

WEAR ST. LUKE PARISH MAGAZINE



April 2026

50p



April is always a month of intense optimism. The long march through winter is completed. Spring flowers are in maximum array, and the lengthening of days mirrors the lightening of heart in anticipation of a little sunshine on our faces, at long last.

The first winter months of 2026 have given us much to slog through - new frontiers of war; extremely disturbing revelations in the Epstein files, rightly causing further distrust in institutional authority and power; education about the state of our waters, the effect of sewage in the seas.

These are enough to make us want to just draw the duvet back over our heads - how do we embrace the optimism of springtime when darkness swirls in our collective life so dramatically, and with distress. How can an embrace of the promise of spring be grounded in such reality, so as not to be an empty fantasy?

Paradoxically, the church would point back to midwinter, when we celebrate the brightest of lights entering our dark world with the most audacious of promises: the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it. This is from the Gospel of John that we hear proclaimed so clearly and powerfully at Christmas time.

Firstly, the Light shines *in* the world, not onto the world, apart from the world as an example; but *in* the world. The whole point is that the Light of God does not shy away from the mess that we create but can be found right in the middle of the mess.

Secondly, nothing is too much for this Light. We can have confidence that no matter how deep the darkness, Light will always prevail. We may have to hold tight and play our part in bringing that Light to bear, but where there are agents of Truth and Justice, there will always be Light victorious.

This is what makes our springtime embrace less an escape from reality, and more a calm, steady, courageous affirmation of the power of Light bursting through come what may.

Revd Louise Grace

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026

The Annual Meeting for St Luke's was held on Wednesday the 11th of March 2026 at 7.00 pm in the Church Rooms, when 14 members of the congregation were in attendance. Sandra Greedy was re-elected as Churchwarden and Rowena Burrow and Carl Allen were elected to serve on the PCC. Jean Tipper was elected to serve as Deanery Synod Rep alongside Maree Day, already our Synod Rep. Jill Allen, having served 16 years as Church Treasurer, decided that she needed to step down and I am pleased to say that Michael Burrow has offered to act as Treasurer for the forthcoming year. Our sincere thanks to Jill for her dedication over the years from everyone at St Luke's.

I was re-elected as Secretary for a further 12 months.

Ken Greedy
PCC Secretary

APRIL SERVICES AT ST. LUKE'S

2nd April	7pm	Maundy Thursday Service
3rd April	2pm	Good Friday Meditation
5th April	10am	Easter Day Eucharist
12th April	10am 3pm	Eucharist Forest Church
19th April	10am	Eucharist
26th April	10am	Morning Worship



APRIL READINGS AT ST. LUKE'S



2nd April Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12. 1 - 4, 11 - 14 John 13. 1-17
5th April Easter Day	Acts 10. 34 - 43 John 20. 1 - 18
12th April Easter 2	Acts 2. 14, 22 - 32 John 20. 19 - 31
19th April Easter 3	Acts 2. 14, 36 - 41 Luke 24. 13 - 35
26th April Easter 4	Acts 2. 42-47 John 10. 1-10



ST LUKE'S ALTAR FLOWER ROTA



APRIL

5th April	Easter Flowers
12th April	Easter Flowers
19th April	Kate Hilton
26th April	Kate Hilton



APRIL SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S

3rd April	9.30am	Service for Good Friday
5th April	10am	Easter Day Eucharist
12th April	10am	Eucharist
	6.30pm	Evensong
19th April	8am	BCP Holy Communion
	10am	Mission Community Joint Service at St Luke's
26th April	10am	Family Friendly Holy Communion
	6.30pm	'Risen with Christ' (Choir)



**Mission Community regular Mid-week Services
and events - Please note any changes and additions**



Mondays:

2.30pm Contemplative Prayer **Holy Cross** 13th April
7pm Compline (via Zoom)

Wednesdays:

10am Morning Worship (via Zoom)
2.30pm Coffee/tea and cake (St. Margaret's)

Fridays:

9am Morning Prayer (St. Margaret's)

FROM ST. LUKE'S REGISTER



Funeral

12th March

Jean Sadler



MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

CELEBRATING IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Rainbow Living's Games Night Held at St Lukes



The Games Night Was a Wonderful Success

We are delighted to share that Rainbow Living's recent Games Night was a true success. It was heart-warming to see their tenants, supporters and volunteers spending time together and creating such a joyful atmosphere, even with the chilly and unpredictable early January weather. Thanks to the kindness and enthusiasm of everyone who joined us, we raised an amazing total of £570.95. We are especially grateful to St Luke's Church for being so thoughtful and supportive. Your generosity in providing a welcoming space and working alongside our volunteers made this event possible. It is a real blessing to partner with a community that shows such genuine care for others.

Nights like this remind us how strong and compassionate our community is. When people come together with kindness, shared purpose and a desire to support others, wonderful things can be achieved.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

PICTURES OF THE NIGHTS EVENTS



We were also delighted to receive such lovely feedback about the delicious homemade muffins. They truly were scrummy and clearly enjoyed by everyone who tried them. The wonderful raffle prizes that were generously donated made a real difference too, helping us raise that extraordinary total. We are so grateful for every contribution, large or small, that helped make the evening such a success. Thank you again for your kindness and support

Rainbow Living. - Registered Charity No.1181195

Tuesday Coffee Morning at Countess Wear Church Rooms

On February 17th, Shrove Tuesday, there was a lovely surprise – pancakes, plain or chocolate chip, served with jam, chocolate spread, butter or lemon and sugar – delicious!



Each Tuesday a Coffee Morning is held in the Church Rooms between 10 am and 12 noon. Coffee, tea and biscuits are provided, and word games and puzzles are there for you to enjoy.



Why not join us? You don't have to play games. Instead, just chat, drink coffee and eat biscuits. You will be very welcome.

Thanks to all concerned.

Broadcasting the light of the gospel

Light in the darkness of war:

Ukraine

A piercing siren. The boom of explosions. These are the everyday sounds for millions of Ukrainians, but there is another sound too.

Feba's partner FEBC Ukraine are broadcasting the gospel over the airwaves, bringing the hope of Jesus into this war-torn nation.

Each month millions of listeners tune into their programmes, and they receive around 30,000 responses! Their follow-up team, which includes trained counsellors, interact with the people who call, many of whom struggle with fear, depression, and helplessness. Through their audio media ministry, they are sharing God's love and seeing many come to faith.



Hear more from FEBC Ukraine
at www.feba.org.uk/ukraine or
by scanning the QR code





Flowers for Easter

The lilies and other flowers for Easter Day are given in memory of loved ones. If you would like to give a donation towards the flowers, please could you give it to Sandra, in an envelope, with the name or names of the person or persons in whose memory your donation is giving. The names will be placed on the Altar and at the back of the church.

Victory

He stood before them, like a lamb to the slaughter
The crowd was loud, angry and unruly to wonder
False accusations were laid against Him, so unkind
Unjust conviction, He was guilty in their minds

Nails held Him fast to an old wooden cross
Cries of suffering of so great a cost
His life taken away for our own guilt and shame
Crucifixion's cruelty His pains endured all the same

Three short days later in glory He did rise from the grave
Defeating death's stronghold, for us He did save.
Giving us hope forevermore on that bright Easter morning
Victory on Easter no longer sadness and mourning!

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer

BRIDGE BOOKS

For Easter Cards with scripture and Eggs with a Christian message
visit Bridge Books, 4 Okehampton Street, EX4 1DW.

Or visit our Website www.bridgebookshop.co.uk

OPEN CHURCH

Starting on the 8th April, St Luke's Church will be open from 2 – 4 pm on Wednesday afternoons. You are welcome to come in and look around or spend some quiet time praying or thinking. There will be members of the Church to welcome you and answer any questions that you might have. Let your friends and neighbours know that they will always be welcomed into the Church.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES PLEASE

Poems, stories of your holidays, of your gardens, recipes or any articles that the readers of the magazine might find interesting or amusing, would be very much appreciated.

Please send your articles for the April magazine to the editor's email by **22nd April.**

Parish Magazine Editor – magazineeditorwear@gmail.com

Thank you for your contributions they are always very much appreciated!



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