



## Advent Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024

**10:30am**

### **Family Communion**

in the Church and online

**Reading: Psalm 25:1-10 (page 556)**

**Luke 21:25-36 (page 1057)**

**Leading:** Michael Norman (Vicar)

**Speaking:** Wendy Somerville (Reader)

**5:30pm**

### **Encounter Service**

***Come to God***

**Reading: Hebrews 12: 14-29 (p 1211)**

**Leading:** Michael Norman (Vicar)

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



**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 3rd**

10am

7pm -8pm

8pm-10pm

**Holy Communion** in Church

**Focus Prayer Meeting** in chapel

**PCC Meeting**

## **Thursday 5th**

7:30pm

7:30pm

**BETA group** in chapel

**Alpha** in lounge

## **Friday 6th**

10-11am

6:30pm

**Hour of Prayer** in the Chapel

**Santa's Hampers – packing** Upper Hall

## **Sunday 8th**

8:00am

10:30am

5.30pm

**Holy Communion**

**Morning Worship**

**Encounter with Holy Communion**

**Hebrews 13**

## **Psalm 25:1-10**

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

2 in you I trust, O my God.

Do not let me be put to shame,

nor let my enemies triumph over me.

3 No-one whose hope is in you

will ever be put to shame,

but they will be put to shame

who are treacherous without excuse.

4 Show me your ways, O Lord,

teach me your paths;

5 guide me in your truth and teach me,

for you are God my Saviour,

and my hope is in you all day long.

6 Remember, O Lord, your great mercy

and love,

for they are from of old.

7 Remember not the sins of my youth

and my rebellious ways;

according to your love remember me,

for you are good, O Lord.

8 Good and upright is the Lord;

therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.

9 He guides the humble in what is right

and teaches them his way.

10 All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful

for those who keep the demands of his covenant.

## **GET INVOLVED**

**Celebrations:** Happy Birthday to Emily W on Monday and Bryan Hogg on Tuesday.. Please let the office know of any celebrations you would like to share.

**Stamp Collection** Christmas is coming and we hope to receive Christmas cards. Please save the stamps, trimming at least 2 centimetres around them and deposit them in the box in the welcome area. Collection is in support of the Peace Hospice. Thank you. Pamela W

**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’). Packers welcome from 6:30pm.

**Men’s Meal – 14<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30 – 10.00pm** Please book places (£15) via office or directly with Bill M.

**Confirmation Service at St Luke’s with the Bishop of Hertford – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025** If anyone is interested in being baptised and confirmed on this date please contact Michael. Preparatory classes for adults and young people will be announced in the New Year. [michael.stlukes@gmail.com](mailto:michael.stlukes@gmail.com)

## **Christmas Dates in December for the Diary**

Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	<b>Christmas Leaflets</b> on tables for distribution to estate by church members
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	7:00pm	<b>Carols</b> at the Essex Arms
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	4:30pm	<b>Carols Around the Crib</b>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	5 – 7pm	<b>Christmas Holiday Club Short</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	7:00pm	<b>Carols</b> at the Essex Arms
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	10:30am	<b>Nativity Service</b>
	6:30pm	<b>Carols by Candlelight</b>
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	4:30pm	<b>Christingle</b>
	11:30pm	<b>Midnight Communion</b>
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	<b>Holy Communion with Carols</b>
	10:30am	<b>Family Celebration</b> with shortened Holy Communion
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> December	10:30am	<b>All-age Family Communion</b>

## Collect

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him 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 God's word, to pray and to persevere.

**World events:** For peace in Gaza and Lebanon. For peace in Ukraine. For humility, wisdom and understanding in our world's leaders.

**World Watch List:** Christians in **Indonesia** (*world's 41st highest area of religious persecution*)

**Please pray for Cassiobury Juniors Year 4** as they come to celebrate Advent on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

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

**Our families in need:** Valerie T, 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:** Andrew C's brother Tony; 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 Francis Fernando; friends and family of Audrey Pitkin; friends and family of Tim McEwen (Andrew C's brother-in-law); prayers for Helen J B and family after the loss of her father and all those we know mourning loved ones at this time.

**Giving Thanks:** We give thanks for improved health of Janet G and the many answers to prayer this week.

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