



Sunday 21st April 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter



8am

Holy Communion

In the Chapel

Preaching and Presiding: Rev Michael Norman

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

10:30am

Morning Worship

Discipleship – Called to be Family

In the Church and Online

Reading: Mathew 11:25-30 (from the International Children's Bible)

Leading: Neil Brookes (Youth Director)

Preaching: Tolu George (Ordinand)

5:30pm

Encounter with Holy Communion

Hurry: the Solution

In the Church

Reading: Mathew 11:25-30 (NIV)

Leading: Bill Miller (Lay Leader)

Preaching and Presiding: Rev Michael Norman

Coming Up This Week

Tuesday 23rd

10am **Holy Communion**
6:15-7:30 **Urban Saints** (School Years 3-6) in the Hall
7:45-9pm **K2 Youth** (school years 8-10) in the Hall
8pm **Focus Prayers** on Zoom

Wednesday 24th

8.30am **Staff meeting**
7:30pm **New Hope Celebration Service** in the Church

Thursday 25th

9:30-11am **Toddlers** in the Hall
6:15-7:30pm **Base Youth** (school years 7-9) in the Hall
7:30pm **Alpha Course week 2** in the Lounge

Friday 26th

10-11am **Hour of Prayer** in the Chapel
2:30pm **Friday Club** in the Lounge

Sunday 28th

8:30am **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
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

Reading – Matthew 11:25-30 (ICB)

²⁵ Then Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. I praise you because you have hidden these things from the people who are wise and smart. But you have shown them to those who are like little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, this is what you really wanted.

²⁷ "My Father has given me all things. No one knows the Son—only the Father knows the Son. And no one knows the Father—only the Son knows the Father. And the only people who will know about the Father are those whom the Son chooses to tell.

²⁸ "Come to me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads. I will give you rest. ²⁹ Accept my work and learn from me. I am gentle and humble in spirit. And you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ The work that I ask you to accept is easy. The load I give you to carry is not heavy."

Church News/ Get involved

Partnership Fund Appeal: Our Partnership Fund appeal is ongoing (please see the appeal flyers for details).

Summer Alpha: Our Summer Alpha course continues on Thursday evenings. Please prayerfully consider if there is someone you could invite or bring along.

Fairtrade Rep: St Luke's is looking for a new Fairtrade representative as our status as a Fairtrade Church has lapsed – information available from the office.

Bike 'n' Hike Rep: We have been invited to take part in an annual Bike 'n' Hike event run by Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust and we are wondering if anyone would like to co-ordinate our involvement (which could either be having the church open for visits on the day or getting a team together to take part in the event). Details from the office, they need a name by the **28th April**. The event would be on the 14th September.

Theology and Ethics Evening Classes: run by All Nations, weekly on campus or online starting on Tuesday 23rd April. Details available from the office or from <https://www.allnations.ac.uk/forms/issues-in-theology-ethics-application>

New Hope Celebration Service: Wednesday **24th April** 7:30pm at St Luke's. This is a wonderful opportunity to thank God for all that He has done in and through New Hope over the last year, and also to pray for His continued hand on their work. Doors will open at 7pm. Refreshments will be served at the end of the service. All welcome. Please do join us if you can.

Prayer Walk: There will be a prayer walk around the parish, starting from the church, in place of a Focus meeting on the **7th May**. This will start at 7pm to catch the sunlight.

APCM: Our APCM will be on the **12th May** after the morning service, please do attend to support the church and the PCC.

Christian Aid week is fast approaching, **12th to 18th May**, and volunteers are needed to deliver and collect envelopes from the Cassiobury Estate. Look out for the list of streets which will be in the Gathering Area. See Pamela W for details.

Big Parenting Questions Event: As our children approach adolescence, it can be a minefield to try and negotiate the everchanging landscape of their lives as they want more independence and are beginning to ask complex questions that can leave us, as parents, feeling bewildered.

Big Parenting Questions is a brand-new event from Care for the Family designed to offer mums, dads and carers hope through this transitional time in a child's life. It's packed with practical advice and strategies to help parents feel better equipped to come alongside their child as they try and establish their identity, assert their independence and find their place in the world.

At St Luke's on the **19th June 7:30pm** – see posters/ flyers for how to get tickets.

Prayer

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he 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 Iran, Israel and Gaza; Sudan; Ukraine; those struggling with rising costs; repercussions of climate change.

St Luke's Outreach: The New Hope Celebration Service, the Alpha Course.

World Watch List: Christians in Afghanistan (*world's 10th highest area of religious persecution*)

Deanery Cycle of Prayer: St Mary's, Watford and the Town Centre Chaplaincy.

Those with on-going needs.

St Luke's family in need.

Our wider family and friends in need.

Those in mourning: all those we know mourning loved ones at this time.

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 **green** slip. Please do take one home to pray over.

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

✂ **Weekly updates** 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

✂ **Find us on Facebook or Instagram**