

*Willen Church Newsheet*  
*The Fifth Sunday of Lent*



## Today: Passion Sunday

**9.30am** Holy Communion led by Revd. Hannah Akibo-Betts

*Thank you, Hannah for leading us this morning.*

**10.45am** Annual General Meeting of St. Mary Magdalene Willen in The Well

**11.00am** Morning worship at Cross & Stable led by Stephen Fletcher LLM.

**Service details** for SEP churches are on SEP website and in monthly newsletter

## This week

**St Mary Magdalene church** is open for private prayer or quiet reflection on Mondays from 9.30am until c.3.00pm. Also open on Sunday until 4.00pm if volunteer available to close church – please sign rota in church foyer.

**T.T.T.T** (Third Tuesday at Twelve Thirty) Pop along to St Mary Magdalene Church Willen and be entertained by the **ROLLING HOME** on **Tuesday 19 MARCH at 1230**

**ChatterboxMK** at Cross & Stable each Wednesday 10.30am to 12.30pm. All Welcome - tea - coffee - cakes - meet and chat. Come and meet others.

**LENTEN REFLECTIONS - 2024** Come and See this Lent - **The way of love**, starts on Wednesday 12.30 to 1.30pm Venue – Cross & Stable Church, Downs Barn.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** 28th March **PASSOVER** SUPPER 6pm to 9pm Full celebration meal, a mixture of meal, theatre worship and history lesson. Tickets (free) will be in short supply, only 80 available. Email Peter Green: petergreen1938@icloud.com

## Next week March 24<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday

**9.30am** Holy Communion led by Revd. Dr. Sam Muthuveloe

**6.00pm** Reflections for Holy Week sung by Quorum led by Stephen Fletcher. Please speak to Margaret if you can volunteer to do one of the four readings.

**Good Friday**, March 29 a reflective service at Willen Church, starting at 1.45 pm

### .Ministers • Websites • Notice Sheet

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| <p>Pastoral contact: Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe</p> <p>Tel: 01908 668829</p> <p>priest@willenchurch.org</p> <p>Stephen Fletcher LLM, 07428118450,</p> <p>Stephen@willenchurch.org</p>  | <p>Margaret Moakes Licensed Lay Minister</p> <p>Telephone: 01908 237915</p> <p>Margaret@willenchurch.org</p> <p>Church website: <a href="http://www.willenchurch.org">www.willenchurch.org</a></p> |
| <p><b>Churchwarden</b> Brad Stone 01908 990 901 <a href="mailto:warden@willenchurch.org">warden@willenchurch.org</a> Please contact Brad with any queries for weddings, funerals and baptisms</p>  |  |
| <p>Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership: <a href="http://www.stantonbury.net">www.stantonbury.net</a> and <a href="https://www.facebook.com/stantonburyecumenical">Facebook</a> Please email short succinct notices to <a href="mailto:notices@willenchurch.org">notices@willenchurch.org</a> by 5pm on the preceding Thursday</p> |  |

## The Collect of The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gracious Father,  
you gave up your Son  
out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



## PSALM 51: 1 – 13 (The Archbishops' Council, 2005)

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness; ♦  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out my offences.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness ♦  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I acknowledge my faults ♦  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned ♦  
and done what is evil in your sight,
- 5 So that you are justified in your sentence ♦  
and righteous in your judgement. [R]
- 6 I have been wicked even from my birth, ♦  
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- 7 Behold, you desire truth deep within me ♦  
and shall make me understand wisdom  
in the depths of my heart.
- 8 Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; ♦  
wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, ♦  
that the bones you have broken may rejoice. [R]
- 10 Turn your face from my sins ♦  
and blot out all my misdeeds.
- 11 Make me a clean heart, O God, ♦  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence ♦  
and take not your holy spirit from me.
- 13 Give me again the joy of your salvation ♦  
and sustain me with your gracious spirit;



## NEW TESTAMENT READING

### Hebrews 5: 5 – 10 (NRSV)

*A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews*

<sup>5</sup> So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; <sup>6</sup> as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

<sup>7</sup> In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup> Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup> and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup> having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL READING

### John 12: 20 – 33 (NRSV)

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' <sup>22</sup> Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

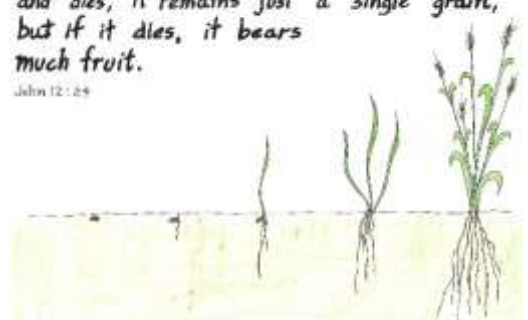
<sup>27</sup> 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' <sup>29</sup> The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' <sup>30</sup> Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' <sup>33</sup> He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

*This is the gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to you, O Christ**

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

John 12: 24



## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of ST. MARY MAGDALENE WILLEN**

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 17 March following the service starting at 10.45am. We will be looking to appoint

- members of the Congregation Leadership Team, Chair, Secretary and Safeguarding
- Church Wardens
- Treasurer
- parochial representatives to the Deanery Synod; the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership; the Methodist Council; United Reform Church

We have 43 members so hopefully we can fill these posts as we need to pull together so that we share our service to God. If you would like to be a member of the church please and attend the Annual Members' Meeting there are membership forms on the table in the hallway or speak to Lyn Coppendale. The papers for the AGM will be sent to all members. The notes of the St. Mary Magdalene Congregation Leadership Team meetings in 2023 are available. If any members would like a copy please email the secretary on [secretary@willenchurch.org](mailto:secretary@willenchurch.org).

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024: 10:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. an **Arts and Heritage Event** in Milton Keynes celebrating the work of the **Arts Society North Bucks** (TASNB) and their group of volunteer Church Recorders. Venue: St James' Church MK13 0BP All welcome Entry ticket £5 from Felicity Head Email: [felicity.head@gmail.com](mailto:felicity.head@gmail.com) T. 01908 670878

### **FOR YOUR PRAYERS - Please pray for**

- The Elderly: The population of Milton Keynes is changing as the number of older people increases. Retirement can be a time of great opportunity for some, but others struggle with poverty or isolation. Please pray for all older people, that they may be able to enjoy life and find the help and support that they need.
- people to fill roles that we need, especially new SEP ministers
- World Vision, [worldvision.org.uk](http://worldvision.org.uk), which works to help the most vulnerable children, in the most difficult places, to overcome poverty and experience fullness of life.

**Sick:** Louise Folley, Mark & Janice Earls, Fr Edmund Wheat SSM, Lyn Coppendale, Mike Halliwell, Alison Read, Gill Farrow, Paul Smith, Michael Hall, John Le Count

**RIP:** Fred Judd (Harold Redwood's brother) The memorial service for Bishop Alan Wilson is planned for Saturday 13 April at 11.30am in All Saints, High Wycombe.

**World Prayers:** For peace where there is war, especially the Middle East and Ukraine.

[International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#) (Mar 21) [International Day of Happiness](#) (Mar 20) [World Water Day](#) (Mar 22) [World Tuberculosis Day](#) (Mar 24) [Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade](#) (Mar 25)

**HYMNS** - Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New

- 514** O Lord, we long to see your face
- 166** Father, we adore you
- 323** In heavenly love abiding
- 716** We have a Gospel to proclaim