



St. Michael & All Angels – Church of England

23 March, 2025 – 3rd 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.

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

Tea and coffee will be served after the 10.00a.m. service. Please stay if you can.

Hymns for 10a.m.

- 83 Christ, whose glory fills the skies
- 61 Bless the Lord, my soul
- 110 Disposer supreme
- 425 Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore Him

Readers

Nichola and Brian

Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Isaiah 55.1–9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD says this: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

Psalm 63.1-9

Response: My soul is athirst for you, as in a dry and thirsty land.

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul is athirst for you.

My flesh also faints for you, as in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.

So would I gaze upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory. **Response**

Your loving-kindness is better than life itself and so my lips shall praise you.

I will bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

My soul shall be satisfied, as with marrow and fatness,

and my mouth shall praise you with joyful lips. **Response**

When I remember you upon my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night.

For you have been my helper and under the shadow of your wings will I rejoice.

My soul clings to you; your right hand shall hold me fast. **Response**

1 Corinthians 10.1–13

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Luke 13.1-9

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

There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them – do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Easter Services 2025

St Michael & All Angels Church - Church of England, Inclusive Church

Ash Wednesday - 5 March, 10.30am & 7pm

Palm Sunday - 13 April, 8.30am & 10am

Maundy Thursday - 17 April, 8pm

(Includes washing of feet)

Good Friday - 18 April, 10am

& St Michael's Square at 11.30am

Holy Saturday - 19 April, Service of Light, 8pm

Easter Day - 20 April, 8.30am & 10am



All Welcome 🍆

St Michael & All Angels Church, Amersham, HP6 5DR. Tel: 01494 726680

RIP DAVID REDPATH David's funeral will take place at St. Michael's on Wednesday, 26 March at 2p.m.. Following the service all are invited to join David's family in the north transept for refreshments.

******2025 ELECTORAL ROLL REVIEW******

The big 6 yearly review of the Roll is happening! Everyone currently on the Roll must reapply in order to be included! Emails with links to the new form have been sent out to everyone on the current Roll, and forms have been sent to those not on e-mail and are available to those who would prefer to apply offline. If you are having difficulty filling in the form please do get in touch. NOT ON THE ROLL BUT WOULD LIKE TO ENROL? Please speak to myself or Rachel via the Church Office (email: office@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk or Tel: [01494 726680](tel:01494726680)) with your contact details, and we will get a form to you.

Chris Leslie
Electoral Roll Officer

2025 LENT APPEAL – This year the St Michael's Lent Appeal is, once again, the **Friends of St. Anne's Hospital, Liuli, Tanzania**. More can be found about them on the charity's website <https://friends-of-st-annes.com/>. For reasons given in our March Newsletter, this will be the last time that this charity will be our chosen charity. Please give generously either through the card reader in the Narthex (to which gift aid is added), by cash or by cheque made out to "Friends of St. Anne's Hospital", placed in the envelopes in the Narthex with gift aid forms."

LENT COURSE – Wednesday, 12, 19 & 26 March – 7p.m. – On Zoom

This Lent we are studying *Women of Holy Week* by Paula Gooder.

A CRAFTY CUPPA – 28 March – 10.30a.m.-12noon. A Crafty Cuppa is a drop-in session for everyone who wants a cuppa and some company. Please 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. We look forward to seeing you.

NEW CANCER SUPPORT GROUP FOR AMERSHAM – 1st Thursday of the month from Thursday, 3 April – 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. Sharing experiences can be such a positive support in our cancer journeys.

“POP IN AND PAINT” – Friday, 4 April – 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, 4 April – 2p.m.-4p.m – THE MIRACLE CLUB Starring Maggie Smith and Kathy Bates. Winning a pilgrimage to Lourdes seems like an answer to all prayers. However deep wounds from the past are re-opened and bitter truths exposed. Running Time 1hr. 26mins.

MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 19 April – 11.30a.m.-1p.m. Join us with your children/grandchildren for fun activities, followed by a story or discussion, and a light lunch. The session is free. Donations are welcome.

REPAIR CAFÉ – Saturday, 1 May – 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

LUNCHBREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesdays, 25 March – 12noon-2p.m. - Tea, coffee and soup are available. The church is open for quiet reflection, and from 1.10p.m-1.30p.m. there will be a talk or recital.

AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH MONTHLY LUNCH GROUP – Friday, 21 March – starts 12.15p.m.

Our next meeting in the Alfred Ellis Hall at Amersham Free Church will be on Friday, 21 March when the talk is entitled ‘High Wycombe Unmasked’ by Willie Reid, AFC member, who also leads walks around High Wycombe. Come and see images of the original railway station and trains, learn how a US air base in the town proved pivotal in winning the Second World War and hear about the mediaeval Hospital of St John the Baptist and the beginnings of the welfare state. As usual we will sit down to eat our own food at 12.15p.m.-12.30p.m. with the meeting starting at 1.00p.m. Suggested donation £3-£5. All are very welcome.

‘History tells you where you are going and why.

History makes you smart, heritage makes you proud.’

William Callaway, historian, US 8th Air Force