



# 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: 25<sup>th</sup> February, Lent 2**

This week we have a 10.00am Parish Communion, with activity for children. All are warmly invited.

## The Collect

Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error  
the light of your truth,  
that they may return  
to the way of righteousness:  
grant to all those who are admitted  
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,  
that they may reject those things  
that are contrary to their profession,  
and follow all such things  
as are agreeable to the same;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ...

## Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,  
you see that we have no power of ourselves  
to help ourselves:  
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,  
and inwardly in our souls;  
that we may be defended from all adversities  
which may happen to the body,  
and from all evil thoughts  
which may assault and hurt the soul;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## First Reading

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. <sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

*Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16*

## Gospel Reading

<sup>31</sup>Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' <sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my

sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.' *Mark 8.31-end*

### **Sunday's Hymns:**

4(i)	New every morning is the love
585	All I once held dear
748	O Jesus I have promised
510	Will you come and follow me

### **Thought for the week:**

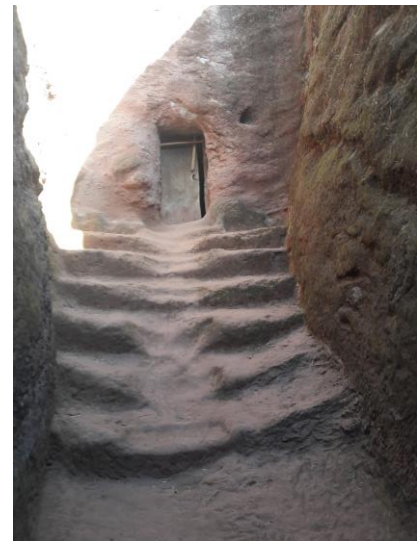
Jesus' encouragement to 'take up your cross' is a familiar term but perhaps sometimes misquoted today. We often talk about taking up our cross in a grumpy way – 'that's the cross we bear'.

We might think of it quite differently if we understand the meaning of the phrase. What Jesus seemed rather to be suggesting was that as Christians we share his cross by participating in his work. This is still hugely costly but Jesus shares the load with us, in whatever he calls us to in his service.

For Peter in today's gospel story, and years before for Abraham there was a cost in answering God's call and following Him. There was huge change too, yet also many blessings.

It will be so for us as individuals and as churches. Following God may feel like we are on a steep path with an unknown future – but if God is love then God is with us all the way and who knows what joys lie in store.

And look again at the passage - Jesus does not force his cross on anyone – it is an invitation – *if* anyone *wants* to follow me, *let* them take up cross. Will we accept that invitation this Lent?



### **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 more children and families to come along to Sunday services / children's activities.
- 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 February: Harry Ford, Oscar Ford, Zara Mean, Lucy Walwyn Salisbury, Harriet Walwyn Salisbury.
- 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, John Walden, +Alan Wilson, Margaret Morgan.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in February: Peter Sharp, Valerie Merkel, Doreen Leverkus, Monica Macaulay Brown, Jean Glossop, Doreen Palmer, Rodgers Murwisi, Peter Curtis, Joan Bartholomew, Harvey Lovegrove, Stanley Swansborough, Christine Dawson, Walter Horwood, Judy Galvin, Oliver Mercer, Barbara Stevens, Douglas Thomson.

*Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 25th February 2024:*

Sunday	Psalm 105.1-6, 37-end	Genesis 27.1-40	Matthew 9.1-17
Monday	Psalm 32	Genesis 43.16-end	Hebrews 1
Tuesday	Psalm 50	Genesis 44.1-17	Hebrews 2.1-9
Wednesday	Psalm 35	Genesis 44.18-end	Hebrews 2.10-end
Thursday	Psalm 34	Genesis 45.1-15	Hebrews 3.1-6
Friday	Psalm 41	Genesis 45.16-end	Hebrews 3.7-end
Saturday	Psalm 25	Genesis 46.1-7	Hebrews 4.1-13

**Rotas for next week Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: Parish Communion (All Age Mothering Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March)**

Read: Shula Tajima

Intercede: Simon Bader

Welcomers: Clare, Helen and Carl

Coffee: Jeanette and Lisa

**Our church is floodlit at night.**

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

**Jose and Eleanor Kershaw**

*In loving memory of David Kershaw*



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 25th	10.00am, Parish Communion
Tuesday 27th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom
Wednesday 28th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion 11.00am, Lent course, in Church 7.00pm, Alpha Course, in Church
Thursday 29th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler group
Friday 1st	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 2.00pm, World Day of Prayer, High Street Methodist Church 4.00pm, Messy Church
Saturday 2nd	9.00am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 9.30-2.30pm, Wedding Preparation day
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

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

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

**The funeral of Julienne Grobler** will take place in church at 11 am on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Please do remember Julienne's family and friends in your prayers.

**The funeral of John Walden** is on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February at midday, and will be live streamed via the Holy Trinity, Minchinhamton website: <https://www.minchchurch.org.uk/>

### Coming up..

**Messy Church** our Messy church dates are as follows: 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 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.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 need to know more.

### LENT

**Lent Lunches** are back this year! Sundays at midday (or just after) in church: 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. 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.

## 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>

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

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

## Schubert and all that Jazz



Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)**

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



## 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 01 March 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 21<sup>st</sup> March

**Thursday Teas** meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 14<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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. 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly. Next is 28<sup>th</sup> March

**Please note that for all Zoom services the links below are being used:**

### Sunday Morning Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFxVlNad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzdz09>

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