

5th October 2025 16th Sunday after Trinity

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

Prayer ministry will be available during the distribution of Holy Communion. Our prayer ministry team is small at the moment. We are still committed to offering prayer and for the time being we will be using a short Celtic prayer for healing. Anyone is welcome to come and receive prayer

Today we welcome Diane Reeves as our new Curate. Diane was ordained Deacon yesterday at Brimingham Cathedral and will be with us for the next three years. Do stay for a bring and share lunch afterwards in the hall if you're able to as we celebrate with her and welcome her into this community..

Opening Hymn: Guide me o thou great redeemer Number 455 in Common Praise

Collect1

There is a loneliness in your church, O Lord.

Once we used to be great and significant,
and the people of the nation came to our doors
for their liturgies of life.

But now the landscape has altered and it is hard to sing our hymns and songs when cynical or mocking ears are listening.

You know our faithfulness, and you have seen our tears. Increase our faith and keep from us the curse of timidity.

Amen.

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4,

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?

Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save?

³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—
therefore judgement comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watch-post,

¹ Graham Turner, *Alternative Collects: Prayers to a Disruptive & Compassionate God*, Sacristy Press, 2018, page 99

and station myself on the rampart;

I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he^[a] will answer concerning my complaint.

Then the Lord answered me and said:

Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it.

For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay.

Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,

Gradual hymn: From heaven you came helpless babe
Number 432 in Common Praise

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:5-10

but the righteous live by their faith.

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' ⁶ The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

⁷ 'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and

drink"? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"'

Offertory Hymn: Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair

Beauty for brokenness
Hope for despair
Lord, in the suffering
This is our prayer
Bread for the children
Justice, joy, peace
Sunrise to sunset
Your kingdom increase!

Shelter for fragile lives
Cures for their ills
Work for the craftsman
Trade for their skills
Land for the dispossessed
Rights for the weak
Voices to plead the cause
Of those who can't speak

God, we are poor
Friend, we are weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts

Let tears fall like rain Come, change our love From a spark to a flame

Refuge from cruel wars
Havens from fear
Cities for sanctuary
Freedoms to share
Peace to the killing-fields
Scorched earth to green
Christ for the bitterness
His cross for the pain

Rest for the ravaged earth Oceans and streams Plundered and poisoned Our future, our dreams Lord, end our madness Carelessness, greed Make us content with The things that we need

God, we are poor
Friend, we are weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts
Let tears fall like rain
Come, change our love
From a spark to a flame

Lighten our darkness
Breathe on this flame
Until your justice
Burns brightly again
Until the nations
Learn of your ways
Seek your salvation
And bring you their praise

God, we are poor
Friend, we are weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts
Let tears fall like rain
Come, change our love
From a spark to a flame

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Communion hymn: Let all mortal flesh keep silence Number 39 in Common praise.

Final hymn: Christ triumphant ever reigning Number 398 in Common praise.

NEWS AND NOTICES

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 8th October 10am Holy Communion

Sunday 12th October 10:30am: Harvest Family Service

Wednesday 15th October 10am Holy Communion Sunday 19th October 10:30am: Holy Communion

The Church and net zero - protecting God's creation, Monday 6th October, 7.30pm

We're delighted to be hosting this deanery event and all are welcome to come and hear what the Church of England is doing to become net zero by 2030, and hear about future plans and support for churches. Ben Smith, our diocesan net zero project manager will talk to us about the Church's net zero programme, the background, the progress and impact so far, as well as the future opportunities. He will cover the grant schemes and the support available to parishes as we work together to protect God's creation, and there will be opportunities for questions.

Please can you let James know if you are likely to come, so we have a rough idea of numbers for catering purposes (refreshments from 7pm).

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-mary-s-pantry-bearwood/

Foodbank donations need to be nonperishable food items and toiletries.

FAIRTRADE STALL AT HARVEST SERVICE

It will be a stall of Fairtrade items next Sunday which we can purchase items from. Many of them from the familiar Traidcraft stalls that were run at St Hilda's in the past. There will be food items such as coffee, tea, chocolate, sugar etc, craft items such as toys, jewellery, knitted items and socks, and Christmas cards and decorations. You can purchase items with cash or by cheque and card payments.

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.

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.

ALL SOULS AND BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Our All Souls Service will take place on **Sunday 2nd November at 6:30pm.** If you would like the name of a loved one read email Jenni, or add their name to the list in the porch.

The book of Remembrance will be updated the week prior to this; If you would like to add a name please ensure a form is completed by Sunday 27th Ocotber.

This week please pray for;

- Diane as she begins her ministry among us.
- Our Deanery net zero event on Monday.
- Deanery Synod as it meets on Wednesday.
- Jenni and Diane as they offer chaplaincy at Cygnet Hospital Oldbury.
- Prayer spaces in Abbey School, working with Warley Woods Methodist Church and St Marys Bearwood.
- The friends and family of Gill Miller as her funeral takes place on Wednesday.





Useful Contacts

Rev'd. Jenni Crewes	Vicar (day off Monday)	07377363915 or 0121 429 1384 revjennicrewes@gmail.com
Mother Diane Reeves	Curate (working days Wednesday- Sunday)	07977464696 dianereeves89@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

Safeguarding information

- 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.

Acknowledgements

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