



# St Luke's Church Fontainebleau

## The Second Sunday before Lent Service of the Word

08 February 2026

*Service led by Rev'd Dr Donald McFadyen*

**DON'T  
WORRY!**

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: ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING (SoF 645)

**1. ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING,**  
*Lift up your voice and with us sing:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:*

*Ref:*

*O praise Him, O praise Him,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!*

**2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,**  
*Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,  
O praise Him, hallelujah!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening, find a voice:*

**3. Thou flowing water, pure and clear,**  
*Make music for thy Lord to hear,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Thou fire so masterful and bright,  
That givest man both warmth and light:*

**4. And all ye men of tender heart,**  
*Forgiving others, take your part,  
O sing ye, hallelujah!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on Him cast your care:*

**5. Let all things their Creator bless,**  
*And worship Him in humbleness,  
O praise Him, hallelujah!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:*

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:

**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.**

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.**

#### 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

Almighty God,  
give us reverence for all creation  
and respect for every person,  
that we may mirror your likeness  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*We sit for our first reading:*

ROMANS 8:18-25

*I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know*

*that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

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

CANTICLE: PSALM 136. 1-9, 23-END

*Please say the words in bold:*

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever.**  
2 O give thanks to the God of gods,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever.**  
3 O give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever;**  
4 who alone does great wonders,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever;**  
5 who by understanding made the heavens,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever;**  
6 who spread out the earth on the waters,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever;**  
7 who made the great lights,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever;**

8 the sun to rule over the day,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever;**  
9 the moon and stars to rule over the night,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever.**  
23 It is he who remembered us in our low estate,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever;**  
24 and rescued us from our foes,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever;**  
25 who gives food to all flesh,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever.**  
26 O give thanks to the God of heaven,  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever.**

*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: SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD (SOF 493)

1. *SEEK YE FIRST the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you,  
Hallelu, hallelujah!*

*Ref:  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelu, hallelujah!*

2. *Man shall not live by bread alone,  
But by every word  
That proceeds from the mouth of God,  
Hallelu, hallelujah!*

3. *Ask and it shall be given unto you,  
Seek and ye shall find.  
Knock and it shall be opened unto you,  
Hallelu, hallelujah!*

4. *If the Son shall set you free,  
Ye shall be free indeed.  
Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set*

*you free,  
Hallelu, hallelujah!*

5. *Let your light so shine before men  
That they may see your good works  
And glorify your Father in heaven,  
Hallelu, hallelujah!*

6. *Trust in the Lord with all thine heart,  
He shall direct thy paths,  
In all thy ways acknowledge Him,  
Hallelu, hallelujah!*

*We sit for our second reading:*

#### NEW TESTAMENT READING: MATTHEW 6:25-34

*Jesus said, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

*'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.'*

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: LORD OF THE CHURCH (SOF 1433)

*During which an offering is collected:*

1. LORD OF THE CHURCH,  
We pray for our renewing:  
Christ over all, our undivided aim;  
Fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduing,  
Wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!  
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,  
The will that lacks the courage to be free,  
The weary labours, all but unavailing,  
To bring us nearer what a church should be.

2. Lord of the Church, we seek a Father's  
blessing,  
A true repentance and a faith restored,  
A swift obedience and a new possessing,  
Filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!

We turn to Christ from all our restless striving,  
Unnumbered voices with a single prayer -  
The living water for our souls' reviving,  
In Christ to live, and love and serve and care.

3. Lord of the Church, we long for our uniting,  
True to one calling, by one vision stirred;  
One cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,  
One in the truth of Jesus and His word!  
So lead us on; till toil and trouble ended,  
One Church triumphant one new song shall  
sing,  
To praise His glory, risen and ascended,  
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

*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: IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE (SOF 234)

*1. IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of  
Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we  
praise.*

*2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in  
might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness  
and love.*

*3. To all life Thou givest, to both great and  
small;  
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the*

*tree,  
And wither and perish; but naught changeth  
Thee.*

*4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their  
sight;  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee.*

*5. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of  
Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we  
praise.*

### 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).*



## CHURCH NOTICES

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### Leading Intercessions

Our prayers on a Sunday morning are an important and integral part of our worship. We have a rota for our Intercessions which is separate from the other sign-up rota. If you would be interested in joining our merry band of intercessors, please drop Netta a line at mcfadyens@hotmail.com or send an SMS to Netta at +33 (0) 6 81 87 62 57.

Do ask if you are unsure or if you have any queries. Thank you.

### Men's Breakfast

We next meet on Saturday February 14th, 10:00-11:30am at Ory and Linda's house, 8 rue Théodore Rousseau, 77300 Fontainebleau. All men are very welcome to come and share friendship, coffee and croissants.

### Lent is coming...

I once heard a bishop say to a congregation, "I wish you a gruelling Lent!" What he meant, of course, was that he hoped people would take the opportunity given by Lenten disciplines to deepen their Christian faith. This year the Council has decided that we should likewise focus on Lent as a time to deepen our faith as a church, by denying ourselves and deepening our lives of prayer. This is not easy, but doing it together is much easier than trying to do it alone. There will be four 'inputs' to help us: Ash Wednesday, Sunday preaching, Lent lunches, and a Lent Course.

i) **Ash Wednesday Service** which will be on February 18th at our Chapel, 57 Rue de Fleury, 77300 Fontainebleau.

ii) **Sundays** during Lent will include teaching about the ancient practice of fasting, from food most obviously, but also from aspects of modern life too, like 'screen time'.

#### iii) **Lent Lunches**

This year's Lent Lunches will take a slightly different format.

We will meet each time at Netta and Donald's apartment:

2 Rue Des Bois, 77300, Fontainebleau. 3rd floor (there is a lift!) between 12:30h & 14:00h on the following five Thursdays in Lent: February 26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th.

We will have our usual soup and bread, followed by fruit and coffee or tea. The idea is to have a frugal meal and to donate what we might have spent on lunch to the Lent Lunch 'collection pot' with a suggested donation of 10 euros each. We can discuss at our first lunch where we would like our donation to go and we can then put that to the Council at their next meeting for approval. (Last year we put the money aside to pay for a new altar cloth and lectern fall, which is an on-going project.)

Netta will provide the venue and coffee and tea; others are invited to provide soup or bread or fruit. Please do so either in pairs or as a solo effort. Please confirm your attendance to Netta with 48hrs notice for catering purposes.

In order to mark Lent and to keep our focus on the opportunity this gives us to pray together and to think a little 'outside the box', Netta has offered to lead a little 'Thought for the Day' during the meal. Nothing heavy, just a thought and a prayer to keep us focussed on our response to Lent and to keep us mindful of the purpose of this time in the church year.

If you would like to bring a friend who may be new to St Luke's or who may have no history with us at all, this is an ideal opportunity.

Contact details to indicate attendance: Netta +33 (0) 6 81 87 62 57 (SMS, please) or [mcfadyens@hotmail.com](mailto:mcfadyens@hotmail.com)

iv) **Lent Course** which will take a close look at the way we draw close to God in worship - where did our type of Anglican prayer come from? What's going on in a Communion service? How might we develop our ways of worshipping God? The sessions will be on five Tuesday evenings: February 24th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24<sup>th</sup> at the home of Leigh and Stefan, 34 ave. Charles de Gaulle, 77630 Barbizon.

Let us set ourselves the goal of being prepared by the 40 days of Lent to celebrate Easter on April 5th with renewed faith and joy!



## 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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