



8am Holy Communion, in Church

10am Service of the Word with Holy Baptism, in Church & [Zoom](#)

Come and enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the WCC after the 10am service.

You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:

1. Come to Church All are welcome!

Remember to bring your order of service for the 10am service.

2. Join Zoom on your computer

When signed in you can 'Join a Meeting' (ID: 927 480 8728 / Passcode: 889123).

3. Join with Audio Zoom via phone

a) Call **0131 460 1196** b) Enter Meeting ID then #, then enter Meeting Passcode then #

A Collect for The Second Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Gospel for today, Luke 15. 1-10

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. 'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

An anthem for today, *God so loved the world* (Stainer)

Sir John Stainer wrote his setting of "God so loved the world" as part of his oratorio The Crucifixion (1887). The anthem is a setting of John 3.16-17:

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

The church is open each day, from early morning to mid afternoon.

An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.

A Psalm for today, Psalm 51

Refrain: The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness; according to the abundance of your compassion blot out my offences. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my faults and my sin is ever before me. Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, So that you are justified in your sentence and righteous in your judgement. **[R]** I have been wicked even from my birth, a sinner when my mother conceived me. Behold, you desire truth deep within me and shall make me understand wisdom in the depths of my heart. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the bones you have broken may rejoice. **[R]** Turn your face from my sins and blot out all my misdeeds. Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy spirit from me. Give me again the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your gracious spirit; Then shall I teach your ways to the wicked and sinners shall return to you. **[R]** Deliver me from my guilt, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. For you desire no sacrifice, else I would give it; you take no delight in burnt offerings. The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. **[R]** O be favourable and gracious to Zion; build up the walls of Jerusalem. Then you will accept sacrifices offered in righteousness, the burnt offerings and oblations; then shall they offer up bulls on your altar. **[R]** *Take away, good Lord, the sin that corrupts us; give us the sorrow that heals and the joy that praises and restore by grace your own image within us, that we may take our place among your people; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Come and share our short session for children and young people during our Sunday 10am service EVERY WEEK!

We invite children of all ages, with their adults, to come into the Lady Chapel during part of the service, and share in A Godly Play (a short visual storytelling of scriptures, with wondering questions, stories, crafts, puzzles, and even some acting for those that want ... for all ages to share together; then various age related activities). **We also have an older group breakout session on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.** We continue our theme of love and service: learning about Jesus washing the feet of his followers. (*John 13. 1-9, 34-35*).

Our [Children & Young People](#) website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus.



Forthcoming Services – Max Baulcomb will be baptised during our 10am service this Sunday. At 7:30pm on 9th March, at Standon, Max will be confirmed along with Adeola and Fiore Akinde. They will share in Communion as newly confirmed members of the church on Sunday 12th March. Please pray for Max, Adeola and Fiore and if you're able to join with them in fellowship on any of these occasions you will be most welcome. Thank you, Derwyn.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 8th March, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 8th March, 11 for 11:15am in the WCC – Worship for babies/toddlers and their grown-ups; with a story, singing and instruments for little ones too! Join us for refreshments, fellowship and a chance for the children to play beforehand.

Ukrainian Hospitality Support, Wednesdays from 11:30am-2pm, WCC – Space at the WCC for Ukrainian guests and host families to meet together, along with informal language lessons, once a week.

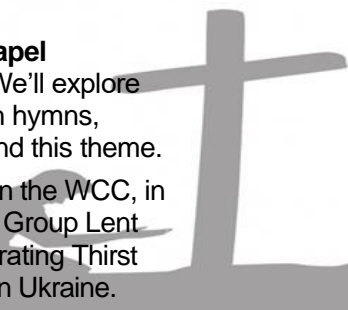
TLC Tuesday 7th March, 2:15pm for 2:30pm, WCC – An opportunity to be able to join in with tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests ... Later in the afternoon we welcome families after school for a short while, to share in reading/play and enjoy a biscuit/cake/fruit snack. Do come along...and tell your friends too! This month we welcome a Guide Dogs volunteer (and her pup!), to talk about her experience as a Guide Dogs Puppy Raiser and the onward journey.

Lent Reflections: P.R.A.Y.

Tuesdays until 28th March, 12-12:30pm in the Lady Chapel

All are warmly invited to join these sessions during Lent. We'll explore excerpts from Pete Greig's book, *How to Pray*, framed with hymns, silence, and prayer. Each Sunday's homily will also expand this theme.

The session will be followed by a frugal lunch at 12:30pm in the WCC, in aid of the two charities supported by our Charities Support Group Lent Appeal this year: Bishop's Stortford Youth Project (incorporating Thirst Café) and Hope and Homes for Children, who are working in Ukraine.



Lent Red Bucket Appeal from the Charities Support Group – The proceeds will be added to money raised through the Tuesday Lent Lunches this year. This follows the Emergency Appeal for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake for which we are sending the money through the DEC. We will split the Lent money between Bishop's Stortford Youth Project and Hope and Homes for Children. Further information about the charities and details of online donations to CSG can be found on [our website page](#) or ask the Parish Office for a copy. We also look forward to welcoming **Jessica and Sarah from BSYP to talk after the service next Sunday 12th March: over coffee in the WCC, at 11.30am.**

**Sunday 26 March 3pm
Steven Watson
Guitar Recital**



A selection of beautiful music, including works by 'Shakespeare's lutenist' Robert Johnson, Franz Liszt, Django Reinhardt, and an early 19th century sonata by the Czech guitarist Wenzel Matiegka.

St Michael's Church, Windhill, Bishop's Stortford
Free admission with retiring collection
Refreshments will be served
www.stmic.org.uk LEVER & CO. GILBERT & CO. STORTFORD

Steven Watson Guitar Recital, Sunday 26th March, 3pm – Come and enjoy a selection of beautiful music, including works by 'Shakespeare's lutenist' Robert Johnson, Franz Liszt, Django Reinhardt, and an early 19th century sonata by the Czech guitarist Wenzel Matiegka. For some fascinating programme notes, visit the [Music Page](#) on our website. Free admission, refreshments served.

HBW 'Superheroes' 7th-11th August 2023: Registration for children opens soon! This year it's at Windhill 21 School.

Food Bank Update – Bill Macdonald, Chair of Trustees, has written an article sharing news from the last couple of months. It's on our [website](#) and church noticeboard.

Children's Society representative needed – "We are moving away from Bishop's Stortford and looking for someone willing to replace us as St Michael's Children's Society representative. The role is not too onerous. Anyone interested in supporting the work of this important charity please get in touch (659476). Best wishes, Pat & Alan"

Tesco blue tokens for Bells restoration project – Please consider using your blue tokens (in Stortford, Stansted and Elsenham Tesco branches) for our Bells Appeal, **until the end of March.** Winning vote wins £1500, the second placed project £1,000 and the third placed project £500.

DIGITAL GIVING TO ST MICHAEL'S

While fewer people carry cash, and our donations in the collection plates and offertory box remain much smaller than before the pandemic, the costs of running our parish remain. Please consider using our digital giving facility to support St Michael's.

To give by phone: text **STMIC** (then a number from 2 to 20, e.g. STMIC7 or STMIC15) to **70085**. The most efficient way to give is by Standing Order direct from your bank account: please see the Giving Sunday envelopes from our most recent Stewardship renewal, in the Welcome Area. Thank you for considering your giving.

More details of all services and events are available on the [Calendar](#) page on our website. Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.

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The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 07539 058946 Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson
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