

**Jesus said,
"I am the resurrection and the life.
The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."
(John 11:25)**

Whether we are going through a Pandemic or not, death is a reality of life. As Christians, we have a great hope of life beyond death. We believe that even though we die, we will live, as Jesus says in John 11.

Some people, therefore, expect that Christian funerals should always be joyous occasions. There is some truth in that, as Paul says, we do not mourn as other people mourn, because of the confidence we have that death is not the end (1 Thessalonians 4:13).

Yet, we do still mourn. Death always brings a sense of loss. Every death no matter at what age or by what cause is a tragedy. Jesus himself wept at Lazarus's death, even though he knew he was about to call him back to life.

This should encourage us. Jesus does understand our grief and stands with us in our deep sadness, whilst at the same time bringing us real hope of eternal life.

[Livestream Sunday 11am](#)

Click the above link to access the livestream of this Sunday's service. You can also use the link to watch the service at a later time.

Weekly Calendar

Friday 15th

Play and Praise (St. Luke's Hall, please use the side door off the driveway), Our parent and toddler group. 10:00-11:30am.

Saturday 16th

Daily Prayer (at St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Sunday 17th

Family Service (11am, St. Luke's Church) – **Faith for life?** John 11:1-44

Monday 18th

Daily Prayer (St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

More than Sunday* (St. Luke's Church) – 7:30-9:00pm

Tuesday 19th

Daily Prayer (at St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

More than Sunday* (St. Luke's Church) – 10:30am-12:00pm

Thursday 21st

Daily Prayer (at St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Cafe4All - St. Luke's Church, All Welcome for a coffee and chat. 10:00-11:30am.

Friday 22nd

Play and Praise (St. Luke's Hall, please use the side door off the driveway), Our parent and toddler group. 10:00-11:30am.

Saturday 23rd

Daily Prayer (at St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Sunday 24th

Family Service (11am, St. Luke's Church) – Genesis 1:24-31, **Caring for God's Creation**

Prayer Requests

Be assured I will do my best to check that people are happy for the requests to be shared before including them. Please pray for...

- Give thanks for the birth of Benjamin Noah Penny born on 5th October to Sarah Penny.
- Danny, a friend of Charlie's has been discharged from hospital and is now at home recovering. Danny is making good progress. Continued prayers for healing for his skin grafts.
- Katrina (Norah's daughter), who has a lesion on the brain. Having to wait for another scan to see if it is treatable.
- Lexi (Alison's granddaughter), whose operation has been postponed.
- The work of Church Pastoral Aid Society, St. Luke's Patrons. Here is a [link to a video](#) with John Dunnett the General Director.

Please also continue to pray for: Flo Baldock, Nathan Court, Pauline Emptage, Jean Mayton, Shirley Crabb, Collette Judge, Barb (Gloria's daughter's friend), Jean Simmons, Rita Ryan and Joy Smithers.

Latest Updates:

Youth Led Service – Exploration – Feedback

Claire Coleman writes:

Thank You all for your prayers for the youth-led exploration service that happened on the 10th October. There was a great atmosphere amongst the seventeen of us present. With ice-breaker activities, worship, teaching, discussion, and prayer, I certainly left encouraged by God at the prospect. General consensus was that a Sunday youth-led service with social activities following was a great idea and something worth pursuing and working towards. There is still much to explore before we can make this a weekly reality, so please still uphold this venture in prayer. After half term we would like to begin gathering the youth together on a Sunday evening and work towards a service at Christmas. However, there will be a need for volunteers and leaders for any future social component, as well as provision of food (due to the timings of such an event happening over usual eating times) and people who might be willing to mentor/teach the youth on different aspects of undertaking a youth-led service. As you pray for this venture please do give consideration if there are any other ways you could be involved too as we move forward in faith together.

More than Sunday:

This week we considered the vision and values of the very first church and looked at the vision and values of our churches to see where we may need to change. As last week we discussed this in our

church groups, then reported back to everyone. Although each church is different and the reports varied, there were four values that were mentioned as needing a focus a number of times:

1. Trusting that God can move mountains (Matthew 17:20)
2. Generosity to others in need (2 Corinthians 9:7)
3. Meeting together is important (Hebrews 10:5)
4. The Bible trains and equips us (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

If you would like to see the worksheet for that we used to this week, then please check out [this webpage](#).

Join us next week at St. Luke's on Monday at 7:30pm or Tuesday 10:30am for the last of these sessions, when we will be looking at *Our Family*.

Harvest Collection – Latest

The Harvest Collection for Tearfund's [Recover Together](#) appeal now stands at nearly £1,000. You still have another week or two to give to the Harvest Appeal. You can either use a 'Mission of the Month' envelope in church and put it in the collection box or use St. Luke's [online donation platform](#). Please make sure in the section: 'any details or reference' you say that the money is for the 'Harvest Appeal'.

Tearfund's: The Big Quiz Night, Saturday 20th November

Each year Tearfund hold a nationwide quiz night to raise funds for its excellent work. You can read more about this year's quiz [here](#). It would be great if someone or a small group from St. Luke's would take on running the quiz this year. Please let me know if you would be interested in doing this.

Links to Share:

Last Sunday's Sermon:

Last Sunday's Sermon is available on YouTube, as a Podcast or a transcript:

[Faith to see? \(John 9:1-41\)](#)

How do we gain true Spiritual Insight? The Blind Man in this encounter with Jesus, becomes the person who sees more clearly than anyone else.

A Webinar: [Mind the Gap: Understanding cross-cultural dynamics in the local church](#) Tonight (14th October) or Saturday morning (16th October)

This seminar from Oak Hill college asks questions such as: We'll be asking 'how do we listen to and understand one another well?', and 'how do we recognise and address the cultural assumptions we all bring to church life?'. Useful for those who want to go deeper with some of the things we have been discussing during the *More than Sunday* sessions.

Finally, let's remember to rejoice in the new life that God gives us.

Yours in Christ,

Paul Worledge
(Vicar, St. Luke's Ramsgate)