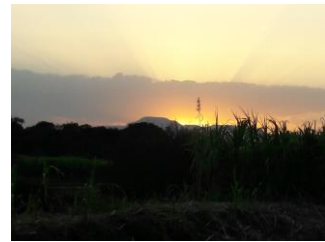
¹As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' ²Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

³When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' ⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.'

Mark 13.1-8

Sunday's Hymns

584 All my hope on God is founded
screen Lifting up my eyes to the hills
502 Restore, O Lord
755 Oft in danger, oft in woe
641(i) Glorious things of thee are spoken



Thought for the week...

Do you ever wonder if Jesus' second coming is imminent? If it is, then that may lead us to reflect on some crucial and searching questions:

- Am I leading the sort of life I should be?
- Have I made the most of my life?
- Are there things I need to put right?

We don't really want to think about things like the end of the world – or our own demise. And certainly not as we approach Advent and Christmas. But as Christians we ARE called to be alert to what is going on around us, to the way in which we live our lives, and to how God may be at work in our world.

Sunday's gospel reading is perhaps one of the most difficult to understand bits of Jesus' teaching. It appears to be about the state of the world, the end of the age and about destruction. And we don't like to think about such things. But if we care about all of life then we cannot ignore this teaching. And in fact, it is very appropriate as we begin to think about Jesus' birth around 2000 years ago that we think about the world into which he was born and about his return at some time – soon? Who knows.

Although Jesus may be referring to political events of his own time, perhaps the destruction of the Temple that would soon happen, we are challenged to think about the state of the world today. It would be easy to be despondent, but we should remember that there will always be tough stuff happening around us. There will always be doom merchants seeking to throw us off course or telling us how bad we are, but God is far bigger than all that.

As the first hymn we will sing on Sunday reminds us:

*Pride of man and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.*

Thursday 21st 8.30am, Morning Prayer, on Zoom
 9.30am, Baby and Toddler group
 3.00pm, Keeping Company

Friday 22nd 8.30am, Morning Prayer on zoom
 5.00pm, Evening Prayer

Saturday 23rd 9.00am, Morning Prayer on zoom
 10.00am-3.00pm, Quiet Day, St, Michael's convent, Gerrards Cross

Sunday 24th **9.30am**, Parish Communion
 , Mitzvah Day
 12.00 noon, Baptism of Isabel Nixon
 6.00pm, Taize service, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green

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

24 th November	Taize service, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
8 th December	Christmas Tree Festival Service, at St. Luke's (Tree Festival 6 th - 8 th Dec.)
22 nd December 6.00 pm	Carol Services at each church

Ministry Team News

There are changes afoot in the Ministry Team. Catherine England will be leaving us mid -November to take up a new post in a school. We are grateful for her hard work in the Office on Thursdays and Fridays. From January Ruth Humphreys will pick up these days too and thus work Tuesday – Friday mornings.

The Revd. Phyl Sopp (and Dave, of course!) will be moving to Harrogate early in the new year. we give thanks for Phyl's ministry among us and will have an opportunity to thank both Phyl and Dave in a tangible way before they leave.

Sam Fiordelisi goes on maternity leave some time in February, depending on when Junior makes an appearance. We hope to be able to appoint someone to cover some of her ministry – watch this space.

Jamie Harle will be joining the team as a minister. Jamie is a Deacon in the Coptic Orthodox church and has been an Army Padre. We welcome him (and Lucy, Hope, Monty and Hugo too) and look forward to his ministry among us.

Please do pray for the whole team at this time of change.

Coming up...

Our **Autumn Quiet Day will be on Saturday 23rd November**. 10 am – 3pm at St, Michael's convent, Gerrards Cross. There is one place left. A sign-up sheet is in church. £10 pp, bring your own lunch, drinks provided.

Sunday 24th November is **Mitzvah Day**, when we are invited to join different faiths across town at a time of good deeds, based on and organised by the synagogue. **The service that day will start at 9.30** am so that those joining Mitzvah Day can be sent out immediately after communion and have time to join in effectively (last year as a real rush). Please do sign up in church to join in.

Nurture and learning opportunities this Autumn

The **Bible Study** working through Matthew's gospel continues on alternate Wednesdays at 8pm in church: 20th November.

And for those who would like a daytime study, **Soup and Psalms** - runs on alternate Thursdays, midday – 1.30 pm; 14th and 28th November. All welcome – as are offers of soup!

Baby and Toddler group / Pram service

We are still looking for people to help with coffee at these lovely parish mission activities. Please speak to Sam or Sally if you would like to offer help in this really important ministry. Thanks.

Messy Church our autumn Messy church dates are as follows: 29th November

Christmas Tree Festival 2024: 6th – 8th December set up on Wednesday 4th and Schools day on Thursday 5th.

Final briefing meeting:

Thursday 21st November, 8pm, on zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82494064016?pwd=Ix6lpFiLntTJwhlId5D8kCmzNaeiNv.1>

Meeting ID: 824 9406 4016

Passcode: 402177

Open to anyone.

Cakes for refreshment stall

If anyone is able to start making cakes that we can freeze ready for the CTF that would be really useful. Please speak to Sally Somerville or Lisa Sharp for more details.

The three basics are Lemon drizzle, Victoria Sandwich and any chocolate cake. The Victoria sandwich must have just jam through the middle and caster sugar on the top (or we get complaints!). Please do not cut your cakes as we have to standardise the portions.

Set up team

We will need an able bodied group of people for the following (most times are negotiable:

- Bringing in boards, after 6pm Friday 29th Nov
- Covering boards, Saturday 30th.
- Moving trees into church, Monday 2nd December (depends when they arrive)
- Putting boards out and trees into place, Tuesday 3rd (after midday, early evening)

Please speak to Revd. Sally or Sue and Ralph if you can help. **This is a vital part of the whole project.**

The Produce Stall Appeal

Do let Ann or Dorothy know if you have fruit, veg, sugar etc to pass to them. For those making produce, Spire Brand labels will be put in a small box in the cupboard soon. Do not worry about putting decorated covers on the filled jars, a work party nearer Christmas will do it.

Many thanks. Ann Darracott (phone 07761 221937) Dorothy Strack-Hankey (phone 07743 323635)

Publicity

A3, A4 and A5 posters and flyers are now available to take and hand out or put up (in legal places!!). Please take what you need and fill in the sheet to say where you have taken them for to avoid repetition. All tree sponsors will be sent a poster very soon.

Help over the CTF period

The sign up sheet is now at the back of church. Please do sign up to help over the four days of the CTF. The more people we have, the less you each have to do. There are sitting tasks as well as standing and it would be wonderful if every member of the church was able to offer a little time to this to share the load. Without helpers it can't run! Thank you very much

Travelling Nativity

Our knitted nativity set is getting ready to travel around the parish during Advent. If you or your family would like to host it overnight, please sign up on the sheet in church asap.



Mid week Holy Communion in December

Advance notice that the Wednesday service will move to Tuesdays on two weeks due to the Tree Festival and School Carol services:

Wednesday 4th to Tuesday 3rd December

Wednesday 11th to Tuesday 10th

Both at 10 am as usual, followed by coffee.

Love Christmas

The PCC has agreed that we will take part in Love Christmas again this year (having had a year or two off). See last week's sheet for further details. If you would like to contribute please hand your cash/ cheque in an envelope marked 'Love Christmas' in with the weekly collection, or if you wish to donate by card or cash please note the same reference so that we know how much to send to St, Peter's *en bloc* at the end of November. Thank you.

Children's Society boxes

Please could all our lovely Children's Society boxholders bring along their boxes to church on Sunday 24 November so that we can do a count-up after the 10am Service. If that date doesn't work for you, contact Terrie - email terrie.robinson2702@gmail.com or call 07815 802201. If you don't have a box but would like one, do let Terrie know. Find out more about the Children's Society's life-bringing work among our most vulnerable children and young people at www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Community News

From November 11th to December 22nd 2024, Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum is holding a consultation about the draft Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan (MNP) - or the "Regulation 14 Consultation" to give its proper name. This means we are consulting statutory bodies as well as local community organisations. We are also asking people in the area – who live or work in the seven wards of Maidenhead and the Councillors for those wards – for their feedback on the draft MNP. A full explanation of the process by which the draft MNP was put together is at the website mnf.org.uk, and that is where links can be found to the draft plan documents and the portal for making comments.

All the documentation and feedback forms will be available in printed form at Maidenhead Library during the consultation period. They will also be available at two drop-in sessions, November 19th and 23rd from 11am-3pm at the Green Skills Library (Unit 27, Nicholson's Centre, Maidenhead SL6 1LB) and at an MNF stand in Maidenhead High Street 11am-3pm on December 7th.

We hope you will have the time to inspect and comment on the draft Plan. If there are specific issues you wish to discuss, please feel free to come to the drop-in sessions or let us know

Andrew Ingram & Ian Rose

pp MNF Management Committee

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum

Email: secretary@mnf.org.uk Web: <https://mnf.org.uk>

The Alexander Devine Children's Hospice has launched its Christmas appeal – find out more about this valuable community resource here:

<https://alexanderdevine.org/2024/11/help-us-unlock-a-magical-christmas-for-children-like-elikai-this-year/>

Thames Hospice also has a Christmas appeal: <https://www.thameshospice.org.uk/christmas-at-thames-hospice/>

And both hospices are offering a **Christmas Tree collection service** after Christmas – see the flyers below for details.

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 29th November 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 November

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly, 1.30 pm. Next is 12th December

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 27th November

Advent and Christmas at St. Luke's Church 2024

Sunday 1st December

10.00 am **All Age Holy Communion for Advent Sunday**

Christmas Tree Festival 6th – 8th December

Friday 6th December

10.00 am - 7.00 pm, Church open to view decorated trees;
stalls and refreshments

Saturday 7th December

10.00 am - 7.00 pm, Church open to view decorated trees;
stalls and refreshments

Sunday 8th December

midday – 6.00 pm, Church open to view decorated trees;
stalls and refreshments

6.00 pm 'Christmas Tree' Service

Sunday 22nd December

6.00 pm, **Nine Lessons and Carols, by candlelight**
followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Thursday 19th December

3.00 pm, **Keeping Company**
Tea, cake and reflection for those bereaved at any time

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th December

4.00 (younger families) and 5.00 (older families) pm, **Candlelit Crib Services**
10.00 pm **'Midnight Mass'**

Christmas Day, Wednesday 25th December

10.00 am, All Age Christmas Holy Communion

The Feast of the Epiphany – Sunday 5th January

10.00 am All Age Holy Communion service
6.00 pm Epiphany Carol Service

Please note that for 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

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CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOPS

Christmas
POP UP SHOP



Christmas Cards
Gifts
Advent Calendars
Books
and more!

WHERE? ... Maidenhead Salvation Army ...
... East Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1PJ ...

WHEN? ... 31st Oct & 21st Nov: 10am-12pm ...

www.quenchshops.com

**Windsor and Maidenhead
Community Forum
Women's Group**

Ladies of all beliefs and none
are warmly invited to our next meeting
from 7.30 - 9.00 pm
on
Tuesday 19th November 2024
at
St. Luke's Church
Norfolk Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7AX

**An evening of
seasonal crafts and chat**

Further details from:
sally514@btinternet.com www.wamcf.org
www.wamcf.org



**Book your Christmas Tree
Collection TODAY in Aid of**

Thames hospice



Scan the QR code to
donate AND email
nicholas@riversidetreecare.co.uk
to arrange your
collection TODAY

SCAN ME

Collections will be available at the following:
Maidenhead, Bray, Fifield, Holyport, Marlow,
Windsor, Cookham, Bourne End and Taplow



Riverside Tree Care



Messy Church 2025
St Luke's Church
Norfolk Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7AX
www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

First Fridays monthly, 4.00-5.30 pm
Craft, games, family worship and two course meal. £2.00 per child
Please email to book: admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

3rd January	Dorcas
7th February	Simeon and Anna
7th March	Mary Magdalene
4th April	Jesus
2nd May	Thomas
6th June	Peter
4th July	The little boy who shared his lunch
5th September	Luke
3rd October	Matthew
7th November	Paul
28th November	Mary and Joseph



Keeping Company

Space for those who are bereaved

Tea, chat and reflection

St. Luke's Church, 3.00—4.40 pm
in church, third Thursday monthly

16th January 20th February 20th March
17th April 15th May 19th June
17th July 21st August 18th September
16th October 20th November 18th Dec

Anyone is welcome to come along

If you would like a lift please call the Parish Office on
01628 622733

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk



Thursday Teas 2025

Monthly, second Thursday, 1.30pm
In the Community Hall

Time to chat and meet other people

All welcome

9th Jan 13th Feb 13th March 10th April

8th May 12th June 10th July 14th August

11th Sept 9th Oct 13th Nov 11th Dec

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk



St. Luke's church
Norfolk Road

PRAM SERVICE 2025

9.30 - 10.30am

10th Jan 14th Feb 14th March

11th April 9th May 13th June

11th July 12 Sept 10th Oct

14th Nov 12th Dec

A simple service of songs and story
for ages 0 - 4 and their carers
Followed by coffee for adults,
snack and craft for little ones



www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

FR Registered FRANCHISING REGULATOR

Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service

Proudly sponsored by LEYWOOD

Alexander Devine Christmas Treecycling

Supporting your local children's hospice service

Recycle Your Christmas Tree and Keep the Holiday Spirit Green!

Let Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service make tree disposal easy this festive season! Our volunteers will collect and recycle your used tree, helping you give back to nature and your community.

Collection Areas: SL6, SL7, SL8, and RG10 Postal Areas

Scan here to book your tree collection

For a donation to our charity, our volunteers will collect and recycle your Christmas tree between Thursday 9th and Saturday 11th January 2025.