

SUNDAY 9th JANUARY 2022 – 1ST SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

10.30 am **Morning Worship** in Church and Zoom, with Childrens group

Theme: Secure in the love of God

Leading: John Pattison Talk: Chris Strain Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7, Luke 3:15-22

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81070235778?pwd=TWxDbXpGSjQ4REVGNHlrRjRkU3Vpdz09>

Zoom Meeting ID:810 7023 5778 Password: 187264. To phone in, ring 0203 4815237 and use same info

5.00 pm **Evening Worship** - on Zoom led by Ruth Greig

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

Wednesday 12th January

9.30 am Morning Worship – Zoom

11.45 pm Hall Team meeting – church rooms

Thursday 13th January

10.00 am Parents and Toddlers – church (until 11.30 am)

7.30 pm Prayer Ministry Team meeting – church rooms

Friday 14th January

7.30 pm Youth Club in Hall (until 9pm) – year 6 and up

Saturday 15th January

10.00 am Fabric Committee meeting – church rooms – join us if interested

Sunday 16th January 2022

10.30 am Holy Communion – in church and Zoom

5.00 pm Evening Worship – church rooms

7 Up's for the coming year

1. WAKE-UP Begin the day with the Lord. It is His day. Rejoice in in.
2. DRESS-UP Put on a smile. It improves your looks. It says something about your attitude.
3. SHUT-UP Watch your tongue. Don't gossip. Say nice things. Learn to listen.
4. STAND-UP Take a stand for what you believe. Resist evil. Do good.
5. LOOK-UP Open your eyes to the Lord. After all, He is your only Saviour.
6. REACH-UP Spend time in prayer with your adorations, confessions, thanksgivings and supplications to the Lord.
7. LIFT-UP Be available to help those in need – serving, supporting and sharing.

Calamity Jane Production – Tickets on sale next week

Tickets will be on sale next week for Calamity Jane. £8/adult and £5/child. For the Sunday performance there will be some tables available at £10/adult with finger food and refreshments included in this price. Show Schedule: Fri 4th Feb at 7.30 pm, Sat 5th Feb at 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm, and Sun 6th Feb at 3.30 pm. The hall will be well ventilated and seating will be distanced. Refreshments will be available at each show. For further info speak to Claire Storey - clairestorey0204@gmail.com or 0740 0347892 (pm).

Winter Clothing Donations

As the cold weather is now upon us, any donations of men's clothing – socks, hats, gloves, jumpers, etc – to the Winter Clothing Project, is very much appreciated. This project supports the homeless in Parkstone and is supported by the UR Church. Please place donations in the plastic box at the back of the church. For further information speak to Liz Howes.

Wau-Poole Newsletter 2022 and Building Appeal

The latest Wau-Poole Newsletter is available at the back of church. It contains exciting news about their Appeal launch to raise funds for constructing the walls of a new building at St John's College, Wau, which Archbishop Moses has decided is to be named **The Poole-Wau Partnership Building**. If you would like to support this Appeal please pick up a leaflet at the back of church or go to <https://www.poolewaupartnership.com/2022-appeal.html> for details of the new building and how to donate to the Appeal.

Newsletter from the Pains/OMF

Copies of the Pains' Prayer News Bulletin for January can be found at the back of church.

Some thoughts from the Vicar

May 2022 be a peace and hope filled one when we see the God who never changes bring good change into our world and lives as we turn towards Him and surrender to his love. Over Christmas I revisited a sermon preached by Justin at the end of October. In it he encouraged us from Psalm 37 and James 4 not to arrogantly overplan but to be content with God's plans, to trust in the Lord and do good and to delight in him as he grants us the desires of our hearts. I find that very helpful. A book I have appreciated recently is "Surrender to Love" by David Benner, and I am trying to do what the title says!

God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Hebrews 13: 5 & 8 I hope you will also find the verse for the year from Hebrews 13 comforting / strengthening as we live through uncertain times. Over the past year I have also take great solace in many verses from the end of Isaiah (e.g. 40:11, 29-31, 41:9-10, 43:1-2, 46:4, 50:10, 54:10 all of which could be verses for the year). And let's roll over Romans 15:3 from last year.

Apps and web site to help us grow: Many of the verses above are used in *Lectio365*. This is a wonderful app which can be downloaded. There is a 10 minute reflection each morning and a restful 6-7 minute evening one each day. Might you use this during 2022. *Daily Prayer with audio* from the Church of England and the *Bible Society's Daily Readings* are also very good as is *Bible in a Year*. Among the best website for articles and news are that of LICC, CMS and Tearfund. I have found at times that I have been swamped by too many emails, but maybe we could select two or three which are life-giving and enable us to look upwards and outwards.

Most **Connect Groups** are looking at the "I am" sayings of Jesus from John's Gospel in the period up to Easter. These sayings like "I am the Good Shepherd, the Vine, the Resurrection" are wonderful. **How about joining one of our nine Connect groups which meet fortnightly in the evenings or during the day?** Their purpose is to help us in our daily lives as Christians by connecting us in four ways - with God, our true selves, one another and the world. Speak to me or others to find out more. If you are more senior could I especially mention the Wednesday morning group that Sue Walkden leads. After Easter there is some thought of looking at 1 Peter – that seems a good letter to read in these times of struggle and in the context of St Luke's.

Covid is very much still with us. The Omicron variant is easily transmissible even though it is generally not causing so many very serious illnesses and hospitalisations. We hope and pray for a better 2022, but I sense we are going to have to live with Covid for some time. At St Luke's we will continue to ask everyone to be wise, thoughtful and gracious. For now, please continue to wear masks, socially distance and weigh up what meetings need to be inside (and consider sanitising and ventilation). With regard to our worship and events we will continue to discuss and work out what is best, and for the present try to offer a mix of in person and zoom etc. My special thanks to John, Frank and others who have helped so much with technology.

Prayers

Special Prayer for 1st Sunday of Epiphany: *Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you. Amen*

Pray for South Sudan-Wau Please pray for the peace process in South Sudan: for the implementation of the truth and reconciliation commission this January. Please pray for those affected by flooding with the associated diseases and crop destruction. Pray for Archbishop Moses and all those spreading the Gospel and working for a new Christian nation. Give thanks for our friends in Wau and the Internal Province and their great faith. May they receive the necessary vaccines and health care.

Please also pray for Open Doors - Pray for secret believers in North Korea who risk everything to follow Jesus in the face of the most extreme persecution. Ask the Lord to protect and provide for their needs. May they shine as lights in the darkness.

Please pray for Jon Pullman after the loss of Susan, and the family and friends of Lilian Norey who also died on 31st Dec.

Church Finances and Giving

Thank you for your commitment to maintain and grow our church life. **Our bank details are: CAF Bank Limited**
Name: St Luke's Church, Parkstone PCC. 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 Parkstone BH14 9LF.



Week commencing 10th Jan – the office will be open mornings Tuesday-Friday.

Tel: 01202 717268 Email: office@stlukesparkstone.org.uk Website: www.stlukesparkstone.org.uk