

From the Vicar....

It feels like we really lose the daylight in October, I often leave the house in the mornings in darkness and come back to it mid-afternoon it is the same. The clocks go back on the 27th and we gain an extra hour in bed but lose an hour of daylight in the evening. It's not always that noticeable that we have gained that extra hour in the morning! I don't know about you but I sulk a bit at the loss of the light!

Light and darkness are very powerful ideas. Darkness is often associated with fear and uncertainty whereas light dispels the darkness.

We are told in the psalms that God deals equally well with both light and darkness.

"Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You." Psalm 139 verse 12

Sometimes the cover of darkness is used to cover bad deeds. They may succeed in not being noticed by other people but we are told God sees them as plainly as day. It's a cautionary note that we sometimes believe we can get away with things when we are plainly and clearly in God's sight but it's also hugely reassuring when we see so much injustice in our community and feel like no one can do anything about it.

The light and darkness theme is used to talk about the hope that Jesus brings into the world.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1 verse 5

We all know that throughout our lives we are likely to come across darkness and evil, but God promises that the light will always overcome it. As we are faced by dark places in our lives we should not be overwhelmed by them or feel we are without hope. We are encouraged to look for the light that has the power to dispel the darkness.

On the 31st October we will be out with the community celebrating 'All Hallows Eve' or Halloween. It's an opportunity for us to continue our theme of being light in the darkness and celebrate in a really lovely way, offering hospitality, treats and warm drinks to people who are out and about

Another area where darkness and light can be really pronounced is when we are faced with the death of someone we love. The first Bible verse above is from Psalm 139 which I often use at funeral services.

The church celebrates this hope on the 1st Nov with All Saints and the 2nd Nov with All Souls. We combine the two festivals when we gather for our Sunday morning service on the 3rd November. You are all invited to come and remember someone special to you who has died and there will be an opportunity to light a candle and hear their name read out as we honour their memory. This service reaffirms God's power over light and darkness, life and death.

Every Blessing – Gemma

Newsletter Content

If you have any items for the Newsletter (including requests for prayer) please contact Janette Tadman 01245 469124

Email janettetadman@gmail.com

Deadline Wednesday evening

Contacts

Vicar Revd Gemma Fraser 07540 152561

Churchwardens

Richard Field	Lucy Bubb
07776 208546	07970 728673

Deputy Churchwardens

Mike Tadman	Sue Davies
07740 625454	07708 296804

Sunday 20th October

St. Luke's Patronal Festival

8am: Holy Communion at St. John's

10am: Service of Holy Communion

President & Preacher: Rev Gemma Fraser

Crucifer: Mike Tadman

Server: David Millward

Chalice: Revd Suzanne, Mike Tadman

Intercessions: Revd Gemma

Readings

Isaiah 35:3-6 Val Bliss

2 Timothy 4:5-17 Anna Wood

Luke 10:1-9

Sidesmen: Sue Davies, Jane Chambers

Sound: Sue Davies

Coffee: Mary Marshall, Maxine Buck

Counters: Helen Field, Dave Chambers

Duty Churchwarden: Richard Field

Organist: Alan Arnot

(Voluntary - Processional by Edwin Lamarre (1866 -1934) -

Collect

Almighty God,
you called Luke the physician,
whose praise is in the gospel,
to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:
by the grace of the Spirit
and through the wholesome medicine of the
gospel,
give your Church the same love and power to
heal;
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**

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
who on the day of Pentecost
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles
with the wind from heaven and in tongues of
flame,
filling them with joy and boldness to preach
the gospel:
by the power of the same Spirit
strengthen us to witness to your truth
and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

TO OUR VISITORS Welcome to our service. The **hymn numbers** are displayed on the boards, and will also be announced. When we come to receive Holy Communion, please see the notes in our **Order of Service**, which are provided for your guidance. We like to mark **birthdays** by singing "Happy Birthday to you: to Jesus be true. May God's richest blessing rest today upon you." If it is your birthday this week, please tell one of the ministers.

The ministry of Prayer with Laying-on-of-Hands for Healing is available every Sunday. If you would like this for yourself or another, please speak to one of the Ministers or Churchwardens.

Readings

Isaiah 35:3-6

³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

2 Timothy 4:5-17

⁵ As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. ⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. ⁹ Do your best to come to me soon, ¹⁰ for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹ Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry. ¹² I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³ When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. ¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds. ¹⁵ You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our message. ¹⁶ At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

Luke 10:1-9

¹⁰ After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" ⁶ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

Commemoration of All Souls

As we've done for the last few years, our service on **3rd November** will be combining All Saints with the commemoration of All Souls. If you would like the name of a loved one read out during the service, please add their names clearly to the sign-up sheet at the back of church.

All Hallows' Eve

We have a fantastic outreach opportunity to join with our community on the evening of 31st October (5pm - 7pm) and offer hospitality. We've also been asked to be interviewed on BBC Essex next Sunday morning. Please do keep both of these opportunities in your prayers.

Please Pray This Week

For Brian, Joan, Bob, Margaret, June, Tammy, Kath, Emma, Basil, Greta, Carmen, Agnes, Revd John S, Janette For the PCC as they meet this week For those named on the prayer board

This week we remember:
Revd Canon Sylvia Chapman (23.10.2015)
Joan Kay (26.10.2016)
Val Plumb (27.10.1988)

Christmas Tree Festival

Creating a Buzz!

The invitations to groups, organisations and local businesses asking them to provide and decorate Christmas trees for our Christmas Tree Festival on 14 - 15 December have started to go out this week.

We need you to help create a buzz! Please chat to all those that you know in shops and groups to encourage them to enter a tree - and if you find one that hasn't been invited or you would like to enter a tree with your family, let Lucy know. The trees can be real, artificial or even made from scratch!

This is a real opportunity to bring our community together for a family-orientated event.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ruth (nee Ives) and Adrian on the birth of their second son, Isaac Joseph, born 7th October Weighing a hefty 10lb 1oz



Living Light

The Aumbry Light for October has been sponsored by Lucy Bubb in memory of her father John Bubb



Saturday Coffee

26th October

On duty: Dawn Thomas

Join us for coffee and fellowship



This Week

The church is open daily for prayer

Monday 21 October
Pray for the unemployed

Tuesday 22 October
Pray for May Walk

9.15am: Morning Prayer at Church of the Holy Spirit, Widford

Wednesday 23 October
Pray for our sister churches in Moulsham Lodge and Tile Kiln

9.15am: Morning Prayer at St. Luke's

1.15pm: Edward Bear Toddler Group

7.30pm: PCC Meeting

Thursday 24 October
Pray for Peace in Syria and The Middle East

9.15am: Morning Prayer at St. John's

Friday 25 October
Pray for the schools in our parish

Saturday 26 October
Pray for Dove Lane

11am: Saturday Coffee

Sunday 27th October

Bible Sunday

8am Holy Communion at St. John's

10am Fourth Sunday Service

Leader and Speaker Lucy Bubb

Readings

Psalms 119:129-136 Dawn Thomas
Luke 4:16-24

Sidesman Dawn Thomas, Helen Field

Sound Dave Thomas

Coffee Jane and Dave Chambers

Counters Helen Field, Dave Thomas

Duty Churchwarden Sue Davies

Organist Rita Roscoe

Hymns for Advent will be chosen on 21st October. If you have a favourite hymn for that period which you would like to suggest, please contact Anna, Rita, or Hilary Selwood