



**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**10:30am**

**Safeguarding Sunday – with Family Communion**  
in the Church and online

***The Parable of the Weeds***

**Readings:** Philippians 2: 12 -16 (p.1179/1180)

Matthew 13: 24 - 30 and 36 – 43 (p.979 – 980)

**Leading:** Michael Norman (Vicar)

**Speaking:** Pam Norman (Reader)

**5:30pm**

**Encounter Service**

***Faith in Action***

**Reading:** Hebrews 11 (p1209 - 1210)

**Leading:** Clinton Dan-Jumbo (Ordinand)

**Speaking:** Bill Miller



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

**Weekly updates** by email – contact church office if you would like to receive them.

**Church Office not open on Tuesdays.**

**St Luke's Church Office** ☎ 01923 246161 **Church Website:** [www.stlukeswatford.org](http://www.stlukeswatford.org)

**Tuesday 19th**

10am

8pm – 9pm

**Holy Communion** in Church**Focus Prayer Meeting** on zoom**Thursday 21st**

7:30pm

7:30pm

**BETA group** in chapel**Alpha** in lounge**Friday 22nd**

10-11am

**Hour of Prayer** in the Chapel**Saturday 23rd**

8:30am – 10am

**Breakfast Club****Sunday 24th**

10:30am

**Family Communion**

5.30pm

**Encounter - Hebrews 12: 1 - 13****Matthew 13: 24-30**

4 Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. 25 But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. 26 When the wheat sprouted and formed ears, then the weeds also appeared. 27 “The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' 28 “‘An enemy did this,’ he replied. “The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' 29 “ ‘No,’ he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. 30 Let both collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’ ”

**Matthew 13: 36 - 43**

Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.” 37 He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. 40 “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. 42 They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

**Celebrations:** Happy Birthday to Jess T on Wednesday, Kevin S on Thursday and Richard W on Friday. Please let the office know of any celebrations you would like to share.

**Filing cabinet for the office** Thank you to Wendy S for offer of 4 door cabinet. Is there anyone who could transport it from them to us.

**SANTAS HAMPERS 2024 to be packed on 6<sup>th</sup> December** – sweet treats, toiletries, toys and gifts for 50 families in conjunction with Three Rivers Refugee Partnership. Last year each box cost £40. You can make a contribution via the church office, or in the gift aid envelopes in church (marking it ‘Santa’s Hampers’).

**Half Day of Prayer** 30<sup>th</sup> November 9am – 12pm in the chapel. All welcome.

**Wine for Christmas Dinner 30<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm** please book for this event to taste up to 12 bottles of wine accompanying Christmas dinner. Invite friends to this fun pre-Christmassy event to get into the spirit of things. Book your places via the church office or direct from Michael.

## Dates for the Diary – Christmas

### December 2024

12 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm	<b>Carols at the Essex Arms</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> 4.30pm	<b>Carols Around the Crib</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> 5 – 7pm	<b>Christmas Holiday Club Short 5 – 11 years</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm	<b>Carols at the Essex</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	
10:30am	<b>Nativity Service</b>
6.30pm	<b>Carols by Candlelight</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve</b>	
4:30pm	<b>Christingle</b>
11.30pm	<b>Midnight Communion</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day</b>	
9:00am	<b>Holy Communion with Carols</b>
10.30am	<b>Family All-age worship Celebration with shortened Holy Communion</b>
29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	<b>All-age Family Communion</b>

## Prayer for Safeguarding Sunday

Dear God, Help us to be a church that: Loves, welcomes, protects. Listens, learns, serves. Repents, restores, transforms. Values, cares, believes.

God of justice and compassion, hear our prayer. Help us, heal us, guide us, we pray. In Jesus name.



Amen.

## 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 peace in Gaza and Lebanon. For the United States. For peace in Ukraine. For people rebuilding lives in Spain after flooding. For humility, wisdom and understanding in our world's leaders.

**World Watch List:** Christians in **Qatar** (*world's 40<sup>th</sup> highest area of religious persecution*)

**Those with on-going needs:** Pat W, Janine (Gill Es' sister), Valerie W, Barbara T

**St Luke's family in need:** Valerie T, Janet G, Helen J, Veronica C, Val and Ron H, Mark H, Elizabeth S, Maeve K, Gill E, Bryan H, Ryan W and others we know.

**Our wider family and friends in need:** Pam N's brother Stephen R and others we know and love.

**Those in mourning:** friends and family of Christine Thomas; friends and family of Audrey Pitkin; friends and family of Tim McEwan (Andrew C's brother-in-law); prayers for Helen J B and family after the loss of her father; friends and family of Helen Roberts and all those we know mourning loved ones at this time.

**Giving Thanks:** We give thanks for the many answers to prayer this week.

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