



SUNDAY 19TH APRIL 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead... (1 Peter 1:3)

Sunday 19th April	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:	Easter - Jesus appears to Thomas
	Readings:	1 Peter 1:17-23 and John 20:24-31
	Leader:	Stuart Cocksedge
	Preacher:	Stuart Cocksedge

SERVICES AND EVENTS

Monday 20 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Wednesday 22 nd	9.30am	Holy Communion in Church, followed by coffee
Thursday 23 rd	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
	10.00am	St Luke's Toddlers in Church (until 11.30am)
	6.30pm	Youth Deeper in Church Rooms (until 8pm) (please note new day and time)
Friday 24 th	3.30pm	Fab Friday in Church (until 5.00pm)
Saturday 25 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Sunday 26 th	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship & APCM, with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom

Dear St Luke's family,

Thank you to everyone who gave their time and energy helping at all of our Easter services. It was great to welcome so many visitors into St Luke's over Easter. At Messy Easter we welcomed 170 people for family-friendly Easter crafts, worship, and an all-age talk exploring why Jesus died on the cross and why this is good news for us today. And on Easter Sunday we saw over 160 people coming together for our morning services, to celebrate the amazing good news that Jesus rose from the dead, is alive and with us now!

Looking ahead, please join us for our **Annual Meeting** as part of the morning service on **Sunday 26th April**. And please continue to think and pray about how you could contribute to our **Beacon Project** to renew and improve our heating, lighting, and sound and visual capabilities. More details about all of this over the page.

God bless, Stuart

PRAYERS

Prayer for the Third Sunday of Easter: Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, 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 those 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 the project to progress.
- Pray for our Connect Group leaders, for God's guidance, encouragement and strengthening as they lead their Connect Groups.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Jane Diggle, Julie Murphy and Iain Wilson.

To add a name to this 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.

This week we are praying for CMS (Church Mission Society)

We pray for CMS partners in the Middle East bringing the good news of Jesus often in circumstances of personal danger. We join them to: 'Pray for an end to conflict in the Middle East. Pray for diplomacy, dialogue and de-escalation: for violence to cease, for protection from harm and for peace in Iran, Lebanon and across the Middle East. Please pray for continued safety for all people in mission in the region.' We also pray for the ongoing work of Ben and Katy Ray in Tanzania who are building a community for people with disabilities to belong, explore faith and receive training so they can earn a living.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 26 th April 10.30am	Annual Meeting (APCM) in Church as part of our morning service
Sunday 26 th April 2pm – 5pm	Open Garden at 24A Western Avenue, Branksome Park (see below)
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

St Luke's Beacon Project

On Easter Sunday we launched the fundraising for our Beacon Project, aiming 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.** We are seeking to renew our church heating, lighting, and sound and visual capabilities. **We encourage you to respond with gifts or pledges at the Annual Meeting on Sunday 26th April** (see below). See leaflets in church or website for details: <https://stlukesparkstone.org.uk/888/St-Lukes-Beacon-Project>

Annual Meeting and PCC Vacancies – Sunday 26th April 10.30am

Please join us for our Annual Meeting (APCM) which takes place on Sunday 26th April as part of our morning service. We are seeking nominations to fill PCC vacancies as follows; 4 vacancies on the PCC for three years, 1 vacancy for two years, and 3 vacancies for Deanery Synod reps. (Thank you to those who have already submitted nomination forms.) Please prayerfully consider if God may be calling you to stand. Do speak to Stuart or the wardens if you'd like to discuss this further. Nomination forms available at the back of church. Thank you.

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!

Thank you!

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to the Winter Clothing Project. I know how much the items were appreciated by all those in need this winter. Many thanks, Liz Howes.

Connect Group Study Notes

Copies of the summer term Connect Group study notes are available at the back of church and on the website at this link: <https://stlukesparkstone.org.uk/70/Connect>

Open Garden at 24A Western Avenue, Branksome Park – Sunday 26th April 2pm - 5pm

The garden at 24A Western Avenue will be open on Sunday 26th April, 2pm to 5pm, with refreshments during the afternoon and Judy selling her preserves. All proceeds from refreshments and sales go to the Poole-Wau Partnership. Admission charge payable. Additional help is still needed, so if you are able to help please speak to Richard or Judy Hudson or phone 01202 721919.

Book Launch – Wednesday 29th April 6.30pm

Jeannie Kendall will be launching her new book 'He Refreshes My Soul' on Wednesday 29th April at 6.30pm, at Buckland Road Baptist Church, Buckland Road, Poole BH12 2NA. Please email bucklandroadchurch@gmail.com if you would like to attend or would like to order a signed copy of the book at £14.99.

Part Time Church Administrator Vacancy at Lytchett Minster & St Dunstan's Upton

See their website at www.lytup.church for job description and person specification. Closing date: 11th May.

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 20th April 2026: **Mon 10am-12pm, Wed & Fri 9.30am-3pm**

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