

SUNDAY 3RD MAY 2026
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.' (John 6:35)

Sunday 3rd May	9.00am	Holy Communion in Church
	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	All Age Service in Church and on Zoom
	Theme:	Jesus said: "I am the bread of life"
	Reading:	John 6:28-35
	Leader:	Anna Counsell
	Talk:	Stuart Cocksedge

SERVICES AND EVENTS

Monday 4 th		(No Prayer Meeting due to Early May Bank Holiday)
Wednesday 6 th	9.30am	Holy Communion in Church, followed by coffee
Thursday 7 th		Church in use as a Polling Station (7am – 10pm)
	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel (No St Luke's Toddlers due to church being in use as a Polling Station)
	11.00am	Holy Communion at Pennant House
	6.30pm	Youth Deeper in Church Rooms (until 8pm)
Friday 8 th	3.30pm	Fab Friday in Church (until 5.00pm)
Saturday 9 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Sunday 10 th	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom
	6.00pm	Prayer and Worship Gathering

Dear St Luke's family,

In John's gospel, we find the 7 'I Am' sayings of Jesus, through which he revealed his identity and mission in ways that speak into our deepest needs. These sayings echo God's revelation of himself in the Old Testament whilst offering comfort and clarity to all who seek him. We're focusing on these sayings in our sermons over the coming weeks beginning with the first saying, 'I am the bread of life.' This is an invitation to see Jesus as the true source of spiritual nourishment. Only he can satisfy our hunger for meaning, hope, and eternal life. In a world that frequently leaves us feeling empty, may we turn to Jesus, the One in whom we find fullness of life.

God bless, Stuart

PRAYERS

Prayer for 5th Sunday of Easter: Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

- Pray for peace and de-escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, for protection and relief for all affected.
- Pray for our church vision process, that we will be guided by God in discerning his vision for St Luke's.
- Pray for our Beacon Project as we raise funds, apply for grants, and seek approvals to enable it to progress.
- Pray for the St Luke's Kids and Youth Team as they share the good news of Jesus with children and young people on Sundays and at midweek groups.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Jane Diggle, Graham Finch (Brian Finch's brother), Julie Murphy, Iain Wilson.

To add a name to the prayer list, please let the church office know and we will add it for four weeks. At the end of this time, please let us know if you would like the name to stay on the list, otherwise we will take it off. Thank you.



Thank you to those who responded with gifts and pledges for the Beacon Project last Sunday!
 If you haven't yet responded, we encourage you to prayerfully consider what you could give now and/or pledge to give later, to help us to ensure that St Luke's Church is a bright, warm, welcoming place where the love of God is made known, now and into the future. See leaflets or website for details:
<https://stlukesparkstone.org.uk/888/St-Lukes-Beacon-Project>

This week we are praying for Bible Society

- Pray for the help needed to support Chinese pastors reach and teach their huge flocks.
- Pray for young people in this country to read, absorb and believe the truth of the Bible.
- Pray for the Patmos Global Summit for Bible Engagement in May, seeking to help all people find and understand the love of Jesus in a Bible in their own language.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 7 th May 7am – 10pm	St Luke's Church in use as a Polling Station
Sunday 10 th May 6pm	Prayer & Worship Gathering in Church
Wednesday 3 rd June 6.30pm	Watoto Children's Choir Concert in Church (see below)
Friday 26 th – Sunday 28 th June	Spree South West 2026 Youth Weekend at Westpoint, Exeter
Sunday 12 th July 10.30am	Mission Partnerships Sunday in Church
Tuesday 28 th July – Sunday 2 nd August	New Wine Festival at Royal Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet
Tuesday 25 th – Friday 28 th August	'Under the Sea' Holiday Club for primary age children in Church

NOTICES

Annual Meeting (APCM) last Sunday

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the APCM last Sunday, and to those who have responded with gifts for the Beacon Project (see first page). Our PCC members are now: Steve Blight (Treasurer), Richard Browning, Revd Stuart Cocksedge, Justin Coldstream (LLM), Alan Cotterell (Churchwarden), Lis Cullis, Paul Gilbert, Kate Giles, Martin Holst (Deanery Synod), Roger Jones (Electoral Roll Officer), Margaret Lloyds (Deanery Synod), Julie Murphy, John Pattison (LLM), Anne Roberts, Harriet Sturgess, Sara Turnbull, and Frank Westfield. Please keep them in your prayers.

Open Garden on Sunday 26th April – Thank you!

Thank you very much to everyone who helped at, provided cakes for sale or supported the Open Garden on Sunday 26th April in any way. It was a very busy afternoon, and we are pleased to be able to tell you that we raised just over £1,130 at the event to go to the Poole Wau Partnership. Thank you very much, from Judy and Richard Hudson.

Thy Kingdom Come – 'God with us' Novena prayer guides

The national Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative takes place once again between Ascension and Pentecost, 14th – 24th May. We have some copies of 'God with us' by Archbishop Sarah Mullally, which contains a guide to praying each day between Ascension and Pentecost. Please help yourself to a copy, available at the back of church.

Mission partner update – The Pain family in Japan

The Pains have been working with OMF in Japan for nearly twenty years. To get the latest news from them, we encourage you to sign up for their email newsletter, which contains interesting news about their work and family. Often, there are short videos included which create a greater sense of connection than reading a letter could do on its own. They would be very encouraged to welcome more of us onto their mailing list. To sign up, send an email to Kesia on kesia.pain@omfmail.com letting her know that you are from St Luke's.

Mission partner update – Church Mission Society in Tanzania

We currently support Ben and Katy Ray in Tanzania, and they are being joined by Dave and Tricia Rollett, who will be working on the island of Zanzibar. This is a challenging area of mission where Christians are in a minority. Their ministry will be about equipping and encouraging followers of Jesus to be a loving witness to their neighbours of other faiths. More details in the CMS magazine on the CMS noticeboard in church.

Watoto Children's Choir Concert – Wednesday 3rd June 6.30pm

We are very excited to have the Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda coming to St Luke's on Wednesday 3rd June. A great opportunity to invite friends to. **The concert is free to attend**, but to help us keep track of numbers, please book tickets using the link below, or via the church office. Click here to book your tickets:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/watoto-childrens-choir-in-better-days-2026-tickets-1979974652485?aff=oddtcreator

Watoto Children's Choir Concert – host families needed

We are still looking for a couple more host families to provide accommodation for Watoto choir members for two nights (3rd and 4th June). If you may be able to help, please let the church office know. Thank you!

New Wine Festival 2026

Tickets are now available for the New Wine Festival which takes place from Tuesday 28th July until Sunday 2nd August. Follow this link for more info or to buy tickets: www.festival.new-wine.org/book-now

Giving to support the work of St Luke's Parkstone

To set up regular giving, please go www.parishgiving.org.uk and search for St Luke's Parkstone or scan this QR code:

Bank details CAF Bank Limited Name St Lukes Church Account No 00008836 Sort Code 40-52-40

Office opening hours week commencing 4th May 2026: **Wed 9.30am-3pm**

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