



## Welcome!

*We are delighted to see you, especially if this is your first visit.  
Please do join us for refreshments after the 10.30am service today.*

### Today

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	Morning Worship
10.30am	Prayzone
12	Social Events Fair <i>in the Hall after the 10.30am services</i>
5.30pm	Prayer Meeting in the church
Eve	Night Shelter continues in the hall

### During the Week

Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	9-11.30am 'Open House' parents and toddlers <i>in the Lounge</i>
Wed	9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in the Lounge</i>
	7.30-9pm Puzzling Questions course continues <i>in the Lounge</i>
	<i>Evening – Friends meal at Amici Restaurant</i>
	7.30pm St Matt's Cats
Thurs	2.30pm Chat @ St Matts <i>in the Hall</i>

### Sunday 4 February

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Breakfastzone <i>in the Hall with breakfast at 9.15am</i>
10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
Eve	Last night of Night Shelter

#### Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,  
light of the nations and glory of Israel:  
make your home among us,  
and present us pure and holy  
to your heavenly Father,  
your God, and our God. Amen

#### Contacting the Church

[www.st-matthias-church.org](http://www.st-matthias-church.org)

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**Rector:** John Beckett 01803 293119

**Curates:** Stephen Yates 01803  
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## Readings

### Luke 2: 22-40

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: 'a pair of doves or two young pigeons'.

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup> Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

<sup>29</sup> 'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

<sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel.'

<sup>33</sup> The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, <sup>35</sup> so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. <sup>38</sup> Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup> When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

### Hebrews 2: 14-end

<sup>14</sup> Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For surely it is not angels he helps, but

Abraham's descendants. <sup>17</sup> For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

## What's On & News

**Matt's Knits** If you enjoy knitting or want to learn then we are starting a sociable knitting hour on Mondays from 12.30 in the lounge. It will be very informal over sherry or coffee and we'll probably have projects e.g. hats for Mission to Seamen. First knit **5 Feb**. See Elaine Biden, Andrea Crump or Tessa Barton for more info. Small charge to cover costs. Form in the hall just to gauge how many are interested.



**Contact Lists** new lists now available. £1 to cover printing costs please. Available from church today or from the office during the week. Please put money in one of the wooden collection boxes at the back of church.

**Mr Paul Zaple**, previously a head teacher at Ilsham School has recently passed away. His funeral details are unknown at the moment.

**Confirmation** Have you thought about being confirmed? If so, Bishop Sarah's visit to us on 18 March may end up being a confirmation service too. If you are interested please contact one of the clergy to talk it through.

**Sun 11 Feb** Special church meeting @ 11.30am to update about re-ordering project and proposed extra 9.30am service

**Sun 4 Mar** 'Opportunities to Serve' Fair

**19 & 20 May** Renewal Weekend

**Lent Lunches** 14 Feb & every Wed – delicious cheese, bread, pickles, tea, coffee etc. All profits to Christian Aid. Do come and support this worthy cause and bring a friend!

### Events Elsewhere:

**World Holocaust Memorial Day: Inherit the Truth Exeter Cathedral Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Feb at 7pm.** More information from Jenny & Ian Lane (607345).

### For our prayers and praise this week

Sun	Pray for our services today, all who lead, all who participate. May we all remember that we meet on "Holy ground and meet with a Holy God", so that we bow down and really worship Him.
Mon	In this week of Prayer for Christian Unity, may we remember to pray for our brothers and sisters in the other churches around the Bay.

Tues	Please pray for all involved with preparations for the Lent Courses - may we all learn a bit more about praying and practising the way of Jesus.
Wed	Pray for the course "Puzzling Questions". Pray folk will come and find answers to their questions. Pray that Jesus will be made manifest in all the answers.
Thurs	Pray for those involved in giving permission for the re-ordering of the Church.
Fri	Continue to remember the night shelter work, especially during this very cold and damp weather.
Sat	Remember with prayer and thanksgiving all the organisations we support as a church.
Sun	Pray today for all who are unwell and so cannot come to church; all who are in hospital; all recently bereaved or who are facing problems in their lives and families. May they all feel the living presence of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

## Lent 2018

- Ash Wednesday 14 Feb – Holy Communion @ 7pm (no 9am service)
- Lent lunches – every Wednesday beginning on 14 Feb 12-1.30pm
- Lent courses begin on Tues 20 @ 7.15pm and Wed 21 @10.30am – see below
- 'Generous God Generous People' - daily bible readings booklet will be available
- Maundy Thursday 29 March – evening Holy Communion service



This year for our Lent Course we are pleased to bring you not one, but two international speakers. Well, admittedly they are appearing on DVD rather than in person, but we are very excited about their messages and their teaching which is relevant to, and will challenge, every member of St Matthias.

John Mark Comer, who leads a church in Portland, Oregon, unpacks what it means to be "PRACTISING THE WAY OF JESUS", helping us to understand how we can change to become more like Jesus looking at some of the Spiritual Disciplines such as Prayer, Solitude, Quietness and Fasting.

Pete Greig is a senior pastor in Guildford, teaches at St Mellitus College and heads up the 24/7 Prayer movement. He helps us to understand PRAYER in a course which many of us have benefited from in our home groups.

Both will run for 6 weeks on both Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings, and we will gather together for the first 10 minutes each time, before breaking into the two strands. Whilst you will benefit most from attending all 6 sessions, you are welcome to come to any that you are able to.