



**8am Holy Communion, in Church**

**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 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

### A Psalm for today, Psalm 114

**Refrain: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord.**

When Israel came out of Egypt,  
the house of Jacob from a people of a strange tongue,  
Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion.

The sea saw that, and fled; Jordan was driven back.

The mountains skipped like rams, the little hills like young sheep. **[R]**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you were driven back?

You mountains, that you skipped like rams, you little hills like young sheep?

Tremble O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,

Who turns the hard rock into a pool of water, the flint-stone into a springing well. **[R]**

*Strike the rock of our hard hearts, O God,  
and let our tears of joy and sorrow  
mould us to bear the imprint of your love,  
given in Christ our risen Lord. Amen.*

### A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 18. 23-35

Jesus said, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

### CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

**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 of the month. **Today, we're continuing our series on God's plan for Joseph, finding out about Joseph's 'clever plan'. (Genesis 41).**

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

**We are delighted to announce the recommencement of our young person's choir** – If your child is 7 or over and interested in joining, please contact Nathan Collins ([stmichaelsbdsdom@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelsbdsdom@gmail.com)) We will also be starting choral and organ scholarships for our young people and welcome the support of those who would like to help contribute to these.



Last's week's session as we learned about Joseph being taken to Egypt.



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

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

### **Heritage Fortnight celebration Tours of the Tower, this Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

Please join us in worship at 10am then enjoy tours of the Bell Tower which will take place at approximately 11am, then 12:30pm and 2pm. Meet at the door by the bottom of the tower or in the North Porch if it's raining.

**Confirmation preparation for young people, Year 6 upwards – We're holding an after-school session on a Tuesday, from 4pm - 4:50pm**, working towards a service scheduled for **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 7:30pm**. It will probably be something of a mixed-age group; with opportunity for those of different ages and abilities to explore the faith in an appropriate way for them. If young people and their parents judge that they are ready, and keen to work towards taking this step, please come and speak to me as soon as possible (certainly before this Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September). Thank you, Derwyn.

**Holy Communion, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 10am** – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

**Tiny Tots, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 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 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 9:30am** – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

**St Michael's Patronal Festival Lunch, next Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September** – All are welcome to join us for a celebratory lunch in the WCC after the 10am service. If you are happy to contribute to the food or help set up/down please sign up in the Publicity Area. For further information contact Claire Conquest 07944 431873.

**Harvest, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October** – We'll celebrate Harvest at 8am and 10am services. There will be a Red Bucket for the Bishop's Appeal, *Cracking Food Poverty Together*, supporting Mission Direct's work in Kumi, Uganda, by providing materially poor families with chickens. for a sustainable and low cost food source and a new income stream, because they can sell some of their eggs and new chicks that hatch. Their first hatchlings are returned to the project so that another family benefits. We are also requesting food gifts for Bishop's Stortford Food Bank.

**Following Jesus: worship themes for October** – In October, our worship will centre around themes of discipleship, with readings and hymns chosen to focus. We'll be considering Following Jesus ... 'in the way of the Kingdom', 'as we age', 'and sharing our faith', 'in an online life', 'as people of Scripture'. Some further discipleship themes will continue into November, and possibly Lent 2024.

**Galliard Trio, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 3pm** – All are warmly invited to this superb ensemble, featuring oboe, flute and bassoon or piano. Free admission, with retiring collection. Refreshments will be served at the end.

**TLC Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2:15pm for 2:30pm, WCC** – This month our speaker is Derrick Bailes, a volunteer with REMAP, a charity which tries to make or modify products for people with disabilities.

**The wedding of Max and Mireille, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, at 12:30pm** – Max and Mireille warmly extend an invitation to all in our church community who would like to attend their wedding. Please respond to [weddingofmaxandmireille@gmail.com](mailto:weddingofmaxandmireille@gmail.com) by 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The invitation is on display on the noticeboard in the Publicity Area.

**Bible Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> October** – At 10am we celebrate Parish Communion (there is no service at 8am), then at 6pm we welcome The Rev'd John Chitham, Rector of Standon, the Mundens and Sacombe as preacher at our Choral Evensong.

**TLC Club visit to Ely Cathedral Christmas Fair, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** – We would like to offer an invitation to other parishioners to join us. The cost is £25 (coach and entrance) with confirmation on payment in cash or cheque payable to Rosemary Thomson, pickup at the back of Sainsbury's, Thorley 9am or Windhill 9:10am. Places limited so please speak to Rosemary at church on Sundays and Wednesdays. ([r.thomson019@gmail.com](mailto:r.thomson019@gmail.com) 758389 / 07449 326840)

**Holly Fair, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** – If you can run a stall or help in any other way please give your name to Mireille Els, Carole Macdonald, Claire Conquest or Val Ashwood. The next Holly Fair meeting will be **after the 10am service (at about 11:30am) on 29<sup>th</sup> October** in the WCC.

**CTBS** – A night shelter open day and a fundraising sleep out, a wellbeing course, a marriage course ... a reminder that there are lots of events and courses in our churches locally. Visit the [CTBS website](#) or see their [Facebook account](#).

**Red Bucket appeal for those affected by Moroccan earthquake and Libyan floods** – Red buckets at services until 30<sup>th</sup> September, or if you'd prefer to give by bank transfer to the Charities Support Group, see the [CSG page on our website](#)).

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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