



NO SERVICE AT 8AM

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

Please 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 #

Collect for The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, 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 119. 129-136

Refrain: The opening of your word gives light.

Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

The opening of your word gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

I open my mouth and draw in my breath, as I long for your commandments.

Turn to me and be gracious to me,

as is your way with those who love your name. **[R]**

Order my steps by your word, and let no wickedness have dominion over me.

Redeem me from earthly oppressors;

so that I may keep your commandments.

Show the light of your countenance upon your servant

and teach me your statutes.

My eyes run down with streams of water,

because the wicked do not keep your law. **[R]**

A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 13. 31-33, 44-52

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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're continuing our short series on the stories Jesus told with the parable of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15. 1-7)**



Last week's parable about the Great Banquet

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



Newsletter and Notices

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

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

Our final Summer Organ Festival Concert, Sunday 30th July at 3pm – Please do come along and enjoy this last concert. Free admission with retiring collection. Refreshments will be served.

This Sunday we welcome Alex Jones: Alex was one time Organ Scholar here at St Michael's. He is now a freelance organist and based in the United States. Alex last joined us for a recital of his transcription of Mussorsky's Pictures at an Exhibition on the Rogers organ in 2016, whilst our organ was being rebuilt. He will play Whitlock (Plymouth Suite), Florence Price (Suite for Organ), Mozart, Durufle and Stravinsky (The Firebird). There will be cake!

TLC Tuesday 1st August, 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're having a Bingo game, since it was such fun last time!

Holy Communion, Wednesday 2nd August, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 2nd August, 11 for 11:15am – 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 in the WCC, if you can. **We gather in the WCC and walk across to the Lady Chapel for worship.**

Prayers for our Community in Church, Saturday 5th August, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

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.



Holly Fair 2023 meeting – A meeting for anyone interested in being involved in the event will be held on **Thursday 7th September at 8pm** in the WCC. The Holly Fair is on 2nd December. If you can come to the meeting it would be lovely to see you. Likewise if you can run a stall or help in any other way but can't attend please give your name to one of the following. Thank you from Mireille Els, Carole Macdonald, Claire Conquest or Val Ashwood.

St Michael's Bells Restoration – Donate a headstock for £1,000 and we supply a brass plaque, approximately 7 inches long, which will be fixed to the headstock and inscribed with a suitable approved wording, e.g. "Headstock donated by The Smith Family In memoriam John Smith 1930-2022." For more information contact Claire Conquest or Gill Johnson or alternatively please email: bells@saintmichaelweb.org.uk

We have an opportunity for a Governor at our Church School! Would you be interested or do you know somebody who might be? Please speak to Val Ashwood or Mark Johnson for information (chair@stmichaelsmi.herts.sch.uk).

Draft Minutes of the APCM, May 2023 – These are available via the PCC page on our website [here](#). Please contact the Office for a copy if you don't have a computer.

A plea for a wheelchair – Does anyone have a wheelchair at home that they no longer need? It would need to be in good condition and fold efficiently. If you might be able to help, please contact Gill Johnson.

GIVING SEASON THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has responded to this year's Giving Season with new regular donations, increased pledges, one-off donations, by Gift-Aiding your giving, or by sustaining your giving. Thank you too for offers of Time and Talents. If you haven't yet had an opportunity to consider your response, Giving Season envelopes remain available in church.

Many thanks from the Vicar, Churchwardens and Finance Committee.

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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	
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