



### 8am Holy Communion, in Church

### 10am Service of the Word, 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 #

### Today we continue our Lent series on prayer, considering the theme 'Contemplation'

#### A Collect for today

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### Exodus 34. 27-35a

The Lord said to Moses: Write these words; in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel. He was there with the Lord for forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments. Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining.

#### A Psalm for today, Psalm 131

**Refrain: O Israel, trust in the Lord.**

O Lord, my heart is not proud; my eyes are not raised in haughty looks.  
I do not occupy myself with great matters, with things that are too high for me. [R]  
But I have quieted and stilled my soul,  
like a weaned child on its mother's breast; so my soul is quieted within me.  
O Israel, trust in the Lord, from this time forth for evermore. [R]

*Eternal God, calm and quieten our souls; keep us humble and full of wonder and trusting as we live in your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

#### From the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 3. 9-18)

If there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, much more does the ministry of justification abound in glory! Indeed, what once had glory has lost its glory because of the greater glory; for if what was set aside came through glory, much more has the permanent come in glory! Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

#### A Gospel reading for today, Luke 2. 41-52

Every year Jesus parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them.

#### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. This week we too will be considering prayer, and the answering of Simeon's prayer after a life of devout contemplation (Luke 2. 33-35). We'll also consider Mary in the story, and finish our flowers to give out later!** Our [Children & Young People](#) website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus.



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

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

**Sunday Services, 19<sup>th</sup> March** – We'll continue our prayer theme at both 8am and 10am, with the theme 'Contemplation'. Children in our Godly Play session this Sunday will be helping to finish floral gifts to give to all the ladies in our church family, after the service.

**Holy Communion, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 10am** – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

**Tiny Tots, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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, and with informal language lessons, once a week.

**Lent Reflections: P.R.A.Y.**

**Tuesdays until 28<sup>th</sup> 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 is also expanding 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.



**Prayers for our Community, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 9:30-10am** – All welcome.


**Steven Watson Guitar Recital, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

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.stmichaelsjmi.org.uk

LEVER & Co.  
Guitarists & Lutenists



**Tesco blue tokens for Bells restoration project** – Please consider using your blue tokens for our Bells Appeal, **until the end of March.** Winning vote wins £1500!

**TLC Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2:15pm for 2:30pm, WCC** – An opportunity to be able to share tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests ... Later we welcome families after school for a short while, to share in reading/play and enjoy a biscuit/cake/fruit snack. Do come ... and tell your friends too! This month, six firefighters from the local Fire Brigade will be visiting us to talk about fire safety in the home.


**Good Friday Choral Service, 7<sup>th</sup> April** – There will be a special choral service for Good Friday, with singers from East Herts Church Choirs Association, to explore the Passion of Christ. It will be the only act of worship at St Michael's that day. The church will be open for private prayer. Please come to the service at 7:30pm and, if you might like to read a Bible passage, please contact the Parish Office. **Other Holy Week and Easter Services** – will be available soon on the [Lent and Easter page on our website.](#)

**HBW 'Superheroes' 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> August 2023** – Sign up for helpers and children is open at [holidaybibleweek.co.uk](http://holidaybibleweek.co.uk) Come and find out what we've been doing this year at our **AGM on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 8pm, at St James, Thorley Emmaus Centre.** Please pray for the success of this year. Looking forward to seeing you and sharing the fun!

**Lent Red Bucket Appeal from the Charities Support Group** – The proceeds will be added to the money raised through the Lent Lunches this year. This follows the Emergency Appeal for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake for which we have sent money through the DEC. We'll 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 Office for a copy.

**Could you help us as a vergers for funerals in church?** Contact the Office if you're interested. It's not an onerous role and training will be given. We would value some help!

**The Church-School Committee of the Governors at St Michael's school really needs one or more Associate Governors** – There are only two formal meetings a year. We focus on the SIAMS 'Church school' inspections priorities, RE and Collective Worship, and also promote and encourage Church links, with St Michael's Church in particular. We would appreciate more input from St Michael's Church to complement the excellent work by the headteacher Rachel Griffiths at school. The last inspection feedback (2019) is available on the [St Michael's school website](#). Hopefully we can support the school in this important area. Please speak to us at church or contact by email the co-chairs Val Ashwood and Mark Johnson ([chair@stmichaelsjmi.herts.sch.uk](mailto:chair@stmichaelsjmi.herts.sch.uk)) or see Katharine Stanley if you are interested.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)	652173	Churchwardens: Claire Conquest	07944 431873	
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)	07539 058946	Gill Johnson	07912 432221	
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	833523	Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson		
Rob Klincke (Reader)		<b>Parish Office</b>	<b>01279 654416</b>	



Website: [www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk)

Scan code for website