



Newsletter and Notices



8am Holy Communion, in Church

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

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 #

A Psalm for today, Psalm 68. 1-10, 34-35

Refrain: Sing to God, sing praises to his name.

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; let those that hate him flee before him.

As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away;

as wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them make merry with gladness.

Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides on the clouds.

The Lord is his name; rejoice before him. **[R]**

Father of the fatherless, defender of widows, God in his holy habitation!

God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,

but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert. **[R]**

O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,

at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

You sent down a gracious rain, O God; you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.

Your people came to dwell there; in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor. **[R]**

Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel, whose power is above the clouds.

How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary,

the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his people!

Blessed be God. **[R]**

*Blessed are you, gracious God;
you make your home among the weak,
you deliver us from death,
you bring us joy beyond our imagining
to the praise of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Collect for The Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Gospel reading for today, John 17. 1-11

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf

of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.



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'll be sharing the Ascension Day story (Acts 1. 1-11).**

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



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The church is open each day, from early morning to mid afternoon.
An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 24th May, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 24th May, 11 for 11:15am in the WCC – 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.

Ukrainian Hospitality Support, Wednesdays from 11:30am-2pm, WCC – Space at the WCC for Ukrainian guests and host families to meet weekly, with informal language lessons.

Prayers for our Community in Church, Saturday 27th May, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

APCM, next Sunday 28th May after 10am service – All the APCM documentation is published on the website from the [PCC page](#). There are a few hard copies of the papers, along with the finance documents available in the Publicity Area. Any other members who are unable to print their own papers, or read them via the website, please contact Katharine Stanley. **Please email Graziana Maddalozzo (stmichaelsbtreasurer@gmail.com), our Treasurer, with any queries you have about the finance papers in advance of the APCM. Thank you.**

Thanksgiving and Celebration for the end of the Bells Project, Trinity Sunday 4th June
Please save the date in your diary to join us in worship at 10am then enjoy special refreshments afterwards in the Windhill Churches Centre, up to 1pm. Tours of the Bell Tower will take place at 11:30am and 12:30pm.

TLC Tuesday 6th June, 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 welcome Beryl Jones as our speaker.

RESOURCING ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Please take and ponder a letter from the Vicar, Churchwarden and Treasurer, about giving of time, talents and treasure,
Please help if you can with delivering letters personally addressed to members of HUBB (our Church Management System).
Please take one of the generic Giving Season envelopes if you are not yet registered with HUBB.
Many thanks.

Love Stortford '23, Monday 12th-Saturday 17th June – The Churches Together event is taking place once again. Would you like to join the carnival procession, litter pick, organise your own project or deliver gifts to schools? Pick up a leaflet in the Publicity Area.

The TLC Club is offering an open invitation to their event on 4th July – A mystery tour taking you by coach around the local villages and arriving at a secret venue for a cream tea. The cost is £25 to cover coach travel and the tea (cash or cheques payable to R Thomson to be given on booking). If you'd like to come please speak to Blanche or Rosemary as they both have a booking folder with confirmation and pickup details and will be pleased to accept your money!

HBW 'Superheroes' 7th-11th August 2023 – Sign up for helpers and children is open at holidaybibleweek.co.uk Please pray for the success of this year. **Do join our launch night which is being hosted at the Baptist Church on the evening of 8th June** - with great excitement over the theme song! It's also a chance to meet the tent teams and encourage each other.

Could you help us as a verger for funerals in church? Contact the Office if you're interested. It's not an onerous role and training will be given. We would value some help!

The Church-School Committee of the Governors at St Michael's school really needs one or more Associate Governors – There are only two formal meetings a year. We focus on the SIAMS 'Church school' inspections priorities, RE and Collective Worship, and also promote and encourage Church links, with St Michael's Church in particular. We would appreciate more input from St Michael's Church to complement the excellent work by the headteacher Rachel Griffiths at school. The last inspection feedback (2019) is available on the [St Michael's school website](#). Hopefully we can support the school in this important area. Please speak to us at church or contact by email the co-chairs Val Ashwood and Mark Johnson (chair@stmichaelsjmi.herts.sch.uk) or see Katharine Stanley if you are interested.

Charities Support Group News – CSG would like to thank the congregation for donations to our Lent Appeal through the Red Bucket, Lent Lunches and Online donations. The total raised was £663.56 and it has been divided equally between Hope and Homes for Children and Bishop's Stortford Youth Project (includes Thirst Cafe). We also raffled a special bottle of Coronation fizz and raised £60. Thanks to Beryl Jones for the kind donation of the bottle.

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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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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