

## St Luke's Church Fontainebleau

# All Saints' Sunday (Fourth Sunday before Advent) Holy Communion Service







Welcome to our service this morning.

The outline for today's service is contained in this service guide and from our <u>website</u>. 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: For all the saints (SoF 109)

1. FOR ALL THE SAINTS, who from their labours rest.

Who Thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

2. Thou wast their Rock, their fortress, and their might;

Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight; Thou in the darkness drear their one true light. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

3. O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;

Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

- 4. But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day; The saints triumphant rise in bright array; The King of glory passes on His way. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 5. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,

Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,

Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

### 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:

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit. Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

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 you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

Please stand as we say together:

Glory to the Father, the God of love who created us; Who continually preserves and sustains us; Who has loved us with an everlasting love, and given us the light and knowledge of his glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Blessed be God forever.

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

We sit for our first reading.

## Ephesians 1. 11-end

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may

give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Thanks be to God.

**CANTICLE: Psalm 149** 

Please say the words printed in bold:

1 Praise the Lord!
Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

2 Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

- 3 Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.
- 4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.
- 5 Let the faithful exult in glory;

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 Hym: Spirit of Holiness (SoF 1010)** 

SPIRIT OF HOLINESS, Wisdom and faithfulness, Wind of the Lord, Blowing strongly and free: Strength of our serving let them sing for joy on their couches.

6 Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,

7 to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

8 to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron,

9 to execute on them the judgement decreed. This is glory for all his faithful ones.

Praise the Lord!

And joy of our worshipping; Spirit of God, Bring Your fulness to me! 1. You came to interpret
And teach us effectively
All that the Saviour
Has spoken and done;
To glorify Jesus is all Your activity;
Promise and Gift
Of the Father and Son:

2. You came with Your gifts
To supply all our poverty,
Pouring Your love
On the church in her need;
You came with Your fruit
For our growth to maturity,
Richly refreshing
The souls that You feed:

#### THE GOSPEL READING

Priest : Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

All : Alleluia.

Priest : The Lord be with you.
All : **And also with you.** 

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

All : Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Luke 6. 20-31

Then Jesus looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

'Blessed are you who are hungry now,

for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

'Woe to you who are full now,

for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

.... 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 LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

#### THE GREETING OF PEACE

May the God of peace sanctify you: may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before him at the coming of our Lord Jesus with his saints.

The peace of the triune God be always with you and also with you.

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: Behold the Lamb (SoF 1724)

- 1. BEHOLD THE LAMB who bears our sins away, Slain for us: and we remember
  The promise made that all who come in faith
  Find forgiveness at the cross.
  So we share in this bread of life,
  And we drink of His sacrifice,
  As a sign of our bonds of peace
  Around the table of the King.
- 2. The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
  Torn for you: eat and remember
  The wounds that heal, the death that brings us
  life,
  Paid the price to make us one.
  So we share in this bread of life,
  And we drink of His sacrifice,
  As a sign of our bonds of love
  - Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

- 3. The blood that cleanses every stain of sin Shed for you: drink and remember He drained death's cup that all may enter in To receive the life of God. So we share in this bread of life, And we drink of His sacrifice, As a sign of our bonds of grace Around the table of the King.
- 4. And so with thankfulness and faith We rise to respond and to remember Our call to follow in the steps of Christ As His body here on earth.
  As we share in His suffering We proclaim: Christ will come again! And we'll join in the feast of heaven Around the table of the King.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Please remain standing.

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table:

Around the table of the King.

To you we come, Father of lights, with angels and saints, where heaven and earth unite.

May Jesus meet us in the breaking of the bread.

Amen.

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

God is praised for his mighty acts and we respond:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. The Last Supper is recalled and we follow with the acclamation:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world. God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

All baptised and communicant members of other Churches are invited to come forward and receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Those who do not receive Communion for whatever reason are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer the People say AMEN. A short time of silent prayer follows.

The priest may say a special post-communion prayer.

We pray together:

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Amen.

#### **OUR NOTICES**

Please stand while we sing our Final Hymn.

## Final hymn: Be thou my vision (SoF 42)

1. BE THOU MY VISION, O Lord of my heart, Be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art; Be Thou my best thought in the day and the night.

Both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word,

Be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee, Lord; Be Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son; Be Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;

Be Thou my whole armour, be Thou my true might;

Be Thou my soul's shelter, be Thou my strong tower:

O raise Thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

4. Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise: Be Thou mine inheritance now and always; Be Thou and Thou only the first in my heart: O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

5. High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright Sun,

O grant me its joys after victory is won; Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

#### THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

#### THE BLESSING

May God, who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints, pour upon you the riches of his grace. **Amen.** 

May he give you joy in their fellowship and a share in their praises.

Amen.

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness and to come to the full radiance of glory.

#### Amen

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.



## **Church Notices**

## Praise and Prayer evenings

Please put in your diaries one further date when we come together to praise God for his goodness and pray for our life as St Luke's and for God's world: Friday 28th November at 7:30pm at the home of Christopher and Marie-Céline, 31 rue Madame Müller, 77210 Avon.

#### Men's Breakfast

The next two Men's Breakfasts will be held on Saturday 8th November and Saturday 13th December.

If you intend to come, please drop Donald an email (<u>chaplain.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com</u>) so that we can organise the catering appropriately. Many thanks.

## Return to Saint-Aspais

We are hoping that we will be able to return to St Aspais on Sunday 9th November. We are planning a special celebratory lunch after the service that day. Ory Eshel will be coordinating the catering arrangements.

## Reading the Bible

Following on from our celebration of Bible Sunday, and as some of you are aware, we have a group of New Daylight Bible Reading Fellowship readers in St Luke's who subscribe annually to receive a set of quarterly notes at a cost of approx 30€ per year. These help you develop a 'holy habit' of reading a little part of the Bible each day, with the help of gifted teachers who introduce you to one of its books, and whose commentary helps you understand it better.

As the blurb says, 'New Daylight provides four months of daily Bible readings and comment, with a regular team of contributors drawn from a range of church backgrounds. It is ideal for anybody wanting an accessible yet stimulating aid to spending time with God each day, deepening their faith and their knowledge of scripture.'

If you'd like to join the group receiving New Daylight, please contact Annabel Pouget: abelpouget@aol.com and she would be happy to add your name to the order for the year starting January 2026.

# 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 \*

## 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: <a href="mailto:treasurer.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com">treasurer.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com</a>

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

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