



St. Michael & All Angels – Church of England
3 March, 2024 – 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>

Hymns for 10a.m.

15 All my hope on God is founded

133a Firmly I believe and truly

56 Be thou my vision

32a And now, O Father, mindful of the love

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.**

Exodus 20.1-17

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

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

Psalm 19**Response: The heavens are telling the glory of God.**

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
One day pours out its song to another, and one night unfolds knowledge to another.

Response

They have neither speech nor language and their voices are not heard.
Yet their sound has gone out into all lands, and their words to the end of the world.

Response

In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun, that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber
and rejoices as a champion to run his course.

Response

It goes forth from the end of the heavens and runs to the very end again,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

Response

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

Response

The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

Response

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

Response

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.

Response

By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults!

Response

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me;
so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.

Response

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Response**1 Corinthians 1.18-25**

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

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those

who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.
For the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

John 2.13-22

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

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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.**

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

LENT COURSE – WEEKLY FROM TUESDAY, 5 MARCH to TUESDAY, 19 MARCH – ZOOM – 7.30p.m.

The group will follow the text in *Transfiguration* by Rob Marshall.

LENT APPEAL 2024 – The beneficiary for the St. Michael and All Angels Church Lent Appeal will once again be the "Friends of St. Anne's Hospital, Liuli" in Tanzania, a charity we have supported for over 10 years, which brings much needed medical services to a remote part of Africa. Envelopes for cash and cheques with gift aid forms are attached or available in the Narthex. Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of St. Anne's Hospital". Alternatively, donations can be made through the Church's card reader or made directly through the charity's website: "<https://friends-of-st-annes.com/>" If you donate this way, please use the option "Leave a message" as follows "From a member of the congregation of St. Michael's church, Amersham".

EASTER SERVICES 2024

Passion Sunday, 17 March—8.30a.m. & 10a.m.

Palm Sunday, 24 March—8.30a.m. & 10a.m.

Maundy Thursday, 28 March—8p.m.

Good Friday, 29 March—10a.m.

Easter Vigil, Saturday, 30 March—8p.m.

Easter Sunday, 31 March—8.30a.m. & 10a.m.

LUNCH IN CHURCH TO CELEBRATE FR PETER BINNS' 80TH BIRTHDAY – Tuesday, 23 April 2024

There will be a lunch in church to celebrate Fr Peter Binns' 80th Birthday on Tuesday, 23 April 2024. All members of the congregation are invited. It will help with the catering arrangements if you will let the Church Office know by Friday, 22 March if you would like to be at the lunch ([email: office@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk); tel: 01494 726680). Tickets will be issued in due course to those who do so. Please will you at the same time let the Office know about any allergies or dietary requirements. If

you wish to speak to Hazel Miller about this, as it is a Church Office matter, please will you do so during Office opening hours during the week, and not on a Sunday. There will be no charge for the lunch, but donations towards the cost (which may be made on the day) will be appreciated, although not required.

LEARN TO DANCE MODERN JIVE – Every Saturday – from 7.30p.m. – In the Church Hall – 9 March (please note that there is no class on Saturday 2 March)

The classes are free, albeit donations towards St. Michael's are welcome! You don't need to know how to dance or even turn up every week, just drop in any week and have fun!

"POP IN AND PAINT" – Friday, 1 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 to come along for a chat and to watch the proceedings, that's fine too!

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB – Friday, 1 March – 2p.m.-4p.m. – Wheeler Room – LIVING

London 1953. Mr Williams, played by Bill Nighy, a veteran civil servant, receives a shattering health diagnosis; he then realises he's not living his life to the full. Running Time 1hr. 40mins.

REPAIR CAFÉ – Saturday, 2 March – 10.a.m.-1p.m.

Come along to SustainableAmersham.org's pop-up Repair Café, where volunteer repairers will help you fix your stuff for free. No appointment required. Free refreshments are available.

CRAFTY CUPPA – Friday, 8 March and 22 March – 10.30a.m.-12noon.

A drop-in session for everyone who wants a cuppa and some company. If you engage in a craft, such as knitting or embroidery, bring it with you and enjoy some company while you work. All welcome.

MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 16 March – 11.30a.m.-1p.m.

The third Saturday each month. This is a fun, informal activity for all the family, combining creative activities and biblical teaching, followed by lunch. All welcome. No need to book. Just turn up.

THE TOWN COUNCIL CLIMATE ACTION DAY EVENT – St. Michael's Square – March 23rd

Including a fashion show of recycled/repaired items put on by local schools. More details to follow.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCHBREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 5 March – 12noon-2p.m. - Tea, coffee and soup are available. The church is open for quiet reflection, and 1.10p.1.30p.m. Community Connex in recital.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – Amersham Free Church – Friday, 1 March – 10.30a.m.

Please join in the World Day of Prayer Service at AFC. This year the material has been prepared by the Christian ladies of Palestine.