



# St Luke's Church Fontainebleau

## Holy Cross Day Service of the Word

14 September 2025

*Service led by Rev'd Dr Donald McFadyen*



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](mailto: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.

### WELCOME

*Please stand as we sing our first Hymn.*

### OPENING HYMN: IN CHRIST ALONE (SOF 1346)

*1. IN CHRIST ALONE my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.*

*2. In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.*

*3. There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine –  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

*4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!*

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

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

*Words of welcome and introduction may follow.*

**Loving Lord, fill us with your new life  
and with the joy and peace of your presence.  
May we praise you now with our lips  
and make room in our hearts for you. Amen.**

#### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*Please be seated.*

Let us bring to God our sins and ask his forgiveness.  
God our Father, we come to you in sorrow  
for our sins;

For when we turn away from you and  
ignore your will for our lives:  
Father, forgive us:  
**Save us and help us.**

For when we behave just as we wish,  
without thinking of you:  
Father, forgive us:  
**Save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do, and think  
and say:  
Father, forgive us:

May the God of love bring you back to himself,  
forgive you your sins, and assure you of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Save us and help us.**

For when we let ourselves be drawn  
away from you by temptations in the  
world;  
Father, forgive us:  
**Save us and help us.**

For when we live as if we were  
ashamed to belong to your son;  
Father, forgive us:  
**Save us and help us.**

#### 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

Almighty God,  
you search us and know us:  
may we rely on you in strength  
and rest on you in weakness,  
now and in all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*We sit for our first reading:*

NUMBERS 21:4-9

*From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said,*

*"We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.*

For the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE:PSALM 22:23-28

*Please say the words in bold:*

23 You who fear the Lord, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!  
**24 For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;**  
**he did not hide his face from me**  
*but heard when I cried to him.*  
25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
*my vows I will pay before those who fear him.*

**26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;**  
**those who seek him shall praise the Lord.**

**May your hearts live forever!**  
27 All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.

**28 For dominion belongs to the Lord,**  
**and he rules over the nations.**

*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.**

HYMN: WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS (SoF 596)

1. WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS  
CROSS

*On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God:  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.*

*3. See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*4. Were the whole realm of Nature mine,  
That were an offering far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!*

*We sit for our second reading:*

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 3:13-17

*No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.*

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*

*"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."*

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON

DECLARATION OF FAITH

*Please stand.*

Let us affirm our faith in God:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father who made the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ who redeemed mankind?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God?

**I believe and trust in him.**

**This is the faith of the Church**

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Please be seated.*

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

## THE PEACE

*Please stand.*

God is love  
and those who live in love live in God  
and God lives in them.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## THE OFFERTORY HYMN: HERE IS LOVE, VAST AS THE OCEAN (SOF 168)

*During which an offering is collected:*

1. *HERE IS LOVE vast as the ocean,  
Loving kindness as the flood,  
When the Prince of life, our ransom  
Shed for us His precious blood.  
Who His love will not remember?  
Who can cease to sing His praise?  
He can never be forgotten  
Throughout heaven's eternal days.*

2. *On the Mount of Crucifixion  
Fountains opened deep and wide;  
Through the floodgates of God's mercy  
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.  
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,  
Poured incessant from above,  
And heaven's peace and perfect justice  
Kissed a guilty world in love.*

*We say together:*

**All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give you.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:*

**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

### THE SENDING OUT

*We sing our Final Hymn:*

#### FINAL HYMN: JESUS IS LORD - THE CRY THAT ECHOES (SOF 1387)

1. 'JESUS IS LORD' - the cry that echoes  
through creation;  
Resplendent power, eternal Word, our Rock.  
The Son of God, the King whose glory fills the  
heavens,  
Yet bids us come to taste this living Bread.

2. Jesus is Lord - whose voice sustains the  
stars and planets,  
Yet in His wisdom laid aside His crown.  
Jesus the Man, who washed our feet, who  
bore our suffering,  
Became a curse to bring salvation's plan.

3. Jesus is Lord - the tomb is gloriously  
empty!  
Not even death could crush this King of love!  
The price is paid, the chains are loosed, and  
we're forgiven,  
And we can run into the arms of God.

4. 'Jesus is Lord' - a shout of joy, a cry of  
anguish,  
As He returns, and every knee bows low.  
Then every eye and every heart will see His  
glory,  
The Judge of all will take His children home.

### THE BLESSING

God, who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ,  
keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

*The dismissal:*

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

*You are invited to refreshments following the service, please stay for a chat and if we can be of help in any way, please speak to the clergy or to a member of the welcome team. You may also contact our chaplain at the following email address: [chaplain.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com](mailto:chaplain.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com).*



## 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](mailto:treasurer.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com)

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

						
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