



Sunday 14th January 2024
Second Sunday of Epiphany



8am

Holy Communion

In the Chapel

Speaking: Cate Sims (Lay Leader) **Presiding:** Rev. Michael Norman

8:30am **Prayer meeting** On Zoom

10:30am

Morning Worship

Esther: Part 1

In the Church and Online

Readings: Esther Chapter 1 and Chapter 2:1-14

Leading and Preaching: Rev Michael Norman

5:30pm

Encounter

The Gift of Friendship

In the Church

Readings: Psalm 139: 1-18 and 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Leading: Rev Michael Norman

Speaking: Tolu George (Ordinand)

Coming Up This Week

Monday 15th

10am - noon **Knitting Club** in the Lounge

Tuesday 16th

10am **Holy Communion** in the Church

11:45am **Fellowship Lunch** in the Lounge

6:15-7:30pm **Urban Saints** (school years 3-6) in the Hall

7:45-9pm **K2 Youth** (school years 8-10) in the Hall

8pm **FOCUS Prayer** on Zoom (3rd Tuesday)

Wednesday 17th

8:15am **Staff Meeting**

8pm **CanC Choir** in the Church

Thursday 18th

9:30-11am **Toddlers** in the Hall

6:15-7:30pm **Base Youth** (school years 7-9) in the Hall

7:30-9pm **Beta Group** (see notice)

Friday 19th

10-11am **Hour of Prayer** in the Chapel

Saturday 20th

9:30am-noon **Creative Space** in the Upper Hall

Sunday 21st

8:30am **Third Sunday in Epiphany**

10:30am **Pre-Service Prayer meeting** on Zoom

5:30pm **Family Communion** in Church and online

Encounter in Church

Other events happening through the week organised by external groups

News

Beta Group: After a positive Alpha course, we are inviting those who attended and any others who would like a simple bible study and have questions about faith to join a study on St Mark's gospel with space to continue to ask their questions. It will run on Thursday evenings from 7:30pm, initially for 5 weeks starting on the 18th January, with coffee and cake provided. It will be run by Michael – see him if interested.

Jean H: As many will know, Jean sadly died after a long illness. Her committal will be on Thursday 1st Feb at West Herts Crematorium at 2pm, followed by a funeral service at St Luke's at 2:45pm. All are invited to both or either part of the service.

Lost Property: A lady from the community has lost a knitted woollen hat during the Christmas period. If you picked it up by mistake, please return to the office. It has great sentimental value to the lady concerned.

Volunteers needed: We are looking for some volunteers to keep an eye on a vacant house in Bushey a couple of times a week until Easter. Please contact the office if you can help.

Wycliffe Visit: we will be hosting a group from Wycliffe Hall from the 9th-17th March 2024. We are looking for people to host them overnight. The team will be joining in with church activities that week, including prayer visiting. If you would like to be involved, let the office know.

Esther: Tickets available soon for the performance on Saturday 17th Feb.

Actors needed – we need an actor for the role of secretary on the 21st Jan and a secretary and an audience plant on the 11th Feb (need to be available to rehearse on the night before at 6pm and to be in the play on the 17th Feb at 2:30pm).

Scenery – helpers needed to paint scenery for the full play (see Neil)

Props still needed – 2 gaudy brooches

Upcoming Sunday Services:

	10:30am	5:30pm
21 st Jan	Family Communion – Esther 2	Encounter – The Gift of Friendship
28 th Jan	Morning Worship – Esther 3	Encounter with Holy Communion – Healing 1
4 th Feb	Family Communion – Esther 4	Encounter – Healing 2
11 th Feb	All-age Service – Esther 5	Encounter – Healing 3

There will be an 8am Holy Communion on the second Sunday in the month. We will also be holding our usual 10am Holy Communion Services on Tuesdays.

There will be an Ash Wednesday Holy Communion at 7:30pm on the 14th February.

ChurchSuite

We have been making an effort to update everyone's contact details on the ChurchSuite directory. This is an online directory of contact details for those who attend or are connected with St Luke's. For security, each person in the directory needs a password to access it. If you would like to be added to the directory, please speak to Beth or Jeremy H.

There are guides on how to access ChurchSuite available.

Please do ensure that you are comfortable with the information you share, as you are able to change which information can be seen by others in the directory (you can make a phone number available to the office but an email available to everyone, for example).

For your Information:

✉ If you are new to St Luke's Church (online too!) – welcome. Please email your details to office@stlukeswatford.org and we will email back a welcome form for you to complete.

✉ St Luke's Church Office ☎ 01923 246161

✉ **Vicar's Messages** by email. Please send your email details to the Church Office at office@stlukeswatford.org if you would like to receive them.

✉ **Church Website:** www.stlukeswatford.org

Prayer

Collect

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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.



Suggestions for prayer this week

Let us pray for the world, for the church, and let us thank God for his goodness.

Let us encourage one another to go deeper into prayer and to persevere.

Immediate needs: Peace in Israel and Gaza; Ukraine; lessening of tensions round the Red Sea; those struggling with rising costs; the repercussions of climate change and extreme weather.

St Luke's Outreach: The Beta course; Plans for outreach this term including the WST prayer week and the Wycliffe mission

World Watch List: Christians in Jordan (*49th highest area of religious persecution*)

Deanery Cycle of Prayer: St John's, Watford and Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership

Those with on-going needs.

St Luke's family in need.

Our wider family and friends in need.

Those in mourning.

Giving Thanks: answers to prayer this week.

Please update the office regarding any prayer needs or answered prayer.

This week's prayer list is a **purple** slip. Please do take one home to pray over.