A warm welcome to

The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 18th October 2026 The Festival of Luke the Evangelist

Vicar: Revd Carol Backhouse 07857 449724
24 Wentworth Drive, Lancaster, LA1 3RJ

www.christchurchlancaster.org.uk Facebook:@ChristChurchLancaster

a vibrant, inclusive worshipping community

Everyone is welcome to join us in worship this week:

Sunday - 18th October
8.30am *Holy Communion*
10.30am *Parish Eucharist with prayers for healing and wholeness*
6pm Taizé

Tuesday
8.45am *Celtic Morning Prayer*

Wednesday
5.30pm *Meditation and 6pm Evening Prayer*

Friday
9.30am *Holy Communion*

Sunday - 25th October
8.30am *Holy Communion*
10.30am *Parish Eucharist*
6pm Evening Prayer

Prayer for this week

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

Children's Church
welcomes primary-aged children during the 10.30am service during term time.
Parents/guardians are welcome to join.

Creative Collective
Sunday 1st November 12-1pm in the Church hall. All about Conkers and games we can play with them

T Loop facility

Large Print

GLUTEN FREE Wafers available

Breastfeeding Welcome Here

Accessible Toilet & Baby Changing

FAIRTRADE PLACES OF WORSHIP

Please ask the Stewards for directions and assistance.

Please send items for inclusion in this newsletter to Kim Robinson by Thursday lunchtime. Many thanks.

Please remember in your prayers:

Those who are sick:
Youngblood, Thomas, Yan, David, Ron, Ann, Christine, John, Freda, Martin, Ruby, Lou, Peter, Helen, Tony, Marie, Linda, Margaret, David, Kevin, Sheila, Ann

May God's healing, wholeness and peace be with them

For those who have recently died, including:
Douglas, Trish, Philip, John, Margaret, Iris

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

In our parish, we ask God to bless and provide:
For those who live and work in Melbourne Road, Woodville Street. For the staff and residents at Sir Walter Lyon House.

May God's loving kindness be found and shared.

We pray for people attending and helping with
All Hallows Family Fun, Magic Morning

Bless our community and those who share in worship and service here

Prayer for youth work
Lord, make your face shine upon our families, illuminate their gifts with your grace. Amen.

Meeting Up.
The clergy are available for pastoral support and spiritual direction, so please don't hesitate to be in in contact. If you or someone you know is going through a difficult time or is seriously ill, please let us know as soon as possible, to arrange prayers, home communion, a hospital visit, or anointing of the sick. If you would like us to pray for you, or for someone you know, for any reason, please email your request to revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com Please ask the person's permission if you'd like them included in the weekly notices.

Prayers of Healing and Wholeness this Sunday
As part of the 10.30 Eucharist on Sunday 18th, there will be the opportunity to receive individual prayers for healing and wholeness in the Lady Chapel during communion. Whether for your own health and wellbeing, or on behalf of someone for whom you pray - you are welcome to receive prayer for individual situations. If you wish, this can also include anointing with oil for healing as a sign of God's strengthening and care'.

Bible Study Group
The Bible study group will continue each Sunday until the end of November. Kingdom over Nation will look at how we can faithfully explore and respond to the rising tide of Christian Nationalism in our land. Please see the poster for details of each session.

Supporting Christ Church

EasyFundraising

Did you know you can support Christ Church for free when you shop online? Register using https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/ and the brand's commission will go to church.

Fundraising - ideas, opportunities, and support needed!

We're blessed to have received some generous grant funding for the work we need to do on the building, but we still need to raise the match funding we still need from our own resources. You're welcome to send more ideas to buckleys@live.co.uk. if you're able to send a financial contribution by using the QR code below, thank you. We're getting closer to the target, so anything you can give would be much appreciated.

Supporting Christ Church - One-Off Gifts

If you would like to make a one-off donation to the church as an offering, to pay a fee, or as a gift to regular funds, you can give through our 'Give a little' page: https://givealittle.co/campaigns/f63a0655-b270-4d05-bf35-3994747785d0 This will also give you the option to Gift Aid your donation (if you pay tax in the UK), enabling the church to get an extra 25p back from the taxman for every £1 you give.

Supporting Christ Church - Regularly

If you're able to support Christ Church via a direct debit donation, you can do this via the Parish Giving Scheme. Every penny goes to our church, and it's easy to review how much you give depending on circumstances. Online at www.parishgiving.org.uk Or by telephone 0333 002 1271 Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. For any of these methods our PGS code 030603240 ensures that your gift goes to our church.

PCC

Our next PCC meeting will be held on the 24th November. Please do talk to our PCC reps about any aspect of life at Christ Church. And pray for the PCC in it's work this year. You might want to use the following prayer:

Lord God, Together with you by our side, we can bring growth to our Church. Send your Holy Spirit to give us good planning, wise actions, joy in worship and our welcome, the right words when we speak to others. Help our Church grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Christ our Lord. ***Amen***

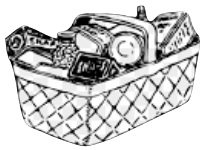
Hall for Hire

Don't forget that the Hall is available for hire, especially during the day and at weekends. £24/first hour and £12 for each subsequent hour/part-hour. Please contact Lorna on hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk or 07808 76536 for more information.

In Other News...

Olive Branch Foodbank

The Olive Branch badly needs all kinds of long-life food and drink - please bring a tin or packet to church with you to leave in the collection crates. You can also give money for them to buy what people need: https://www.the-olivebranch.org.uk/donate/



Gardening Group

Our friendly gardening group meets on the first Friday of each month (6th November) between 12noon and 2pm to keep our church garden looking lovely. New members welcome, for all or part of the time - contact lippittjane@gmail.com. Please bring gloves & secateurs if you have them.

Book Group

The church book group meets on the first Friday of each month (6th November) at 4 pm in the church hall. Anyone who enjoys reading and discussion is very welcome to join us. You can just turn up on the day, speak to Joyce, or send an email to joycelynch1946@gmail.com

Church Choir

Our Choir rehearses on Thursdays from 7 to 8pm in church. Although small in number, we are enthusiastic and newcomers are made very welcome. We sing at services about once a month. Please contact jean.mccafferty@gmail.com if you'd like to know more.

Coffee with the Curate

Coffee with the Curate is held weekly on Mondays 10-12 at The Gregson Cafe. Meet new folk and have a chat over a brew. All are Welcome!

Confirmations 2026

On the 29th November, we will be welcoming Bishop Joe for a Confirmation Service at Christ Church. Confirmation is the next step on the journey of Christian faith, where the Bishop gives the gift of God's Holy Spirit to help us follow Christ. For some, Confirmation is also the opportunity to receive Holy Communion for the first time. If you'd like to know more, please talk with Rev'd Carol, Rev'd Kaarina or Innes. Confirmation Group will continue on Sunday 11th, 18th October and 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd November. Snacks provided!

Join us for our new KS2 club, the Creative Collective!

Sessions run monthly in the church hall from 12-1pm where we will make your imagination a reality. Activities include comic making, stop motion, cooking, bracelet making, lego construction - the possibilities are endless! You dream it, we'll make it together! Upcoming session dates:
Sunday 1st of November 12-1pm - All about Conkers and games we can play with them
Sunday 13th of December 12-1 - Stop Motion with a Christmassy twist
Come share the fruits of the spirit with us!

Community at Christ Church:

Eco-Group Thought/Action for the Week

International Biomass day of action on 21st October invites a display of opposition against the biomass industry. It is claimed to be a negative emissions technology but is it? Can burning biofuels and biomass release more carbon than fossil fuels. Read what RSPB have to say about it, if you wish to know more. https://www.rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-we-do/influence-government-and-business/nature-protection-and-restoration/bioenergy
Are you concerned about climate change, and caring for Creation? If so, contact joycelynch1946@gmail.com to find out if our active Eco Group is something you'd like to be part of - it meets every six weeks at a member's home.

Celebrations 2027

In 2027 Christ Church will be celebrating two big events. On the 3rd July, the Tour de France Peloton will go past our church. And on the 26th September, we'll be marking 170 years since the church was consecrated.
We'd love to hear your ideas about how we might celebrate these special occasions - and share the events with our local community. Please pop your ideas on one of the forms and pop it in the green box at the back of church. If you're able to help (eg baking a cake, designing a banner, local history research, social media) - please put your details down too!

Christmas Tree Festival - Sponsors and decorators needed

If you would like to sponsor a tree or decorate a tree for our Christmas Tree Festival, or know someone who might, please take a flyer or two from the back of church. Full details and who to contact are on there.

All Hallows Family Fun - Saturday 31st October

On Saturday the 31st of October join us for All Hallows family fun, starting with a halloween organ concert at 4.15pm in church - a musical treat for children all ages followed by a party in the church hall from 5-8pm. Prizes if you come in costume! This is a free event but donations welcome.

All Soul's Memorial Service

Our All Soul's Memorial Service will be held on Sunday 1st November at 6pm. If you wish for someone to be remembered in this service, please add their name to the list at the back of church.

Appeal from Lancaster Homeless Action

Lancaster Homeless Action are appealing for sleeping bags and winter coats (mens' and womens') plus torches, hats, gloves and scarves. Please take donations to their centre on Aalborg Place (near the Magistrates Court) - 9am-1pm Monday-Friday.

Magic Morning - 7th November 9.30 - 11am

On 7th November we will holding another Magic (maintenance and gardening in church) Morning. Help is needed from 9.30am-11am with some odd jobs, cleaning and basic DIY around church. Children welcome to help with parent's supervision. Brunch provided! Thank you!

Scripture Readings for our Worship today:

Isaiah 35. 3-6

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. 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.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; 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.

This the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 147. 1-7

Refrain- **Great is our Lord and mighty in power.**

1 Alleluia. How good it is to make music for our God, how joyful to honour him with praise.

2 The Lord builds up Jerusalem and gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up all their wounds.

Refrain- **Great is our Lord and mighty in power.**

4 He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his wisdom is beyond all telling.

6 The Lord lifts up the poor, but casts down the wicked to the ground.

Refrain- **Great is our Lord and mighty in power.**

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the lyre;

2 Timothy 4. 5-17

As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 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. Do your best to come to me soon, for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry. I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds. You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our message. At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! 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.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to **Luke 10. 1-9**

Glory to you, O Lord.

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. 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. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. 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. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Prayer after Communion:

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**

Key contacts:

Vicar: …… Rev'd Carol Backhouse 07857 449724
revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com

Curate: ……..Rev'd Kaarina Leong 07749 489623
curate@christchurchlancaster.org.uk

Children's Ministry Leader…….. Innes Heron-Stamp 07853791776
children@christchurchlancaster.org.uk

Church Warden: ……Greg Skelland. 07944 683847
churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk

Organist:……Graham Toft
grahamtoft1@aol.com

Parish Administrator……..……..Kim Robinson 07483936011
kimberly.robinson@blackburn.anglican.org

Parish Safeguarding Officer: …….. Mrs Emma Muckalt & Ms Debbie Steele 07547 717060
safeguarding@christchurchlancaster.org

Parish Secretary: ……Mrs Julie Buckley 07717824574
buckleys@live.co.uk

Hall Bookings: ……07462535006 hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk

Christ Church School ……Miss Emma Simpson 01524 60955

If you'd like to keep in touch with Christ Church news, events, prayer and worship, please complete a contact card from the pew-end and return to Rev'd Carol

Promoting a Safer Church

If you believe that someone is at risk of immediate harm please call emergency services on 999. Any safeguarding concerns in a parish should be brought to the attention of your Parish Safeguarding Officers, Debbie Steele and Emma Muckalt, who can be contacted as above. Concerns can also be raised directly with our Diocesan Team, Tel: 01254 503088 or email safeguarding@blackburn.anglican.org

Support our Family Ministry:

Volunteering to help Innes with family Ministry is a great way to go deeper in your own faith, while having a lot of fun. It is a privilege to pass on our Christian faith to the next generation, and contribute to our wider church family. Come help at Children's Church or support an event! Speak to Innes to find out more, or sign up for the opportunity to make important memories for our families.

Ripley - Sign-in sheet

As from the 1st November, we will be introducing a sign-in sheet for families wishing to record attendance for Ripley Supplementary forms. Ripley's criteria have become more rigorous in recent years, and we wish to keep the process fair for everyone. Please remember that Christ Church is a place where we want every to feel welcome in the worship and community life here - whatever your reason for coming to church, we hope you encounter something of the transforming peace and love of God.'