



28th September 2025

Creationtide 4

In here you'll find today's hymns and readings, and this week's notices to use alongside the Creationtide Holy Communion order of service.

Opening Hymn: God is love: let heaven adore him
Number 442 in Common Praise

Collect

Lord of justice and compassion,
you created the world in goodness and love
and made us to care with compassion for your earth and each
other:

Forgive our neglect of creation and our indifference to
suffering,

stir-up in us a hope that acts, a faith that speaks,
and a love that crosses every boundary.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who came to bring good news to the poor
and to restore all things in you,
Amen.

Rev'd Dr Mike Perry

First Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time--he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in

unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Gradual hymn: For the healing of the nations

Number 427 in Common Praise

Gospel Reading: Luke 16:19-31

There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said,

'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house-- for I have five brothers--that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Offertory Hymn: Heaven shall not wait

Heaven shall not wait
for the poor to lose their patience,
the scorned to smile, the despised to find a friend:
Jesus is Lord; he has championed the unwanted;
in him injustice confronts its timely end.

Heaven shall not wait
for the rich to share their fortunes,
the proud to fall, the elite to tend the least:
Jesus is Lord; he has shown the master's privilege -
to kneel and wash servants' feet before they feast.

Heaven shall not wait
for the dawn of great ideas,
thoughts of compassion divorced from cries of pain:
Jesus is Lord; he has married word and action;
his cross and company make his purpose plain.

Heaven shall not wait
for triumphant hallelujahs,
when earth has passed and we reach another shore:
Jesus is Lord; in our present imperfection:
his power and love are for now and then for evermore.

Communion hymn: Now we hear creation groaning

Now we hear creation groaning
like a prisoner held in chains,
yearning for unbridled freedom,
healing from its present pains:
for the cosmos is in labour,
bearing worlds as yet unknown,
incomplete without the people
God has chosen as his own.

But the saints are also groaning
with this aching hope we bear;
through involvement in life's turmoil,
Jesus' wounds are ours to share:

in the church, the world's frustrations
can be focused, felt and healed,
as a better, new creation
is foreshadowed and revealed.

So we find, in all this anguish,
God's intentions are expressed,
for the groans the Spirit utters
are the deepest and the best:
and those painful, strong emotions
human words can never tell -
God the Spirit, who evokes them,
now interprets them as well.

Since this fallen, splendid cosmos
is the womb to greater things,
and since we, in all our frailty,
serve the broken King of kings,
teach us, God, to hear your Spirit
whose maternal, wordless call
is the heart of our vocation
and the truest prayer of all.

Martin E. Leckebusch (b.1962)

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Final hymn: Be thou my vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true Word,
Be thou ever with thee, and I with thee, Lord,
be thou my heart's great love, and I am thine own,
be thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I need not, nor vain empty praise:
Be thou my inheritance now and always;
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

NEWS AND NOTICES

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 1 st October 10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 5 th October 10:30am:	Holy Communion
Wednesday 8 th October 10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 12 th October 10:30am:	Harvest Family Service

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

This flowers this week are the gift of Miss E Gibbens, for friends and family gone before.

HARVEST DONATION

On Sunday 12th October we will have our Harvest Festival service. We are collecting donations for Smethwick Foodbank and St Marys pantry. Pantry donations can include perishable items such as fruit, vegetables and dairy products. To find out more about pantry visit <https://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/pantry-listings/sandwell-st-marys-pantry-bearwood/>

Foodbank donations need to be nonperishable food items and toiletries.

PCC TREASURER NEEDED – URGENT

We urgently need someone to take on the role of Treasurer. This is an important role in the life of the church. You do not need to be an expert in finances, just a willingness to learn and compute literacy. Terry Daniels, our interim treasurer will work with you to ensure a handover and you will have the support of the Wardens and PCC. As a PCC member you will need to complete some Safeguarding modules and have an enhanced DBS. Please speak to Jenni or Terry if you think you may be able to take on this role.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED: PARISH SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR (PSC)

After over a decade in this role Anne Harris intends to step down at the next APCM. We are seeking to recruit in time for a smooth handover from Anne and for the next PSC to work alongside

Mike Baynham as part of a team.

This role is; to work with the incumbent and PCC in promoting safeguarding within the parish, and to ensure that church leaders are implementing the Church of England's safeguarding guidance. The Parish Safeguarding Coordinator is the key link person between the parish and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

This role requires an enhanced DBS and completion of several training modules offered by the Diocese. Good computer literacy is essential for this as it includes working with a database.

If you think this might be something you would be interested in and God is calling you to consider it, please speak to Anne Harris or Jenni Crewes. We can offer you a more detailed role description.

Please pray for the right person to be recruited for this essential aspect of parish life.

HOLY COMMUNION SERVER(S) NEEDED

We are seeking a new member (or perhaps members!) to join our team of Holy Communion servers. This role includes assisting with the preparation of the altar, helping with the distribution of Holy Communion and clearing at the end of the service. Due to the nature of our building Servers need to be able to use stairs. Full training will be given, including Basic Awareness Safeguarding which is imperative for any volunteer role in the church. Please speak to Jenni or Ian if this interest you.

DIANE'S ORDINATION AND WELCOME

On Saturday 4th October at 11am at Birmingham Cathedral Diane Reeves will be ordained Deacon and come to serve us as our Curate. We have some tickets for the service. If you would like one please ask Jenni. They will be given on a first come first served basis.

On Sunday 5th October we will welcome Diane in our morning service which will be followed by a bring and share lunch in the hall. Please keep this date free and pray for her and she prepares to join us.

SCRIPTURAL REASONING ON SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER IN THE CHURCH HALL 6PM

All are welcome as we read scripture with our Muslim neighbours, exploring what our faith means to us and learning about Islam. This is a wonderful space to think about your own faith, ask questions and make friends over drinks and snacks.

ECO LIFESTYLE TIP FOR OCTOBER

Local and seasonal food not only tastes great but is better for the planet too. Think about incorporating locally grown produce into your diet and shopping list throughout the seasons, as it is harvested at its peak ripeness ensuring superior flavour, compared to imported alternatives that have travelled thousands of miles. If saying grace before a meal is a regular practice in your household, include giving thanks for your local food producers this month.

CONSERVATOIRE CONCERTS

We have a full programme of concerts by students of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, with lunchtime concerts at 1.00pm on the second Friday of the month, and evening concerts at 7.30pm on the fourth Saturday of the month The programme this quarter is;

Friday 10th October 1pm

Saturday 25th October 7:30pm

Light refreshments are available after each concert, and there is usually an opportunity to talk with the performer(s). The concerts are free, but donations for church funds are welcome. Why not come along and join us, and please spread the information to anyone else who may be interested? More details are available from sthildasconcerts@gmail.com Angela, Terry and Marian.

TIDYING THE GARDEN AT THE FRONT OF CHURCH

The last date of the season for our monthly Saturday morning session to tidy the church front garden has been changed from 4th October to 18th October, between 10.00 am - 12.00 noon, weather

permitting.

If you are free, your help would be appreciated at any time during that morning. Experienced and inexperienced gardeners are all welcome. If you have any queries, please speak to Rob Eaton or Anne Harris.

PONDERING FAITH 25TH OCTOBER

Pondering returns this autumn, an opportunity to learn together over hot drinks and pastries as we consider what it means to follow Jesus. The next two sessions will focus on Confirmation and everyone is invited whether you've preparing for Confirmation or not. Those who have been confirmed are encouraged to come too as we learn together from 10:30am until about 11:45am in the choir vestry.

This week please pray for;

- For those from our church and wider deanery preparing for confirmation
- Diane as she prepares for her ordination as Deacon on Saturday.
- For PCC as they meet on Wednesday evening.
- For the family and friends of Jacquie Hines as her funeral takes place on Friday.

Useful Contacts

Rev'd. Jenni Crewes	Vicar (day off Monday)	07377363915 or 0121 429 1384 revjennicrewes@gmail.com
Mrs Julie Batham	Churchwarden	07931133951, juliebatham60@gmail.com
Mr Ian Dickinson	Churchwarden	07950666654, ian_fatbudgie@hotmail.com
Mrs Fran Ellis	Reader	0121 429 6267
Liz and Jon	CAMEO	sthildascameo@gmail.com
James Atkinson	Eco Church PEC	jda85@hotmail.com
Enquires about hiring hall or church		sthildasbooking@gmail.com
Safeguarding Team		07946 147 703 https://bit.ly/sthildas-safeguarding
<u>Safeguarding information</u> 1. Never promise to keep a secret. 2. Assure the person that what they say will be taken seriously. 3. You might say "I will have to talk about what you have told me to the Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator or the Vicar or the Bishop's Safeguarding Advisor, and this will be with as much confidentiality as is possible". http://www.sainthildawarleywoods.co.uk/SAFEGUARDING.html		

To use our church wifi connect to BT-Q9C22K. Password is 'Hilda680'

Please take this pewsheet home with you and when you're finished with it recycle it.



St Hilda's is proud to be a member of the Inclusive Church Network.

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