



Living and Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ

SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST 2025

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. (Psalm 42:1)

Sunday 17th August	10.00am	Pre-Service Prayers in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Holy Communion in Church and on Zoom
	Theme:	Psalm 42 – A psalm of lament
	Readings:	Psalm 42 and John 4:7-15, 21-24
	Leader:	Stuart Cocksedge
	Preacher:	Ruth Greig

SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 18 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Wednesday 20 th	11.30am	Holy Communion in Church (no lunch this month due to the summer break)
Thursday 21 st	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel (No St Luke's Toddlers due to school summer holiday)
Friday 22 nd		(No Fab Friday or Youth Club due to school summer holiday)
Saturday 23 rd	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Sunday 24 th	10.00am	Pre-service Prayers in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship in Church and on Zoom

Dear St Luke's family,

This hot dry weather can be great for some, whilst others may struggle in the heat. Either way, I hope you can find time for rest and refreshment over the summer. As we continue reflecting on the Psalms during August, this Sunday we come to Psalm 42, a heartfelt reminder that even in times of sorrow and spiritual dryness, God remains our hope. The psalmist cries out, 'As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God,' expressing a deep longing for God's presence. Amid tears and turmoil, the psalmist asks, 'Why, my soul, are you downcast?' But he doesn't stay in the place of despair. Instead, he speaks truth to his soul: 'Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him.' This psalm reminds us that it's okay to wrestle with doubt and sadness, but we are also called to return to hope and worship, trusting in God's love and faithfulness, even when God seems distant. May this be a comfort to us. As you walk through difficult seasons in life, you are not alone, and your hope in God is not in vain.

God bless, Stuart

PRAYERS

Prayer for Ninth Sunday After Trinity: Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Pray for peace in areas affected by war and conflict, including Ukraine, the Middle East, and the Sudans.
- Pray for our Heroes Academy Holiday Club on 26th – 29th August, that the children who come will experience the love of God through the activities and input each day, and for God's blessing on our amazing holiday club team as we prepare for the week.
- Pray for the work of the St Luke's Mission Partnerships Team, who encourage prayer and support for our mission partners around the world and here in the UK.
- Pray for the family and friends of John Singer, a long standing member of St Luke's who died recently.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Jane Diggle, Toby Hill and his family (grandson of Jean & Richard Snow), Margaret Holst, Lisa, Louise, Matthew, George Palmer, Geraldine Rodrigues, Sue Rushton, Chris & Maggie Strain, Tina, Sara Turnbull's mother Alix and Sid Wells.

This week we are praying for the Evangelical Alliance

Heavenly Father, thank you for the continuing work of the Evangelical Alliance, which seeks to serve and strengthen their gospel led work in our communities and throughout society. We pray you will sustain and lead them as they endeavour to speak up for the gospel, justice and freedom in their areas of influence. Members of the Evangelical Alliance seek to share their passion to know Jesus and make Him known in our country, so we ask for your blessing and protection on all of them as they continue to work to show Your glory. In Jesus name. Amen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 26 th – Friday 29 th August	Heroes Academy Holiday Club for primary school age children
Friday 5 th Sept 10.30am – 12.30pm	MyChurchSuite Drop-in in the Church Office
Sunday 14 th September	Kids and Youth Ministry Team Day after the morning service
Monday 29 th September 1.30pm	Pastoral Team Meeting in Church Rooms (including a talk on changes to local NHS services – all are welcome to this part of the meeting)

NOTICES

Heroes Academy Holiday Club

Please do pray for our holiday club, which begins very soon! We have lots of children booked in and we are very excited to welcome them to St Luke's for four mornings of fun activities, songs, Bible stories and crafts exploring heroes of the Bible. Over the coming days we'll be getting the church ready for holiday club. Please note that for the week of Monday 25th – Friday 29th August the church will not be open as usual to visitors, and our Wednesday 9.30am Holy Communion service and Thursday 9.15am prayer meeting will be held in the Church Rooms.

Heroes Academy Holiday Club – we need your junk!

At holiday club we are doing junk modelling. If you have any clean cardboard or plastic packaging that you can donate, please put it in the box at the back of church. Thank you, Anna.

Number 20 Bus Route Consultation

A consultation on the future of the number 20 bus (and others) is taking place. Please follow this link if you wish to complete the online survey or download a paper version: <https://haveyoursay.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/bus-subsidies-2025>

Dementia Friendly Church

"Just a reminder that at St Luke's we are a Dementia Friendly Church, and everyone is welcome and included in our congregation. I have both professional and personal experience of supporting people living with Dementia and am happy to chat or share information with any family needing support. Many thanks, Liz"

Pattern of Saturday prayer meetings

Please note that from August onwards, our fortnightly Saturday morning prayer meetings at 9.30am will take place on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. We hope this will make it easier to keep track of when they are happening. This means the next one is on Saturday 23rd August at 9.30am.

Helping you with MyChurchSuite – Friday 5th September

Many of you are now using the MyChurchSuite app to keep your details up to date, check when you are serving on rotas, and so on, which is great. But we are aware that not everyone finds technology easy, so we are offering some more drop-in sessions in the church office to help you get to grips with MyChurchSuite. We can help with: how to get the app set up on your phone or computer, how to update your personal details, how to provide your unavailability, and more. Please do drop-in to the church office on **Friday 5th September** any time between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Monthly 9am Holy Communion Service – Starting in September

Starting on Sunday 7th September, we will trial holding a simple service of Holy Communion at 9am on the first Sunday of the month. This will be a quiet service with hymns on the piano, lasting just under an hour. All are welcome.

Kids and Youth Ministry Team Day – Sunday 14th September, 12 noon – 3pm

This will be a time for everyone involved in children's and youth ministry at St Luke's to come together as a team for some training and to think about our vision and plans going forward. We'll meet after the morning service and lunch will be provided. Please put the date in your diary and join us on Sunday 14th September.

Giving to support the work of St Luke's Parkstone

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

Or please send a cheque payable to 'St Luke's Church Parkstone PCC' to the Church Office, Wellington Road, Poole BH14 9LF

Church Office opening hours: week commencing 18th August 2025 – Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am – 3pm

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