



St Luke's Church Fontainebleau

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Service of the Word

31 August 2025

Service led by Nancy Austin, CWL



Welcome to our service this morning.

The outline for today's service is contained in this service guide and from our [website](#).

You are invited to respond at various points with the words in bold print.

If you have any prayer concerns that you would like included in our prayers today there is a book at the back of the Chapel where you can write these down.

Our chaplain contact details: chaplain.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com



Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life.

It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity.

It is through encountering God within worship
that we are formed and transformed as his people.

As we sit quietly before this service commences let us prepare ourselves to meet Jesus and receive him into our hearts by spending a few moments in prayer and reflection.

THE GATHERING

Please stand as we sing our first Hymn:

Hymn: Come down, o love divine (SoF 1202)

1. *Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.*
2. *O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illumine.*

3. *Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.*

4. *And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.*

THE GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace and peace be with you

and keep you in the love of Christ.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known , and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION *Please sit or kneel as we pray together :*

Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love
with all the saints in earth and heaven.
Knowing our unworthiness and sin,
let us ask from him both mercy and forgiveness.

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant
Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and
unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Please stand as we say together:

**Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to his people on earth;
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

We sit for our first reading.

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

Thus says the LORD:

*What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me,
and went after worthless things, and became worthless
themselves?*

*They did not say, 'Where is the LORD
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?'*

*I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.
But when you entered you defiled my land,
and made my heritage an abomination.
The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?'
Those who handle the law did not know me;
the rulers transgressed against me;*

*the prophets prophesied by Baal,
and went after things that do not profit.*

*Therefore once more I accuse you,
says the LORD,
and I accuse your children's children.
Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.
Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.
Be appalled, O heavens, at this,
be shocked, be utterly desolate,
says the LORD,
for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.*

....This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE: Psalm 81:1, 10-16

Please say the words printed in bold:

¹*Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.*

¹⁰***I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.***

¹¹*"But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me.*

¹²***So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels.***

¹³*O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!*

¹⁴***Then I would quickly subdue their enemies, and turn my hand against their foes.***

¹⁵*Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, and their doom would last forever.*

¹⁶***I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”***

We say together:

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and shall be forever.
Amen.**

Gradual Hymn: Hear the call of the Kingdom (SoF 1819)

*1 Hear the call of the kingdom,
lift your eyes to the King,
Let His song rise within you as a fragrant offering,
Of how God, rich in mercy,
came in Christ to redeem
All who trust in His unfailing grace.*

*2 Hear the call of the Kingdom
to be children of light,
With the mercy of heaven, the humility of Christ.
Walking justly before Him, loving all that is right
That the life of Christ may shine through Him.*

***Ref. King of Heaven, we will answer the call,
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
Filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
Salvation in Jesus' name.***

*3 Hear the call of the Kingdom to reach out to the lost,
With the Father's compassion in the wonder of the
cross,
Bringing peace and forgiveness, and a hope yet to
come;
Let the nations put their trust in Him.*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 13. 10-17

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. ‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, “Give this person your place”, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher”; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’

He said also to the one who had invited him, ‘When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.’

.... This is the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON *Please be seated.*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Please stand .*

Let us declare our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from
heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will
come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in
one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of
the world to come.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Please sit or kneel. ...*

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

THE PEACE

Once we were far off
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

You are invited to greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

We sing our Offertory Hymn during which the collection is taken up.

Offertory hymn: King of kings, Majesty (Sof 1404)

*1 King of kings, Majesty
God of Heaven living in me
Gentle Saviour, closest friend
Strong Deliverer, beginning and end
All within me falls at Your throne*

*R: Your Majesty, I can but bow
I lay my all before you now.
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve your majesty*

*2 Earth and Heaven worship You
Love eternal, Faithful and True
Who bought the nations, ransomed souls
Brought this sinner near to Your throne
All within me cries out in praise.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.
Amen.**

OUR NOTICES

Please stand while we sing our Final Hymn.

Final hymn: The Lord's my shepherd (SoF 1030)

*1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.*

Ref *And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

*2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.*

*3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.*

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We stand and say together:

**God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and
worship you
now and always.**

THE BLESSING

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling
up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all.
Amen

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ.



Giving to Saint-Luke's

The Anglican Church of St. Luke's Fontainebleau is 100% self-funded and our ministry depends on God's faithfulness and the faithful giving of time, talents, and money from our congregation as we seek to serve Jesus Christ through welcome, worship, and witness.

GIVING TO ST LUKE'S CAN BE MADE IN A VARIETY OF WAYS:

1. Regular monthly giving by bank transfer. This is by far the easiest and most efficient way to provide regular financial support to St Luke's (bank details at the bottom of page).
2. Occasional or one-off donations via Bank Transfer.
3. Regular or occasional giving by cheque: either by sending a cheque made payable to "Eglise Anglicane de Fontainebleau" to the Treasurer or simply placing a cheque in the collection basket during the service.
4. Cash offerings in the collection basket in the service (Euros preferably!). Please consider replacing any giving that you would have made in cash with a cheque or an online donation during the period of suspension of physical services.

** All information concerning giving and donations is private and treated as confidential **

** Standing orders for regular giving by bank transfer can be amended or cancelled at any time **

TAX CERTIFICATES


If you are a French taxpayer, you will receive an annual 'tax certificate' for your giving online, by bank transfer or cheque which will allow you to claim a reduction on your tax (*)

*up to a limit for all your charitable giving of 20% of your taxable income

FURTHER INFORMATION

Should you require any additional information or have any questions or require assistance, please contact Christopher Burton-Page:
treasurer.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com

THANK YOU - your generous giving, whatever the amount, large or small, is so important to us and is greatly appreciated.



RELEVÉ D'IDENTITÉ BANCAIRE

Identifiant national de compte bancaire - RIB							
Banque	Guichet	N° compte	Clé	Devise			AGENCE DE FONTAINEBLEAU
30087	33862	00013539701	36	EUR			
Identifiant international de compte bancaire							
IBAN (International Bank Account Number)							BIC (Bank Identifier Code)
FR76	3008	7338	6200	0135	3970	136	CMCIFRPP
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