



## St Luke's Church Fontainebleau

The Baptism of Christ  
*The First Sunday of Epiphany*  
Holy Communion Service

11 January 2026

*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.

### THE GATHERING

*Please stand as we sing our first Hymn.*

**Hymn:xxx (SoF xxx)**



### 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 the light of the world has come  
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.  
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

God our Father,



you sent your Son full of grace and truth:

forgive our failure to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour,  
you were born in poverty and laid in a  
manger:  
forgive our greed and rejection of your  
ways.  
Christ, have mercy.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw you to himself,  
that you may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh,  
and be cleansed from all your sins,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of love,  
your servant Mary responded joyfully to  
your call:  
forgive the hardness of our hearts.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

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

Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:  
may we recognize him as our Lord  
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
**Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*We sit for our first reading.*

**Isaiah 42:1-9**

*Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;  
a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.*

*He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.*

*Thus says God, the Lord,  
who created the heavens and stretched them  
out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from  
it,*

*who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:  
I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,  
to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,*

*from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the Lord; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

#### CANTICLE: Psalm 29

*Please say the words printed in bold:*

*1 Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;  
worship the Lord in holy splendour.  
3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the Lord, over mighty waters.  
4 The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.  
5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf*

*and Sirion like a young wild ox.  
7 The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.  
8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.  
9 The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl  
and strips the forest bare,  
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"  
10 The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.  
11 May the Lord give strength to his people!  
May the Lord bless his people with peace!*

*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: xxx (SoF xxx)

#### THE GOSPEL READING

Priest : The Lord be with you.

All : **And also with you.**

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

All : **Glory to you, O Lord.**

#### Matthew 3:13-17

*Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."*

.... 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

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.  
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.  
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.  
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: xxx (SoF xxx)**

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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Please remain standing.*

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table:*

Word made flesh, life of the world,  
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:  
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.  
**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: xxx (SoF xxx)**

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

##### THE BLESSING

May the Father,  
who has loved the eternal Son  
from before the foundation of the world,  
shed that love upon you his children.  
**Amen.**

May Christ,  
who by his incarnation gathered into one  
things earthly and heavenly,

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

fill you with joy and peace.

**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,  
by whose overshadowing Mary became the  
God-bearer,  
give you grace to carry the good news of  
Christ.

**Amen.**

#### THE DISMISSAL

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



## Church Notices

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### **Men's Breakfast**

The next Men's Breakfast will take place on **Saturday January 10th**, 10:00-11:30am, at Donald and Netta's apartment, 2 rue des Bois. If you're planning on coming, please let Donald know ([chaplain.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com](mailto:chaplain.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com)) so we can plan catering. Many thanks.

### **Area Dean**

Bishop Robert has asked Donald to become Area Dean with responsibilities for Anglican ministry in the Paris area and north east France. This is a voluntary position, undertaken in addition to his other duties. The purpose of the role is defined thus: 'Area deans support the diocesan bishop and archdeacons in the oversight and pastoral care within their designated deanery, while also relaying issues or concerns affecting colleagues and congregations.' Please pray for Donald as he takes on this new responsibility. He will be commissioned by Archdeacon Peter Hooper on Monday January 26th in St George's Church, Paris.

### **Week of Christian Unity services in January 2026:**

Dates and venues for the week of Christian unity services organised with all Christian churches in the south Seine-Et-Marne:

#### **Pôle Fontainebleau:**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026 at 8PM, Couvent des Carmes, Avon.

#### **Pôle Moret / Nemours / Montereau:**

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026 at 8PM, Eglise Saint-Lambert, Varennes-Sur-Seine. The sermon will be done by our Chaplain (in French).



## 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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