



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



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:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord of glory be with you.

The Lord bless you.

We remain standing 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 illumining.

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 he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes His 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.**

CONFSSION & 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.

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.
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

Let us pray that we may be faithful to our baptism.

Silence is kept.

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

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: On Jordan's Bank

1 *On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh.
Awake and harken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!*

2 *Then cleansed be every life from sin:
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.*

3 *We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward.
Without your grace we waste away*

like flowers that wither and decay.

4 *Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.*

5 *All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.*

THE GOSPEL READING

Priest : Alleluia, alleluia.

 This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

All : **Alleluia.**

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: Thank you for saving me (SoF 1015)

1. THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME;
What can I say?
You are my everything,
I will sing Your praise.
You shed Your blood for me;
What can I say?
You took my sin and shame,
A sinner called by name.

Ref:
Great is the Lord.
Great is the Lord.

For we know Your truth has set us free;
You've set Your hope in me.

2. Mercy and grace are mine,
Forgiven is my sin;
Jesus, my only hope,
The Saviour of the world.
'Great is the Lord,' we cry;
God, let Your kingdom come.
Your word has let me see,
Thank You for saving me.

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.*

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Open the heavens, Lord our God,
and send your transforming Spirit
on us and on these gifts.
May we who are baptized into Christ
be ready to share his cup of suffering
and strengthened to serve him for ever.
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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Believing the promises of God, 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.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Hymn during communion: River wash over me (SoF 487)

1. *RIVER, WASH OVER ME,
Cleanse me and make me new.
Bathe me, refresh me and fill me anew,
River wash over me.*

2. *Spirit, watch over me,
Lead me to Jesus' feet.*

*Cause me to worship and fill me anew,
Spirit, watch over me.*

3. *Jesus, rule over me,
Reign over all my heart.
Teach me to praise You and fill me anew,
Jesus, rule over me.*

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: Crown Him with many crowns (SoF 77)

1. *CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.*

2. *Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save:
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.*

3. *Crown Him the Lord of love;
Behold His hands and side,
Those wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified:*

*No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends His burning eye
At mysteries so bright.*

4. *Crown Him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
And all be prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end,
And round His piercèd feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.*

5. *Crown Him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime!
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.*

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

ACCLAMATION

The Father's voice bears witness to the Son.
God has revealed himself to us.

The Son bows his head beneath the waters of baptism.
God has revealed himself to us.

The Spirit as a dove descends from heaven.
God has revealed himself to us.

Submitting to John's baptism, Christ delivers us from bondage.
God has revealed himself to us.

THE BLESSING

May God the Father,
who led the wise men by the shining of a star
to find the Christ, the Light from Light,
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.
Amen.

May God the Son,
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast
at Cana,
transform your lives and make glad your hearts.
Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit,
who came upon the beloved Son
at his baptism in the river Jordan,
pour out his gifts on you
who have come to the waters of new birth.
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

We have come to Christ, the living water.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.



Church Notices

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) so we can plan catering. Many thanks.

Church Council

Please pray for your Church Council as they meet on **Saturday January 17th**, working closely with the Chaplain to guide the life of St Luke's.

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 21st January 2026 at 8PM, Couvent des Carmes, Avon.

Pôle Moret / Nemours / Montereau:

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

Praise & Prayer

You are warmly invited to our next Praise & Prayer evening, a special time to meet together in an informal setting, to praise God in song and to pray for his church and world. It will be held on **Friday January 30th at 07:30pm** at the home of Christopher and Marie-Céline: 31 rue Madame Muller, 77210 Avon.

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.

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