



Sunday 8th September 2024 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

8:00am

Holy Communion

10:30am

All Age Worship

in the Church and online

The Armour of God

Reading: Ephesians 6: 10 -24

Leading: Neil Brookes (Youth Director)

Speaking: Michael Norman (Vicar)

5:30pm

Evening Encounter Service and Holy Communion

Salvation Belongs to God

Reading: Hebrews 2

Leading: Michael Norman (Vicar)

Speaking: Tolu George (Curate)



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

if you would like to receive them at office@stlukeswatford.org **Church Website:** www.stlukeswatford.org

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Tuesday 10th

10am **Holy Communion** in Church
5:30pm **Kids' Club** (Urban Saints) in church hall
8pm **Focus prayer meeting** in chapel

Wednesday 11th

8.30am **Staff Meeting** in vestry

Thursday 12th

9:30am **Toddlers** in church hall
7:30pm **Life Group** in chapel
8:00pm **Standing Committee/PCC Meeting** in lounge

Friday 13th

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

Sunday 15th

8:30am **16th Sunday after Trinity**
Pre-service Prayer meeting on Zoom
10:30am **Family Communion** in Church
3:00pm **Recital:** Mary Culloty O'Sullivan soprano (songs by Bernstein, Puccini and Loewe)
5.30pm **Encounter – Hebrews 3**

Other events are happening through the week organised by external groups

Ephesians 6: 10 to end (p.1177) The Armour of God

10Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. 19Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. **Final Greetings** 21Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. 22I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you. 23Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 24Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

Celebrations: Happy Birthday today to Ophelia H and tomorrow to Ronny S. Please let the office know of any celebrations you would like to share.

Big News – We are very pleased to share that Jeremy Hogarth and Mary Gardner are engaged to be married. They expect to have a confirmed date for next Summer within the next month.

Prayer ministry: Please come along and pray for the evening Encounter service at 16:50 this afternoon if you are able.

Office: Please note that the church office is not open on Tuesdays.

Coffee rota: We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers for the important coffee serving ministry to start as soon as possible and join the team which needs expansion.

Children's Work: Volunteers needed. We wish Lydia well as she moved to Sheffield last week. However, we are now needing more volunteers to help our children's groups to continue - particularly on Tuesdays at 5.30pm. We would love to continue Saturday Breakfast Club but at the moment we are unable to do so regularly because of the lack volunteers.

Can you help at Rainbows? 12th Watford Rainbows is held at St Luke's on Tuesdays between 5:15-6:15pm and may have to close in December if they don't find more helpers. If you think you'd like to get involved please speak to Catherine and submit the enquiry form through <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/> stating your interest to support 12th Watford Rainbows. We really hope that the unit doesn't close and appreciate your prayerful support for this.

Interested in writing Bible drama? Please see Pam N who is planning a workshop in the Autumn.

Plays at Watersmeet: Sunday 8th Sept. The story of Eric Liddell at 3.30pm followed by Titanic at 6pm. Each is just over an hour long and can be booked separately or together. The timings are such that people can go and have a snack or meal in between if they wish to see both. Flyers available.

Focus Prayer meetings: The next in-person prayer meeting will be on Tuesday 10th September at 8pm.

Recital today 3:00pm Christina Birchall-Sampson, soprano, Natalie Bleicher, piano. Performing songs with a theme of animals, including works by Alban Berg, Richard Rodney Bennett and Messiaen. Entry free. Donations welcome. Recital is followed by light refreshments in the gathering area.

Funeral: Neal Wilkinson's funeral will be held at 11:30 am on Friday 13th September. All are welcome to attend. For details of the funeral tea and to RSVP please email sianrebeccawilkinson@gmail.com. Black attire is not mandatory. No flowers but donations to Watford Mencap gratefully received via the following site www.lintr.ee/nealwilkinson

Prayer:



Collect

O Lord, we beseech thee,
let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church;
and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour,
preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.*

World events: For ceasefire negotiations in Gaza and Lebanon. For peace in Ukraine. For the US elections. For the success of vaccination programme halting spread of Mpox.

World Watch List: Christians in **Oman** (*world's 31st highest area of religious persecution*)

Deanery Cycle of Prayer: Oxhey: All Saints; Oxhey: St Matthew

Those with on-going needs:

St Luke's family in need:

Our wider family and friends in need:

Those in mourning:

Giving Thanks: Andrew thanks the congregation for prayers for his twin brother, Tony. Praying for his brother this week he had a tangible sense that many people were also praying with him. It makes sense of..' give thanks **in** all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.' I Thess 5:18. We give thanks for the many answers to prayer this week.

The next prayer list is **yellow**. Please do take one home to pray over.