



St Luke's Church Fontainebleau
The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
Holy Communion Service
27 September 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 as we sing our first Hymn:

Hymn: The King of Love my Shepherd is (SoF 533)

*1. THE KING OF LOVE my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.*

*2. Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul He leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.*

*3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me,
And on His shoulder gently laid,
And home rejoicing brought me.*

*4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.*

*5. Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!*

*6. And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever.*

THE GREETING

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

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

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 :*

Because God was merciful,
he saved us through the water of rebirth
and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.
But through sin we have fallen away from our baptism.
Let us return to the Lord and renew our faith in his promises
by confessing our sins in penitence.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in
thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole
heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as
ourselves.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are, and direct
what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

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 sing together the Peruvian Gloria:

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father!
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father!
To God be glory forever! To God be glory forever!

Ref:
Alleluia, Amen! Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen! Alleluia, Amen!

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to Christ Jesus!
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to Christ Jesus!
To God be glory forever! To God be glory forever!

Ref:
Alleluia, Amen! Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen! Alleluia, Amen!

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit!
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit!
To God be glory forever! To God be glory forever!

Ref:
Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen!

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

We sit for our first reading.

Ezekiel 18.1-4, 25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right,

they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

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

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE: Psalm 103. 1-13

Please say the words printed in bold:

*1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
2 **O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.**
3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
4 **Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.**
5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me,*

*for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.
6 **Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your
steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**
7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord!
8 **Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.***

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: Speak, O Lord, as we come to you (tune: SoF 2032)

*1. SPEAK, O LORD, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.*

*Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us
All Your purposes, for Your glory.*

*2. Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes*

*In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.*

*3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time*

*That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
As the earth is filled with Your glory.*

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 21:23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

.... 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: There is a higher throne (SoF 1541)

1. *THERE IS A HIGHER THRONE
Than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from every tongue
Will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand,
Made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace:
Salvation comes.*

Ref:
*Hear heaven's voices sing,
Their thunderous anthem rings
Through emerald courts and sapphire skies,
Their praises rise.*

*All glory, wisdom, power,
Strength, thanks and honour are
To God, our King who reigns on high
Forever more.*

2. *And there we'll find our home,
Our life before the throne;
We'll honour Him in perfect song
Where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye,
As thirst and hunger die;
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King:
We'll reign with Him.*

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

God of our journey,
as we walk with you on your path of obedience,
sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

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.**

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.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory as far as we can grasp it,
and shield us from knowing more than we can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

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: Amazing Grace (SoF 19)

*1. AMAZING GRACE! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

*2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed!*

*3. Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.*

*4. The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.*

*5. Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace.*

*6. When we've been there a thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.*

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

THE BLESSING

May Christ,
who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,
fill you with his new life;
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.



Safeguarding at Saint-Luke's

Safeguarding is exactly what it says - guarding the safety of the members of our Church Community and as such it has its roots very firmly in our Christian duty to love one another. If you have any concerns, please contact our Safeguarding Officer, either in church or by email.

Our Safeguarding Officer is Roy Martin.

His email address is: sgofficer.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com

Church Notices

Friday October 2nd - M&Ms - Mary and Marthas

M&Ms will meet on Friday October 2 at 11am to discuss John 20. Please feel free to join us chez Dawn Jarisch, 19, route de Héricy, 77870 Vulaines sur Seine. If you have any questions feel free to contact Nancy Austin, nancyjinfr@gmail.com.

Sunday October 4th - Harvest Festival

As well as being the third in our series looking at the story of Joseph, our service on October 4th will also be our Harvest Festival. In both story and festival, food takes centre stage. As we've done in the past we're going to donate the food we collect to the Resto du Cœur in Avon.

"Les Restos du Cœur" (literally Restaurants of the Heart) is a renowned nationwide non-profit association founded in 1985 by the iconic French comedian Coluche. It supports low-income individuals, single parents, the elderly, and the homeless by distributing hot meals, food packages, clothing, and providing long-term social support.

We've asked Mme Duca who runs the Resto in Avon for a list of items which they would particularly value at the moment. This is what she's asked for:

- Sardines
- Ravioli en boîte (cans of ravioli)
- Canned vegetables
- Gros cartons des gâteaux (large boxes of cakes for snacks)
- Tea (black and green)
- Gel nettoyant pour bébé (baby cleansing gel)

Please simply bring your donated items to the service on October 4th. During the offertory hymn we'll bring them to the front and place them around the altar table, in gratitude to God and as part of our prayer for Les Restos du Cœur and the people they serve.

Thank you so much.

Invitation to celebrate the creation on Saturday October 3rd in Forges (near Montereau)



**SEASON OF
CREATION**



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

You are invited to attend the TPLC event on Saturday, October 4, at the Écolieu de l'Aubier 77.

During this month of celebration of Creation, the Laudato Si' group of Seine-et-Marne is pleased to invite all priests, pastors, and other ordained ministers, along with all Christians in Seine-et-Marne, to come and honor the Season of Creation on Saturday, October 3, 2026, between 12:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the "Écolieu de l'Aubier", 30 Rue Grande in Forges.

The ecumenical ceremony will take place at 5:00 p.m. This year's theme is "Living Water," inspired by the vision of Ezekiel. Together, we will explore God's eternal promise through a shared meal, creative and contemplative workshops, and finally, an ecumenical celebration.

We are committed to preserving the sacred gift of water for creation and to celebrating creation during this shared time, as jointly envisioned by Pope Leo XIV, Patriarch Bartholomew, Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullaly, the Reverend Dr. Reynaldo Ferrera of the World Methodist Council, the Reverend Dr. Anne Burghardt, General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, Rudelmar Bueno de Faria, General Secretary of the ACT Alliance; the Reverend Prof. Jerry Pillay, SC, of the World Council of Churches; Prof. Michel Abs, General Secretary of the Middle East Council of Churches; the Reverend Botrus Mansour, General Secretary of the World Evangelical Alliance; and the Reverend Dr. Jo.

Best regards,

[The Season of Creation team](#)

Special Series for Autumn

I wonder how well you know the 'Big Stories' of the Old Testament which have become part of our culture, stories like David and Goliath, Samson and Delilah, Abraham and Isaac, and Jonah and the Whale? Perhaps you were told them at school, or had them read to you at home. With the decline of knowledge of the Bible, we are in danger of losing sight of them. Even our reading of Scripture at Sunday services doesn't help: we hear only parts and never the whole.

With these challenges in mind we're going to spend part of the autumn looking at one of the best loved Old Testament stories, that of Joseph and his brothers, better known as Joseph and his amazing technicolour dreamcoat. It's an inspiring lesson about reconciliation in relationships, a profoundly human need that is universal and timeless.

Over the course of four alternate Sunday morning services in September and October, beginning with 'Rentrée Sunday' on September 6th, we're going to look at the whole story, as told in Genesis 37-50. More details will follow, but for now, and perhaps over the summer, you might like to look again at the story. You could read it again, or watch a film version of it. Whatever you do, I hope you'll be able to come to the services, as together we immerse ourselves in this wonderful and hopeful story.

Inspiring concert – American Cathedral – Saturday 25.10.2026

I am writing to you to invite you to what will be an inspiring charity concert in October, hosted by Lux Perpetua (a franco-british choir from st nom la bréteche) and joined by over 100 singers from the UK, France and other European countries. Matthew Coleridge the composer himself will be conducting his magnificent Requiem amongst other small works. This is a première for Paris and next year he has been invited to conduct it at Carnegie Hall in New York. It is on 25th October at 6pm at the American Cathedral, 25 Avenue George V in Paris. Please sign up now to avoid disappointment.: matthewcoleridge.com/paris-concert. Please also pass on the poster to any other interested parties.

Best Regards

Bob Lewis



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.

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.

						
RELEVÉ D'IDENTITÉ BANCAIRE						
Identifiant national de compte bancaire - RIB						
Banque	Guichet	N° compte	Clé	Devise		
30087	33862	00013539701	36	EUR	AGENCE DE FONTAINEBLEAU	
Identifiant international de compte bancaire						
IBAN (International Bank Account Number)						
FR76	3008	7338	6200	0135	3970	136
BIC (Bank Identifier Code)						
CMCIFRPP						
Domiciliation						
AGENCE DE FONTAINEBLEAU						
8 PLACE DE LA REPUBLIQUE						
77300 FONTAINEBLEAU						
Tél : 08-20-07-91-34						