



NO SERVICE AT 8AM

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

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 #

Collect for The Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Psalm for today, Psalm 16

Refrain: *The Lord is at my right hand; I shall not fall.*

Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge;
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord, all my good depends on you.'
All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble in heart.
Though the idols are legion that many run after,
their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,
neither make mention of their names upon my lips.
The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; in your hands alone is my fortune.
My share has fallen in a fair land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage. **[R]**
I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel,
and in the night watches he instructs my heart.
I have set the Lord always before me; he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.
Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my flesh also shall rest secure.
For you will not abandon my soul to Death, nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore. **[R]**

*Give to us, Lord Christ,
the fullness of grace,
your presence and your very self,
for you are our portion and our delight,
now and for ever. Amen.*

A Gospel reading for today, John 20. 19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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. **Today, we'll be learning about the story of the road to Emmaus (Luke 24. 13-35) and sharing some Hot Cross Buns, as Jesus shared a meal with the two followers.**

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



Godly Play Easter Display



The church is open each day, from early morning to mid afternoon.
An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.

Easter Reflection

If you haven't already had the opportunity, do take some time to visit the church and enjoy our beautiful floral arrangements, Easter displays and prayers.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 19th April, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 19th April, 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 weekly, with informal language lessons.

Quiz Night at the Wheatsheaf pub, Thursday 20th April, 7pm – £3 per person in aid of Thirst Café and Bishop's Stortford Youth Project.

Prayers for our Community in Church, Saturday 22nd April, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

A quiet day at Albury, Thursday 27th April, 10:30am-3pm – These popular days of reflection and contemplation in June's home, offered on a monthly basis. Places are limited, please contact June on 07539 058946 to book, or for more information.

St Michael's Coffee Morning, WCC, Saturday 29th April – Come and join us for a cuppa from 10am to 12 noon. Fresh coffee / tea, biscuits and cakes ... plus a cake stall, a raffle and a good as new / unwanted gift stall. All contributions to the good as new/unwanted presents stall and the cake stall will be gratefully received. Thank you.

TLC Club's Coronation Celebration, Tuesday 2nd May, 2.30 to 4.30pm – An Open Invitation to all our friends in the local community to come along to celebrate this momentous occasion. Some of us of a certain age will remember the 1953 Coronation, so please bring any memorabilia of royal occasions for us to share memories! £2 for the afternoon, including cakes, tea/coffee/soft drinks, plus a glass of fizz as we raise our glasses to King Charles.

Just as important also are our Church services around that time: Sunday 7th May, 8am Holy Communion and 10am Service of the Word; Sunday 14th May, 10am Holy Communion and 6pm Festal Choral Evensong in Thanksgiving for the Coronation of King Charles III, when we're delighted that the new Bishop of Hertford, The Rt Rev'd Dr Jane Mainwaring will be preaching.



APCM, 28th May after 10am service – Electoral Roll revision starts on 2nd April and ends on 30th April, if you'd like to join our electoral roll and/or nominate for PCC election.

HBW 'Superheroes' 7th-11th August 2023 – Sign up for helpers and children is open at holidaybibleweek.co.uk Please pray for the success of this year.

Could you help us as a verger 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](http://StMichael'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) or see Katharine Stanley if you are interested.

Children's Society – Good news! Carole Macdonald is taking over as Children's Society Rep in St Michael's Church. We are hoping to empty all collecting boxes before we leave, so please bring your box to church or get in touch if you need us to pick it up. Thank you. Pat & Alan (659476).

Church football team – Tom Amos, Youth & Young Adults Ministry Lead at the Community Church is looking to start a team in the town, initially with kickabouts in April/May on Saturday mornings or Sunday afternoons. Contact tom@thecommunitychurch.org.uk



Do you have any unwanted A4 box files? Katharine is gradually sorting through materials for Godly Play, and we really need about 10 box files (*not* the lever arch ones). Thank you! Please leave any donations at the back of the church or email the Parish Office.

Street Pastors' Newsletter – Do have a look on our website or see the church noticeboard for [the latest newsletter](#) from Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth Street Pastors, a few of our church family are actively involved in this important ministry.

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.

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