



Genesis 29: 15-28

¹⁵ Laban said to Jacob, “You shouldn’t work for me for nothing just because you are my relative. How much pay do you want?” ¹⁶ Laban had two daughters; the older was named Leah, and the younger Rachel. ¹⁷ Leah had lovely^[a] eyes, but Rachel was shapely and beautiful.

¹⁸ Jacob was in love with Rachel, so he said, “I will work seven years for you, if you will let me marry Rachel.”

¹⁹ Laban answered, “I would rather give her to you than to anyone else; stay here with me.” ²⁰ Jacob worked seven years so that he could have Rachel, and the time seemed like only a few days to him, because he loved her.

²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, “The time is up; let me marry your daughter.” ²² So Laban gave a wedding feast and invited everyone. ²³ But that night, instead of Rachel, he took Leah to Jacob, and Jacob had intercourse with her. (²⁴ Laban gave his slave woman Zilpah to his daughter Leah as her maid.) ²⁵ Not until the next morning did Jacob discover that it was Leah. He went to Laban and said, “Why did you do this to me? I worked to get Rachel. Why have you tricked me?”

²⁶ Laban answered, “It is not the custom here to give the younger daughter in marriage before the older. ²⁷ Wait until the week’s marriage celebrations are over, and I will give you Rachel, if you will work for me another seven years.”

²⁸ Jacob agreed, and when the week of marriage celebrations was over, Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as his wife. ²⁹ Laban gave his slave woman Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as her maid.) ³⁰ Jacob had intercourse with Rachel also, and he loved her more than Leah. Then he worked for Laban another seven years.

This Week’s Readings and Notices at St. Luke Lowton

Sunday 26th July 2026

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

³¹ He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² 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.’

³³ He told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with^[d] three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.’

⁴⁴ ‘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.

⁴⁵ ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ ‘Have you understood all this?’ They answered, ‘Yes.’ ⁵² 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.’

This Week's Notices



THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

Wednesday 29th July 10 a.m. Fellowship Coffee Morning

Sunday 2nd August 10 a.m. Service of Holy Communion, led by Revd. Michael Vyse

REGULAR EVENTS

COFFEE MORNING

Every Thursday 8.45 a.m. to 10 a.m. Call in and Share Coffee Morning.

KNIT AND NATTER

The second and fourth Friday in the month at 2 p.m.

FORGET ME NOT FRIENDS

The fourth Saturday in the month at Broadmead Day Centre, Golborne Road between 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

Join us for a cuppa, a bite to eat, some entertainment and lots of chat. We are dementia-friendly.

CAFÉ CHURCH

The second Saturday in the month from 10 a.m. Activities for children and adults.

DO YOU WANT TO BOOK A BAPTISM OR WEDDING?

Our vestry evening is on a Tuesday between 7 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. Please access church by the side door on Slag Lane.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 15th August 2 p.m.

Please join us for a St. Luke's social afternoon. Bingo and Beetle drive! – fun dice games and a raffle. This is a ticketed event, but tickets may be available on the door on the day. Family ticket: £5.00
Individual adult ticket: £2.00. Nibbles and tea, coffee and water provided. You may bring your own drink and glasses.

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