St Luke's Church Fontainebleau

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Service of the Word

25 October 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.

WELCOME

Please stand as we sing our first Hymn.

OPENING 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 GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

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* :

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as
Christ was raised from the dead,
we might walk in newness of life.
Let us receive new life in him as we confess
our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living
bread.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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

Almighty God,
in whose service lies perfect freedom:
teach us to obey you
with loving hearts and steadfast wills;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE STORY OF JOSEPH - PART 4
Readings and Teaching

We sit for our first reading:

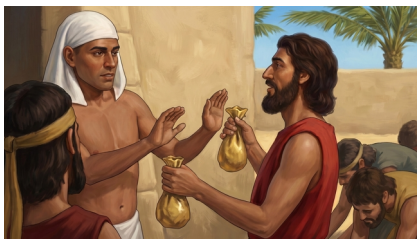
BIBLE READING 1: THE BROTHERS RETURN TO EGYPT (GENESIS 43:1-15)



Now the famine was severe in the land. And when they had eaten up the grain that they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, 'Go again, buy us a little more food.' But Judah said to him, 'The man solemnly warned us, saying, "You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you." If you will send our brother with us, we will go down and buy you food; but if you will not send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us, "You shall not see my face, unless your brother is with you."' Israel said, 'Why did you treat me so badly as to tell the man that you had another brother?' They replied, 'The man questioned us carefully about ourselves and our kindred, saying, "Is your father still alive? Have you another brother?" What we told him was in answer to these questions. Could we in any way know that he would say, "Bring your brother down"?' Then Judah said to his father Israel, 'Send the boy with me, and let us be on our way, so that we may live and not die—you and we and also our little ones. I myself will be surety for him; you can hold me accountable for him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before you, then let me bear the blame for ever. If we had not delayed, we would now have returned twice.'

Then their father Israel said to them, 'If it must be so, then do this: take some of the choice fruits of the land in your bags, and carry them down as a present to the man—a little balm and a little honey, gum, resin, pistachio nuts, and almonds. Take double the money with you. Carry back with you the money that was returned in the top of your sacks; perhaps it was an oversight. Take your brother also, and be on your way again to the man; may God Almighty grant you mercy before the man, so that he may send back your other brother and Benjamin. As for me, if I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.' So the men took the present, and they took double the money with them, as well as Benjamin. Then they went on their way down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph.

BIBLE READING 2: JOSEPH MEETS THE BROTHERS WITH BENJAMIN (GENESIS 43:16-25)



When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the steward of his house, 'Bring the men into the house, and slaughter an animal and make ready, for the men are to dine with me at noon.' The man did as Joseph said, and brought the men to Joseph's house. Now the men were afraid because they were brought to Joseph's house, and they said, 'It is because of the money, replaced in our sacks the first time, that we have been brought in, so that he may have an opportunity to fall upon us, to make slaves of us and take our donkeys.' So they went up to the steward of Joseph's house and spoke with him at the entrance to the house. They said, 'Oh, my lord, we came down the first time to buy food; and when we came to the lodging-place we opened our sacks, and there was each one's money in the top of his sack, our money in full weight. So we have brought it back with us. Moreover, we have brought down with us additional money to buy food. We do not know who put our money in our sacks.' He replied, 'Rest assured, do not be afraid; your God and the God of your father must have put treasure in your sacks for you; I received your money.' Then he brought Simeon out to them. When the steward had brought the men into Joseph's house, and given them water, and they had washed their

feet, and when he had given their donkeys fodder, they made the present ready for Joseph's coming at noon, for they had heard that they would dine there.

HYMN: GOD IS WORKING HIS PURPOSE OUT - VERSE 1 (SOF 135)

1. GOD IS WORKING HIS PURPOSE OUT,
As year succeeds to year;
God is working His purpose out,
And the time is drawing near;
Nearer and nearer draws the time,
The time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
With the glory of God,
As the waters cover the sea.

BIBLE READING 3: JUDAH OFFERS HIMSELF IN PLACE OF BENJAMIN (GENESIS 44:18-34)



Then Judah stepped up to him and said, 'O my lord, let your servant please speak a word in my lord's ears, and do not be angry with your servant; for you are like Pharaoh himself. My lord asked his servants, saying, "Have you a father or a brother?" And we said to my lord, "We have a father, an old man, and a young brother, the child of his old age. His brother is dead; he alone is left of his mother's children, and his father loves him." Then you said to your servants, "Bring him down to me, so that I may set my eyes on him." We said to my lord, "The boy cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die." Then you said to your servants, "Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall see my face no more." When we went back to your servant my father we told him the words of my lord. And when our father said, "Go again, buy us a little food", we said, "We cannot go down. Only if our youngest brother goes with us, will we go down; for we cannot see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us." Then your servant my father said to us, "You know that my wife bore me two sons; one left me, and I said, Surely he has been torn to pieces; and I have never seen him since. If you take this one also from me, and harm comes to him, you will bring down my grey hairs in sorrow to Sheol." Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father and the boy is not with us, then, as his life is bound up in the boy's life, when he sees that the boy is not with us, he will die; and your servants will bring down the grey hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to Sheol. For your servant became surety for the boy to my father, saying, "If I do not bring him back to you, then I will bear the blame in the sight of my father all my life." Now therefore, please let your servant remain as a slave to my lord in place of the boy; and let the boy go back with his brothers. For how can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I fear to see the suffering that would come upon my father.'

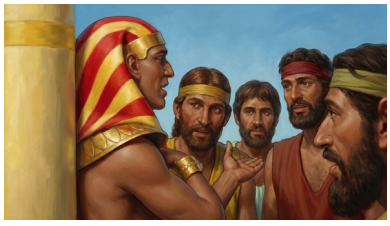
HYMN: GOD IS WORKING HIS PURPOSE OUT - VERSE 2 (SOF 135)

2. From utmost East to utmost West,
Where'er man's foot hath trod,
By the mouth of many messengers
Goes forth the voice of God;
Give ear to Me, ye continents,
Ye isles, give ear to Me,
That the earth may be filled
With the glory of God,
As the waters cover the sea.

Bible reading 4: The Big Reveal (Genesis 45:1-15)



Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, 'Send everyone away from me.' So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.



Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty." And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.' Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Hymn: God is working his purpose out - verse 3 (SoF 135)

3. March we forth in the strength of God
With the banner of Christ unfurled,
That the light of the glorious gospel of truth
May shine throughout the world:
Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin,
To set their captives free,
That the earth may be filled
With the glory of God,
As the waters cover the sea.

Bible reading 5: The death of Jacob: fear and reassurance(Genesis 50:15-21)



Realising that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

HYMN: GOD IS WORKING HIS PURPOSE OUT - VERSE 4 (SOF 135)

4. All we can do is nothing worth,
Unless God blesses the deed;
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
Till God gives life to the seed;
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,
The time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
With the glory of God,
As the waters cover the sea.

BIBLE READING 6: A NEW KING AROSE OVER EGYPT (EXODUS 1: 1-14)



These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each with his household: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin, Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. The total number of people born to Jacob was seventy. Joseph was already in Egypt. Then Joseph died, and all his brothers, and that whole generation. But the Israelites were fruitful and prolific; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them.



Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.'



Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

OFFERTORY HYMN: GOD FORGAVE MY SIN (SOF 129)

We sing our Offertory Hymn during which the collection is taken up.

GOD FORGAVE MY SIN in Jesus' name,
I've been born again in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to.

Ref:
He said: 'Freely, freely, you have received,
Freely, freely give;
Go in My name, and because you believe
Others will know that I live.'

All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and heaven in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His power as He told me to.

HYMN: ONLY BY GRACE (SOF 441)

ONLY BY GRACE can we enter,
Only by grace can we stand;
Not by our human endeavour,
But by the blood of the Lamb.
Into Your presence You call us,
You call us to come.

Into Your presence You draw us,
And now by Your grace we come,
Now by Your grace we come.

Lord, if You mark our transgressions,
Who would stand?
Thanks to Your grace we are cleansed
By the blood of the Lamb.
(Repeat)

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...
Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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.

OUR NOTICES

THE SENDING OUT

Please stand while we sing our Final Hymn:

FINAL HYMN: TO GOD BE THE GLORY (SOF 559)

1. TO GOD BE THE GLORY! great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Ref:
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son;
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see!

THE BLESSING

May the God who was with Joseph in the pit, in the slave house, and in the palace
go with you this week.
May He grant you the grace to remain faithful in the small things, patient in the trials, and humble in the seasons of blessing.
When others mean harm against you, may God turn it for good.
May you have the courage to forgive deeply, the wisdom to serve generously,
and the unshakable assurance that the Lord is with you in every circumstance.
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:

With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within you,
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.

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

Men's breakfast – November 14th
The next breakfast will take place on Saturday November 14th at 10:00am at Donald and Netta's apartment (2 rue des Bois, Fontainebleau). If you'd like to come and enjoy good coffee and croissants (and more), and good company and conversation, please let Donald know (chaplain.stlukesfontainebleau@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you.

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.

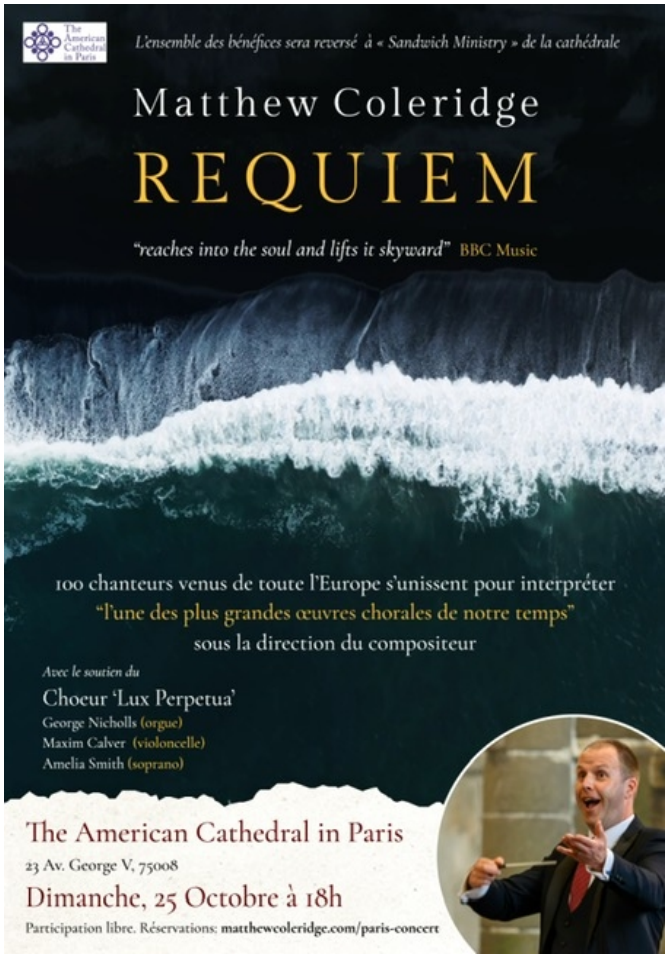
Leading Intercessions
Our prayers on a Sunday morning are an important and integral part of our worship. We have a rota for our Intercessions which is separate from the other sign-up rota. If you would be interested in joining our merry band of intercessors, please drop Netta a line at mcfadyens@hotmail.com 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.

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



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.

CIC

RELEVE D'IDENTITE 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