

**SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2025**
**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT & ST LUKE'S GIFT DAY**

**They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship,  
to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2:42)**

|                                     |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b> | <b>10.00am</b>                      | <b>Pre-Service Prayers</b> in Side Chapel                            |
|                                     | <b>10.30am</b>                      | <b>Morning Worship</b> with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom |
|                                     | Theme:                              | A church devoted to the way of Jesus                                 |
|                                     | Readings:                           | Acts 2:42-47 & Mark 6:39-44  |
|                                     | Leader & Preacher:                  | Stuart Cocksedge   |
|                                     | <b>3.30pm</b>                       | <b>Welcome Tea</b> at The Vicarage                                   |
| <b>6.00pm</b>                       | <b>Youth Deeper</b> in Church Rooms |  |

**SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK**

|                            |         |   |
|----------------------------|---------|---|
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>    | 9.30am  | Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel                                   |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>   | 7.30pm  | <b>Spring Courses:</b> Mission Minded Living                    |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am  | Holy Communion in <u>Church</u>                                 |
|                            | 7.30pm  | <b>Spring Courses:</b> Growing on the Frontline in Church Rooms |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>  | 9.15am  | Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel                                   |
|                            | 10.00am | St Luke's Toddlers in <u>Church Rooms</u> (until 11.30am)       |
|                            | 10.30am | Bournemouth Collegiate School Easter Service in Church          |
|                            | 1.00pm  | <b>Spring Courses:</b> The Belonging Course in Church Rooms     |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>    | 8.00pm  | <b>Spring Courses:</b> Parenting for Faith on Zoom              |
|                            | 3.30pm  | Fab Friday in Church Rooms (until 4.45pm) – Reception to Year 6 |
| Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.30pm  | Youth Club in Church Hall (until 9pm) – Years 7 to 13           |
|                            | 9.30am  | Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel                                   |
| Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>    | 10.00am | Pre-service Prayers in Side Chapel                              |
|                            | 10.30am | Mothering Sunday All Age Service, in Church and on Zoom         |
|                            | 6.00pm  | Youth Deeper in Church Rooms                                    |

**Dear St Luke's family,**

This Sunday we come to the final part of our sermon series on themes drawn from **the feeding of the 5,000**. It is also our **gift day**, when we are encouraging all of us to prayerfully consider what we can give to support and invest in the vision of St Luke's Parkstone. For more details please read our giving leaflet:

[Growing Together: Investing in our vision 2025](#). **Thank you** in advance!

Of course, Jesus is central to the feeding of the 5,000. Involving the disciples in meeting the needs of the crowd, he transforms the situation. And in Acts we see that the way of Jesus is central to the life of the early church, as the believers **'devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer'** (Acts 2:42). My prayer for us as a church is that we too may grow in our devotion to Jesus and to following his way.

God bless, Stuart

**PRAYERS**

Prayer for the Third Sunday of Lent: Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Pray for peace in all places devastated by war, conflict and natural disasters, for strength and comfort for all affected.
- Pray for the family and friends of Colin West who died this week.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Jane Diggie, Toby Hill and his family (grandson of Jean & Richard Snow), Louise, Margaret Holst, Matthew, Olivia Norris, George Palmer, Geraldine Rodrigues, Sue Rushton (whose husband Bob has died recently), Sara Turnbull's mother Alix and Lorna Warburton.



## This week we are praying for the Tearfund

Father God, thank you for Tearfund and their mission to follow Jesus where the need is greatest. We pray that the work they do through their partners around the world will continue to have a great impact in alleviating poverty and demonstrating the love of Christ in tangible ways. We pray that their Lent appeal will raise valuable support for their Transforming Communities training, bringing hope and helping many people to take steps out of poverty. Amen.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 3.30pm                     | <b>Welcome Tea</b> at the Vicarage  |
| Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> March                          | <b>Youth sponsored walk to raise money for SPREE</b> (see below)                |
| Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 10.30am                    | <b>Mothering Sunday All Age Service</b>   |
| Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> – Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm | <b>Holy Week Reflections</b>  |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm                   | <b>Maundy Thursday Holy Communion</b>   |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 10am                       | <b>Messy Easter</b> (family-friendly Easter crafts, refreshments and worship)   |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2pm                        | <b>Good Friday Reflective Service – Last Hour at the Cross</b>                  |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 10.30am                    | <b>Easter Sunday All Age Communion Service</b>                                  |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 6pm                        | <b>Easter Sunday Evening Celebration Service</b>                                |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 10.30am                    | <b>Annual Meeting (APCM)</b> during Morning Worship, then bring and share lunch |

### NOTICES

#### St Luke's Gift Day – Sunday 23rd March

Please read our new giving leaflet: **Growing Together: Investing in our vision 2025**

The best way to give is by regular monthly giving, which helps us to budget and plan ahead.

Please join with us by giving generously in one of the following ways:

- **Set up a monthly direct debit using the Parish Giving Scheme.** This takes care of the admin and gift aid, protects your privacy, and gives the option of an annual increase in line with inflation. You can phone the **Parish Giving Scheme** on **0333 002 1271**, or scan the **QR code**, or go to **[www.paritygiving.org.uk](http://www.paritygiving.org.uk)** and search for:

Church: **Parkstone St Luke** PGS Parish Code: **340634268**

- If you already give by standing order or envelopes, please consider moving to the **Parish Giving Scheme** if possible.
- If you would like to give a one-off gift, this can be given to:

Account name: **St Luke's Church** Sort code: **40-52-40** Account number: **00008836**

If you have questions or would like more information please speak to Steve Blight or Stuart Cocksedge.

Jesus said, **'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'** (Matthew 6:21). We have a vital message of hope in Jesus to share with a troubled world. Let's invest in that which will have lasting significance. Thank you!

#### Preparation of new Electoral Roll

This year we are required to prepare a completely new Electoral Roll. **Every person** who wishes to have his or her name entered on the new Roll, whether it is on the present Roll or not, is required to apply for enrolment. Forms are available at the back of the Church, or from the Church Office. Completed forms must be received by 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

#### Welcome Tea – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

If you are new to St Luke's, or haven't been to a welcome tea before, we would love to invite you to tea and cake at the Vicarage on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 3.30pm – 5pm. Please speak to Stuart or Rachel – we would love to welcome you!

#### Cantabile Spring Concert – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April

Join us on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm at St Luke's. Tickets on the door or from the office £10 (student concession £5).

#### Annual Meeting (APCM) and PCC vacancies

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting takes place on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April as part of our morning service at 10.30am. There will also be a bring and share lunch in church after the service. Please do join us for both! This year, we will have vacancies for 4 PCC members and 1 Deanery Synod rep. If you are interested in standing for one of these roles please do speak to Stuart or the church wardens. Nomination forms will be available soon.

#### SPREE Youth Weekend!

Last year a group of our young people had a great time at the SPREE Christian youth weekend in Devon, so Anna will be taking a group again this year on 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June. In advance of this, the young people are doing a sponsored walk to raise money towards their trip to SPREE, aiming to walk 10km from Branksome Chine to Boscombe and back again, on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March. If you would like to sponsor them, please speak to Anna. Thank you!

#### 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 to St Luke's Church Parkstone PCC to the Church Office, Wellington Road, Poole BH14 9LF

Cover in the Church Office week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am – 3pm.

Tel (Office): 01202 717268 Tel (Vicarage): 01202 790987 Email: [office@stlukesparkstone.org.uk](mailto:office@stlukesparkstone.org.uk) Website: [www.stlukesparkstone.org.uk](http://www.stlukesparkstone.org.uk)

