

Weekly Newssheet for The Heathland Parishes, we are made up of the following churches:

All Saints, Great Braxted

St Mary, Layer Breton with Birch

All Saints, Inworth

St Luke, Tolleshunt Knights with Tiptree

St Mary, Layer Marney

All Saints, Messing

& St John the Baptist, Layer de la Haye (now of the Waterside Parishes)

To be a transforming presence in our community, open and welcoming to all and serving all



Sunday 23rd November 2025, Christ the King

Today's Services & Readings

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-45

St Mary, Layer Marney

9 am Holy Communion

Rev'd Michael Hatchett

Hymns 345, 433, 352, 332

& Sue Lyne

St Luke's, Tiptree

9.30 am Parish Communion

Rev'd Liz Barnes

Hymns 99, 242, 507, 848, 398, 14

Prayer ministry will be offered after the service

St John the Baptist, Layer de la Haye

10.30 am Morning Praise

Wendy Borgartz

All Saints', Messing

11.15 am Parish Communion

Rev'd Michael Hatchett

Hymns 78, 169, 335, 13

& Sue Lyne

Sunday Morning Resources you can find sermons, readings & intercessions for this week on the Homepage of our website:

thurstablewinstreechurches.org

Weekday Opening Times of The Heathland Parish Churches – details of times when we are open for private prayer & visitors may be found on the Thurstable & Winstree Churches website, click on 'Our Churches' on the far right of the Homepage: thurstablewinstreechurches.org

[See over page for events & our weekly notices for the coming week](#)

Next Sunday's Services, Advent Sunday 30th November 2025



St Luke's, Tiptree

9.30 am Parish Communion

Rev'd Liz Barnes

All Saints', Messing

4.45 pm The lighting of the Christmas Tree

Anne Wild

St Mary, Layer Breton with Birch

6 pm Advent Carol Service

Rev'd Christine Newmarch

with the choir of St Luke's Church

All Saints', Feering

10 am Joint Holy Communion, for the Roman Road Parishes

All Welcome

Rev'd Simon Garwood

St Peter's, Goldhanger

10 am Benefice Service for the Waterside & Beacon Parishes

Everyone welcome to join us

Rev'd Jo Wood

Lead-up to Christmas services 2025

Nativity, at St Mary Layer Marney and in the Barn at Layer Marney Tower – Wednesday 17th December at 5.30 pm

Christingle Service, at St Luke's Tiptree – Sunday 7th December at 4 pm

Parish Communion with Archdeacon Ruth, Sunday 14th December at St Luke's, 9.30 am, everyone welcome

To Receive the Weekly News Sheet by E-mail please contact the Team Administrator, Christine Hall: thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com If you are on the mailing list and no longer wish to receive the news sheet, please let Christine know - we are happy to help.

Church Diary for the week, Mon 24th to Sat 29th November

Tue	10 am	Tiptree House Groups meet at Jenny and Christine's
Wed	7 pm	Friends of Messing Church AGM
Wed	8 pm	Village Voices meet, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Layer de la Haye. Contact Debbie: dwalsham63@gmail.com
Thur	1.30 pm	Funeral of Martin Turner, at St Luke's
Thur	2 pm	JB Tots in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Layer de la Haye
Fri	2 pm	Games Afternoon, St Luke's Hall <i>arranged by FoSL</i>
Sat	10 am - 1 pm	Christmas Bazaar & local choirs, St Luke's Church

St Luke's Tiptree, regular weekly events:

Morning Prayer, 9 am on Thursdays – *everyone welcome, please join us*

Mon 9.15 am Parent & Toddler; Mon 7.30 pm Bible Study on Zoom;
Wed 7.30 pm St Luke's Choir Practice; Thur 10 am Holy Communion,
followed by coffee at The New Times; Thur 2-4 pm Tiptree Food-bank
open at Tiptree URC, Chapel Road

Diary Dates & News

Friends of Messing Church AGM, Wednesday 26th November, 7 pm in the church. Come and find out more about us; with wine & nibbles afterwards.

Games Afternoon, Friends of St Luke's, this Friday 28th November & then 19th December from 2 pm. Cost: £3 for tea, coffee, biscuits games. All welcome!

St Luke's Christmas Bazaar, Saturday 29th November in the church and hall from 10 am to 1 pm. With local choirs singing in the church including the Dementia Choir from Tiptree Hub, Tiptree U3A & Baynards School. We shall have stalls, refreshments, face painting and a craft fayre in the hall – come along and prepare for Christmas. Entry by donation, in aid of Farleigh Hospice and the Friends of St Luke's. With a Remembrance Tree in the church.

Tiptree Food Bank  we are now collecting Christmas Treats: nice biscuits e.g. chocolate, Christmas cake, Festive snacks, Chocolates, Mince pies & Selection packs - please may we have these by Sunday 14th December at latest. NB we are unable to accept anything containing alcohol.

These contributions can be taken to: ASDA, St Luke's Church 9 am-4 pm daily or the Foodbank at the United Reformed Church, Thurs 2-4 pm. *Thank to everyone who donated in the past week - your support is much appreciated.*

News, Reminders & Looking Ahead

Advent Carol Service at Layer Breton on Sunday 30th November, 6 pm led by Revd Christine Newmarch and with St Luke's Church Choir. We will have festive refreshments after the service. *Come and join us - we hold services on months with a 5th Sunday at this new time of 6 pm, everyone welcome.*

The Lighting of the Christmas Tree, Messing Sunday 30th November, 4.45 pm at the church. With singing from Octavia, Stories with Santa and mulled wine & nibbles. All Welcome.

The Heathland Parishes, you will see from our Team website, when you next visit it, that the churches of All Saints' Great Braxted, All Saints' Inworth, All Saints' Messing, St Luke's Tiptree, St Mary Layer Breton with Birch & St Mary Layer Marney form this group. The other three clusters of parishes forming the new wider Benefice of Blackwater, which we will all become, are The Waterside, Beacon and Roman Road Parishes.

Two Christmas wreath making workshops are planned at All Saints Feering on 2nd December. £40, to book contact Lynn: lynnchallis453@gmail.com

Join our Friends of St Luke's Committee! – new members from the church and our hall community are welcome to join the committee of the Friends of St Luke's. The group raise funds for the continued upgrading and refurbishment of the hall, a wonderful resource for the church & village. To find out more contact Sandra: foslbookings@gmail.com or see one of the churchwardens.

Christmas Tree Festival, St Mary's Kelvedon, Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December, 11 am to 5 pm. Come and see the decorated trees and look for the 12 knitted angels hidden in the church. Delicious refreshments.

Get in touch – our Contact details:

While we are in vacancy please contact Revd Liz Barnes, Associate Priest -
liz_barnes@sky.com Tel: 01621 333027. Day off - Mon

News sheet & Team Administrator, Christine Hall: thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com
Days of work: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, available for phone enquiries from 10 am to 12.30 pm on the mobile: 07421 078981 (with voicemail). **Available in St Luke's Church Office on Tuesday mornings by appointment only & Thursdays from 10 am to 12.30 pm.**
The office number is 01621 819557 (with voicemail).

St Luke's Hall bookings: Gareth Williams, 01621 818069 hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com



Find us on Facebook: Layer Marney & Tiptree Churches and St Luke's Church Hall are all on Facebook, also look out for our friends at Layer de la Haye, Copford, Easthorpe & Kelvedon churches