



SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2026 SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

'But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.'
(Matthew 6:33)

Sunday 15th February	9.00am	Breakfast Church in Church
	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Holy Communion with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom
	Theme:	Our vision of God - The King and his kingdom
	Readings:	Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Luke 23:33-43
	Leader:	Stuart Cocksedge
Talk:	Stuart Cocksedge	

SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 16 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Tuesday 17 th	2.00pm	Dementia Awareness Talk in Church Rooms
Wednesday 18 th	11.30am	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion in Church Rooms, followed by light lunch (No Youth Deeper this week due to half term)
Thursday 19 th	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel (No St Luke's Toddlers this week due to half term)
Friday 20 th		(No Fab Friday this week due to half term)
Sunday 22 nd	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom

Dear St Luke's family,

Thank you to all those who came together to pray at our **prayer gathering** last Sunday evening. It was good to worship, pray for one another, and pray specifically for God's work and God's vision for us here at St Luke's. **Please continue to pray** that we will know more of God's presence with us in our services and meetings, that we will know God's protection over us, and that we'll be guided by God's Spirit as we seek his vision and will for us as a church.

As we continue our series exploring aspects of our **vision of God**, this Sunday we are focusing on **God's kingdom**. When Jesus began his ministry, he "went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come,' he said. 'The **kingdom of God** has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'" (Mark 1:14-15). We'll explore what it means to say that Jesus is our King, and what the kingdom of God is like.

God bless, Stuart

PRAYERS

Prayer for the Sunday before Lent: Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Pray for peace in troubled parts of the world, especially the Middle East, Ukraine, and the Sudans.
- Pray for comfort and strength for all those affected by the tragic shootings in Tumbler Ridge, Canada.
- Pray for our church vision process, that we will be guided by God in discerning his vision for St Luke's.
- Pray for the St Luke's safeguarding team who use their time and skills to help keep our services and activities safe.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Jane Diggle, Margaret Holst, Louise, Matthew, Julie Murphy, Neil (Liz Cotterell's father who is having a pacemaker fitted on 16th February), George Palmer, Geraldine Rodrigues, Sue Rushton, Sid Wells, Ian Wilson and Jake Wilson.

Please note: following feedback, we are trialing a new system for our prayer list. If you would like us to pray for someone (yourself or someone else) please let the office know and we will add their name to the list 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.

This week we are praying for Bible Society

Heavenly Father, we thank you for encouraging and upholding the translation and distribution of Bibles in many new languages. We pray for so many young people showing a real interest in the message of the Bible, help them as they seek guidance and truth they can trust. Support and sustain Bible Society's outreach to these seeking minds. We pray that the youth versions of the Bible and Bible notes will inspire and help shine your light and saving grace in the darkness and bring hope and clarity to their lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 1 st March 3.30pm	Welcome Tea at the Vicarage
Sunday 8 th March 6pm	Prayer & Worship Gathering in Church
Sunday 15 th March 10.30am	Mothering Sunday Service in Church
Wednesday 25 th March 7.30pm	PCC Meeting at the Church Hall
Thursday 2 nd April 6.30pm (Maundy Th.)	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion in Church
Friday 3 rd April 10am (Good Friday)	Messy Easter in Church
Friday 3 rd April 2pm (Good Friday)	Last Hour at the Cross Reflective Service in Church
Sunday 5 th April 9am (Easter Day)	Easter Holy Communion in Church
Sunday 5 th April 10.30am (Easter Day)	Easter All Age Communion in Church
Sunday 5 th April 6pm (Easter Day)	Prayer & Worship Gathering (Easter Prayer & Worship)
Sunday 26 th April 10.30am	Annual Meeting (APCM) in Church as part of morning service
Wednesday 3 rd June 6pm	Watoto Concert in Church (see below)

NOTICES

Watoto Children's Choir coming to St Luke's – host families wanted please!

We are very excited to have the Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda coming to St Luke's on Wednesday 3rd June. Some of you may remember them coming here in the past, and it will be great to have them again. They will present a joyful evening of music, worship, dance, testimonies and a gospel talk. This will be a great opportunity to invite friends along, and we'll be doing lots to publicise the event in the coming months. **If you would be able to help by providing accommodation for choir members** for two nights (3rd & 4th June) please let the church office know. Thank you!

Dementia Awareness Talk – Tuesday 17th February 2pm

Sue Warr, the Prama Life Manager, will give a talk on understanding and supporting people living with Dementia on Tuesday 17th February at 2pm in the Church Rooms. The talk will finish at 3.30pm with time to ask questions over tea and biscuits. This is open to anyone to attend. We are a Dementia Friendly church so please do support this event.

Welcome Tea – Sunday 1st March 3.30pm – 5pm

If you are new to St Luke's, we would love to invite you to join us for tea, coffee and cake at the vicarage at our next welcome tea, on Sunday 1st March at 3.30pm. There will be time to chat, answer your questions, and get to know you more. Please email vicar@stlukesparkstone.org.uk to let us know you're coming. We look forward to seeing you!

Kids & Youth Registration at Sunday Services

We are now registering children and young people for their groups at the back of church as they arrive on Sunday mornings. If you have a child or young person, when you arrive please head to the **'kids and youth registration point'**.

Sunday Evening Prayer Gatherings – 6pm – 7.30pm

We have now held several Sunday evening times of worship and prayer since last summer. These are important times for the St Luke's family to come together to pray for our church and community. We feel it is right for these to now become a regular monthly event, usually on the second Sunday of the month.

Good News – Church heating replacement and reducing our carbon footprint

The PCC have agreed to progress the replacement of the church heating system alongside upgrading the church lighting. We'll be applying for funds from grant-making trusts, and you can also contribute by donating using the bank details below (using payment ref 'Heating') or using the card machine in church. Thank you! More details to follow.

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 your 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 16th February 2026: **Mon 10am-12pm & 1.30pm-3.30pm, Wed & Fri 9.30am – 3pm**

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