

St. Michael & All Angels – Church of England

22 February 2026 – 1st Sunday of Lent

Said Eucharists – Sunday, 8.30a.m., and Tuesday, 10.30a.m.

Sung Eucharist – Sunday, 10a.m.

Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel – Tuesday, 9.00a.m.

Tea and coffee will be served after the 10.00a.m. service.

Please stay for a chat with other members of the congregation if you can.

The 10a.m. service will be recorded then available after the service on St. Michael's YouTube Channel, <https://www.youtube.com/@stmichaelandallangels/streams>

A warm welcome to David Pepper, Chief Executive Officer for Project Possible.

Hymns for 10a.m.

145 Forty days and forty nights
360 O for a closer walk with God
312a Lord Jesus, think on me
261 Jesu, lover of my soul

Readers

Nichola O'Farrell
Rachel Wilcox

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.**

Alternative Collect

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

Psalm 32

Happy the one whose transgression is forgiven, and whose sin is covered.

Happy the one to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

For I held my tongue; my bones wasted away though my groaning all the day long.

Your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up like the drought in summer.

Response: Forgive me, O Lord, the guilt of my sin.

Response

Response

Response: Forgive me, O Lord, the guilt of my sin.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and my iniquity I did not hide.

I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Response

Therefore let all the faithful make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
in the great water flood, it shall not reach them.

You are a place for me to hide in; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with songs of deliverance.

Response

'I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

'Be not like horse and mule which have no understanding;

whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.'

Response

Great tribulations remain for the wicked, but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout with joy all who are true of heart.

Response

Romans 5.12-19

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned – sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one person's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

Matthew 4.1-11

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Activities and Events at St. Michael & All Angels, Amersham on the Hill

EASTER SERVICES 2026

Palm Sunday– 29 March – 8.30a.m. & 10a.m.

Maundy Thursday– 2 April – 8p.m (Includes washing of feet)

Good Friday– 3 April – 10a.m.

& St. Michael's Square at 11.30a.m..

Holy Saturday – 4 April – Service of Light at 8p.m.

Easter Day– 5 April – 8.30a.m. & 10a.m.



LENT APPEAL – PROJECT POSSIBLE An illustrated talk about this charity work will be given by David Pepper, Chief Executive Officer, during the **10a.m. Eucharist on Sunday, 22 February.**

MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 21 February – 11.30a.m.-1p.m. Join us with your children/grandchildren for fun activities, followed by an interactive session and a light lunch. The session is free. Donations are welcome.

LENT COURSE – Tuesday, 24 February, 3, 10 & 17 March – 7p.m. – Zoom. If you would like to attend please contact the Church office in person or via email on office@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk. The course will follow the second part of God of Surprises. If you don't have a copy of this book, please do let Rachel know when you contact her.

A CRAFTY CUPPA –27 February – 10.30a.m.-12noon. A Crafty Cuppa is a drop-in session for everyone who wants a cuppa and some company. Do bring your knitting, crochet and sewing, if you would like to. Some organised talks or crafts will also be available for those who prefer to come empty handed.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP FOR AMERSHAM – Thursday, 4 March – 10a.m.-12 noon – Wheeler Room, St. Michael's. Are you or a loved one facing a cancer diagnosis? Are you finding cancer treatment tough? Is your treatment over, but you still feel anxious? You are not alone. Please drop in for coffee and a chat.

POP IN AND PAINT – Friday, 6 March – 10.30a.m.-12.30p.m. Join Jenny Thompson and Liz Grammenos from Simpatico. No experience needed – only enthusiasm and interest. All materials supplied, but you are welcome to bring your own paints. If you prefer, just come along for a chat and watch the proceedings!

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB – Friday, 6 March – 2p.m.-4p.m. – THE CRITIC Starring Ian McKellen. A dark and sharp-witted thriller set in 1930s London theatreland. Running Time 1hr. 40mins.

REPAIR CAFÉ – Saturday, 7 March – 10.a.m.-1p.m. Come along to SustainableAmersham.org's pop-up Repair Café. Volunteer repairers will help you fix your stuff for free. No appointment required. Free refreshments.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCH FORUM – Friday, 20 February – 12.15p.m. – Amersham Free Church. The talk this month will be on plants by Brian Fisher, Master of Horticulture, Royal Horticultural Society. As well as talking about gardening, Brian will also entertain us by telling us about his life giving talks on cruise ships and some of the famous people he has met on board. As usual we will sit down to eat our own packed lunches at 12.15-12.30 with the talk starting at 1.00p.m. Tea/coffee/water provided. Suggested donation £3-£5 to cover the cost of speakers.

LUNCHBREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 24 February – 1.10p.m.-1.30p.m. – Great Sacred Music. All Welcome.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – Friday, 6 March – 10.30a.m. at the Amersham Free Church. All welcome.