

# St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

Church Office: 01628 622733

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Vicar: [sally514@btinternet.com](mailto:sally514@btinternet.com)

## Week Commencing: 21<sup>st</sup> January, Epiphany 3

This week we have a 10.00am Parish Communion. All are warmly invited to worship. There will be an activity available for children during the service. We are delighted to welcome the Revd. Adam Carlill from Tilehurst as our preacher. At 6pm we have Night Prayer with reflection, on zoom, being led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green. Please use the zoom link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2050342877?pwd=eGRyd1VQZmNZL2E4SXpCUW1RQmIkZz09>

I hope that many of you have now met the Revd, Carol Dunk, who is with us this term on secondment from Easthampsted. Please do introduce yourself and make her welcome as she ministers with us.

### The Collect

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Post Communion Prayer

Almighty Father,  
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
is the light of the world:  
may your people,  
illuminated by your word and sacraments,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshipped,  
and obeyed to the ends of the earth;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

### First Reading

<sup>17</sup>After Abram's return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). <sup>18</sup>And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. <sup>19</sup>He blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; <sup>20</sup>and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!' And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

*Genesis 14.17-20*

### Gospel Reading

<sup>1</sup>On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup>Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup>When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' <sup>5</sup>His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' <sup>6</sup>Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup>He

said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. <sup>9</sup>When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, <sup>10</sup>'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' <sup>11</sup>Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. *John 2.1-11*

### Sunday's Hymns:

690	Jesus is Lord!	812	Through all the changing scenes of life
104	Songs of thankfulness and praise	787(i)	Take my life
99	Hail to the Lord's anointed		

### Thought for the week:

I often joke that the changing of water into wine is my favourite of Jesus' miracles. Someone gave me a plaque which reads, 'If there is no wine in heaven, I'm not going'. I don't think I'd take it that far! But it is true to say that for many people, wine is a symbol of celebration and this first miracle that Jesus enacted was full of symbolism.

William Temple suggests that there are two meanings to this miracle: he wrote: firstly, the changing of water into wine demonstrates the change effected by the touch of Jesus upon the lives of Christians, and secondly, it shows that there is always better to come.

That is all very well but, as we look at our world, we don't always feel like celebrating, or that there is better to come. Perhaps we need to remember that we can't actually experience the lavish grace of God unless it is placed alongside the diversity of human sufferings. The change that happens in our lives is by the grace of God which acts in and through the mess that is going on around us.

Jesus lived at a time of hardship for his people. The wedding he attended took place in an area under Roman occupation, with harsh taxes and brutal treatment of local people by the Romans. None of these things were the fault of the ordinary people. Yet life carried on and in the midst of the mess Jesus offered more – lavishly more – in the wine that he provided.

Unlike the wine at Cana, that transformation of our lives is not instant but gradual. It takes a whole lifetime. And always God is faithful and almost imperceptibly, by each thing that we encounter, we are slowly transformed to become more and more the people he intends us to be. Until one day we do attain the heavenly glory that we will share with him – and saints and angels - in person – hopefully with wine too!

### Prayer suggestions for this week:

- 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 schools as they return to work, and for Mrs Sam Stevenson as she takes up the role of Headteacher at St. Luke's.
- For more children and families to come along to Sunday services / children's activities. And for Sam Fiordelisi as she leads our children and family ministry.



- For a new church music leader.
- For our growth in faith and for the developing Alpha team. For God to be moving guests to join the course.
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in January: Otilie Beresford Jones, Grace Mondal, Ryan Westbury, Ritchie Westbury, Jonas Lanyon, Sebastian Lanyon, Arthur Smith
- For all those who live and work in College Glen.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Iris Brown, Lorraine, Emily Holmes, Ken Young.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Josephine Colton, Beryl Sankey (née Brereton)
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in January: Clifford Collier, David Bateman, Peter Joyce, Roger Martin, Alice Wellman, Ann Hancock, Charles Woodman, Julie Brazenor, Florence Hampton, Derek Jones, Eileen Gulrayani, Edward Hylton Jones, Dawn Crampin, Nora Searle, Michael Marriner, Christine Bowyer, Phyllis Boshier, Trevor Tilbury, Tony Boaks, Dorothy Nicks, Florence Woodruff.

*Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 21st January 2024:*

Sunday	Psalm 113	Hosea 11.1-12.6	John 2
Monday	Psalm 108	Genesis 11.27-12.9	Matthew 26.1-16
Tuesday	Psalm 36	Genesis 13.2-end	Matthew 26.17-35
Wednesday	Psalm 46	Genesis 14	Matthew 26.36-46
Thursday	P119.33-72	Isaiah 49.1-13	Galatians 1.11-end
Friday	Psalm 65	Genesis 16	Matthew 26.57-end
Saturday	Psalm 68	Genesis 17.1-22	Matthew 27.1-10

**Rotas for next week**

**Sunday 28th January: Parish Communion**

Read: Malcolm Moulton

Intercede: Dorothy Strack-Hankey

Welcomers: Ralph, Sue and Jeanette

Coffee: Simone and Season

**Our church is floodlit at night.**

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

**Gill Boaks**

*In loving memory of my husband Tony*

and

**Joan Lynch**

*In loving memory of my husband Len*



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)

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 21st	10.00am, Parish Communion 6.00pm, Night Prayer with reflection, Church of the Good Shepherd, zoom only
Tuesday 23rd	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom
Wednesday 24th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion
Thursday 25th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler Group 3.00pm, Gaynor's gifts knitting group
Friday 26th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 5.00pm, Evening prayer on zoom
Saturday 27th	9.00am, Morning prayer on zoom
Sunday 28th	10.00am, Parish Communion

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

21 <sup>st</sup> January	Night Prayer with reflection, on zoom Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
4 <sup>th</sup> February	Taizé service for Candlemas, in church at St Luke's (also on zoom)
18 <sup>th</sup> February	Evensong and Benediction, in church at All Saints
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Eucharist for St. David, in church at All Saints
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Stations of the Cross, in church at St. Luke's (Passion Sunday)
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Taizé service at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green (Palm Sunday)
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Stations of the Resurrection, on zoom Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
21 <sup>st</sup> April	Eucharist of Wholeness and Healing, in church, at All Saints

## Coming up..

**Messy Church** our Messy church will re-start in the new year, dates are as follows: 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1<sup>st</sup> March, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 7<sup>th</sup> June, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 29<sup>th</sup> November

**Alpha course:** Please do pray for the Alpha course – team and guests. The course will start on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Please speak to Revd. Sally if you think you would like to join the course.

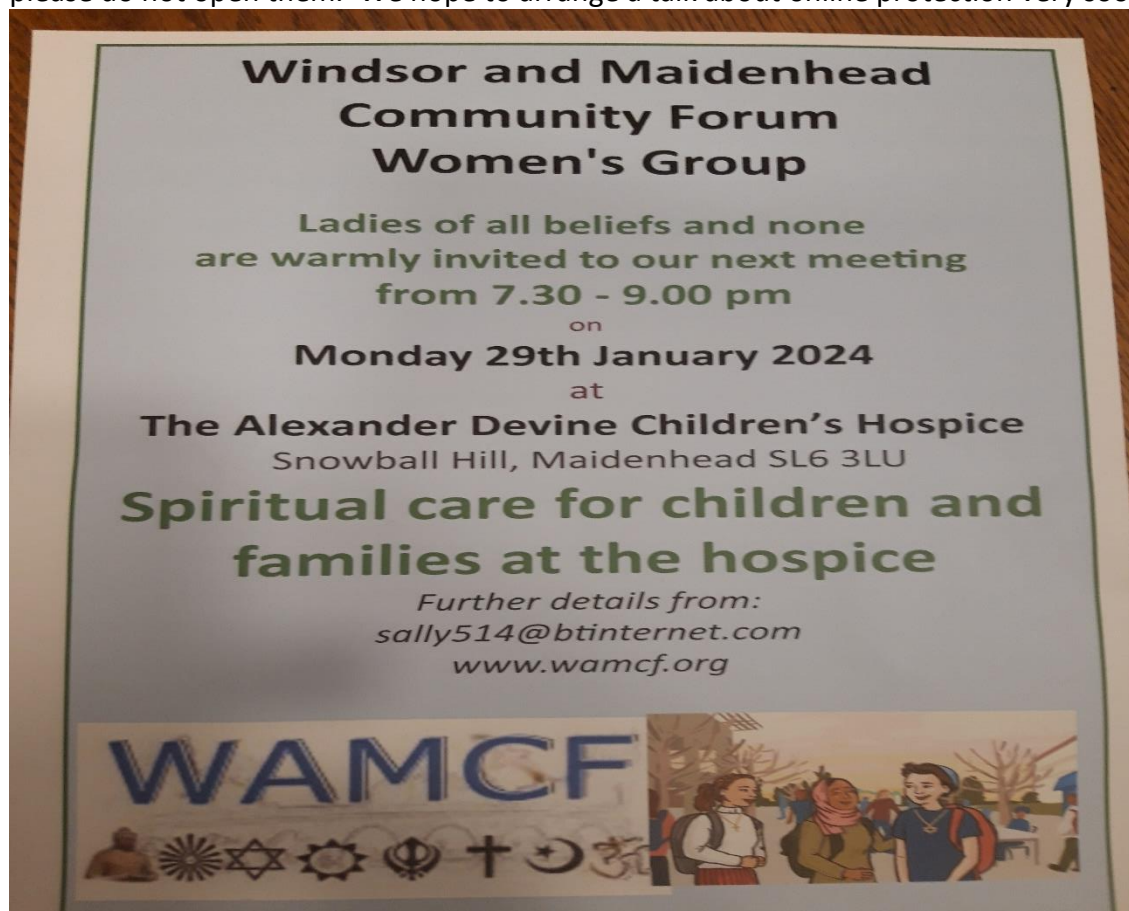
**The Children's Society:** Did you know that you can sign up to receive The Children's Society's monthly prayer email which has prayers for each week that support their work? See here: <https://bit.ly/48reRun>. You can, of course, unsubscribe at any time. Terrie, who is a volunteer speaker for The Children's Society, has written the prayers for January. You can find them here: <https://bit.ly/48IfMGI>. If you would like to know more about The Children's Society's vital work among children and young people, have a word with Terrie at any time.

**World Day of Prayer:** This year, by coincidence, the service is planned by the women of Palestine. It will be held at the High Street Methodist Church on Friday 1st March at 2pm, followed by refreshments. This service is always held on the first Friday in March, beginning in Samoa and making a wave of prayer across the world throughout the day, finishing in American Samoa 24 hours later. All are welcome at this beautiful service. It is planned by the women but we are hoping that more men will attend as well. You can contact Gill Curry or Ruth Sheppard if you would like to know more.

**Church Breakfast:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, doors open 8.45 (end around 10.30 am). All are welcome to come along to enjoy fellowship over a hearty breakfast and to hear our speaker, Ruth Humphreys, talk about her work as a Storyteller in what is National Storytelling week. Tickets are £5 each and available now from the parish office or after church.

**Lent Lunches** are back this year! Sundays at midday in church: 18 February, 3<sup>rd</sup> March and 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Fake emails:** a reminder to be vigilant about opening emails that do not ring true. This week a number of people have received emails purporting to be from Phyllis Sigsworth – they are not so please do not open them. We hope to arrange a talk about online protection very soon.



### **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 term time only. We meet in church.

**Messy Church** continues on the first (usually) Friday, monthly, 4-5.30pm. Next is 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 [admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto: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 15<sup>th</sup> February

**Thursday Teas** meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 8<sup>th</sup> 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. 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly. Next is 25<sup>th</sup> 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/85378796960?pwd=dUNTtnRZVFJBY2xiS3QyVHIYZ1BaZz09> Meeting ID:

853 7879 6960

Passcode: 386635