



ST Hilda's
Warley Woods



Morning Prayer
Second Sunday of Easter
12th April 2026

Welcome to this service. Please join in with the words in **bold**.
If you have children with you and they get restless during the service please don't worry, we won't. We do have a children's corner you are welcome to use if you'd find that helpful.

Preparation

Please stand as able

One: O Lord, open our lips

Many: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

One: In your resurrection, O Christ,

Many: let heaven and earth rejoice.

We sit as we receive words of welcome and an introduction to the service.

Prayer of thanksgiving

One: Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As once you ransomed your people from Egypt
and led them to freedom in the promised land,
so now you have delivered us from the dominion of
darkness

and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son.

May we, the first fruits of your new creation,
rejoice in this new day you have made,
and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Many: Blessed be God for ever.

Opening hymn: Alleluia, Alleluia, gives thanks

We stand as able to sing number 136 in Common Praise

Opening prayer

We sit or kneel

One: The night has passed, and the day lies open
before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new
day, so may the light of your
presence, O God, set our hearts on
fire with love for you; now and for
ever.

Many: Amen.

The Word of God

Psalm 81:1-10¹

We stand as able to say the psalm.

- 1 Sing merrily to God our strength, ♦
shout for joy to the God of Jacob.
- 2 Take up the song and sound the timbrel, ♦
the tuneful lyre with the harp.**
- 3 Blow the trumpet at the new moon, ♦
as at the full moon, upon our solemn feast day.
- 4 For this is a statute for Israel, ♦
a law of the God of Jacob,**
- 5 The charge he laid on the people of Joseph, ♦
when they came out of the land of Egypt.
- 6 I heard a voice I did not know, that said: ♦**

¹ <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/common-material/psalter/psalm-81>

**'I eased their shoulder from the burden;
their hands were set free from bearing the load.**

7 'You called upon me in trouble and I delivered you; ♦
I answered you from the secret place of thunder
and proved you at the waters of Meribah.

**8 'Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: ♦
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

9 'There shall be no strange god among you; ♦
you shall not worship a foreign god.

**10 'I am the Lord your God,
who brought you up from the land of Egypt; ♦
open your mouth wide and I shall fill it.'**

**Many: Glory to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be forever. Amen**

One: Father of mercy,
Keep us joyful in your salvation
and faithful to your covenant;
and, as we journey to your kingdom,
ever feed us with the bread of life,
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Many: Amen.

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

²² ‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.” ²⁹ ‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.” ³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

One: This is the word of the Lord
Many: Thanks be to God

Hymn: Safe, locked inside that upper room

Safe, locked inside that upper room,
too scared to let the truth be known,
disciples had to see their Lord
before that truth could be their own.

And Thomas, still so full of doubt,
would not believe the tales they told
till Christ appeared, to show his wounds -
then his conviction made him bold.

Yet doubts and fears returned again.
Once more they locked themselves away
until the Holy Spirit came
on that inspiring, vital day.

The truth is now a living fact.
The love of God can never die.
So bold apostles stood their ground –
their living Lord is not a lie.

We have not seen, but we believe
and we must witness by our faith
to living truth we have received,
awakened by the Spirit's breath.

*Text: Marjorie Dobson © 2019 Stainer & Bell Ltd, London, England,
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Gospel Reading: John 20:19-end

We remain standing as able

One: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead

Many: Alleluia

One: He has defeated the powers of death

Many: Alleluia

One: Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing

Many: Alleluia

One: He has the words of eternal life

Many: Alleluia

One: Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Many: Glory to you O Lord

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin^[c]), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸ Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

One: This is the gospel of the Lord
Many: Praise to you O Christ

Sermon

We sit and listen.

After the sermon there will be a short time for quiet reflection

Gospel Canticle

We stand as able to say together

**The Lord is risen from the tomb.
Who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia**

**Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ◆
who has come to his people and set them free.**

**He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.**

**And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most
High, ♦**

**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

**In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of
death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be forever. Amen.**

**The Lord is risen from the tomb.
Who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia**

Prayers of Intercession

We sit as we are led in prayer. At the end of each bidding this response may be used;

One: Jesus, Risen Christ,

Many: Open to us the gate of glory

The Collect

One: Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance
barred: open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and
peace, to the praise of God the Father.

Many: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

One: Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray in whatever form or language comes most naturally;

**Our Father
in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today
our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Our Father,
Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day
our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us**

Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory
are yours,
now and forever. Amen

And lead us not into temptation.
But deliver us from evil.
For thine
is the kingdom,
the power and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen

Notices

We remain seated as we listen to any family news and notices.

Closing Hymn: Christ is alive!

We stand as able to sing the offertory hymn number 140 in Common Praise, during which a collection for the mission and ministry of the church is taken. You can also give through the contactless card-reader on exit.

The Conclusion

Please remain standing as able.

One: May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.

Many: Amen.

One: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

Many: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

NEWS AND NOTICES

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 15 th April 10am:	Holy Communion
Sunday 19 th April 10:30am:	Holy Communion
Wednesday 22 nd April 10am:	Holy Communion
Sunday 26 th April 10:30am:	Holy Communion

AN INVITATION TO A BREATHING SPACE

All are invited to our monthly gathering for silent contemplative prayer. As one participant says it is *“An opportunity for shared prayerful silence amidst our noisy world”*. And if you’re unsure, or you’d like to just come and try it then *“The thought of sitting in silence with others might feel scary, but rest assured: introduction and instructions are given”*. *“45 prayerful minutes contemplating a suggested religious text, in silence, with others. What a lovely start to a Friday morning”*.

We will next gather in the vestry on Friday 17th April, 15th May & 19th June at 10am - 10.45am. Please access the vestry through the back door of the church in the car park. You don’t have to come every time. Come when you can. If you want to know more please speak to Fran.

JACK KNOWLES IS RUNNING THE BIRMINGHAM 10K FOR BRAKE IN MEMORY OF HIS MUM, CAROL KNOWLES

To read more about Jack’s story, and the work of the charity Brake visit his Just Giving page below or by scanning the QR code where you can also sponsor him. You can also sponsor in cash – see Jack or Jess Knowles for more information.



https://www.justgiving.com/page/runforbrake?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA

JENNI CREWES IS RUNNING THE CYMOEDD SIR FYNEY ULTRA MARATHON TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE FEAST YOUTH PROJECT

To read more about Jenni’s story, and the work of the charity The Feast visit her Just Giving page below where you can also sponsor her. You can also sponsor in cash – see Jenni for more information.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/jennifer-crewes-1>

APRIL ECO TIPS

Celebrate new life this Easter and have a go at growing something! April is the perfect time to try to grow something edible. Salad leaves or herbs are a great place to start and will reduce your reliance on those oh-so-convenient supermarket salad bags. For indoor space, try 'micro-greens' (vegetable leaves harvested soon after they open). For greenhouses, try sowing salad leaf seed mixes. For outdoors, beetroot, lettuce, onion and pea plants are frost-resistant so can all be planted outside in April. As you sow, thank God for the opportunity to grow food, and pray for those communities that are facing food shortages and famine.

APCM- SAVE THE DATE!

Our APCM will be on Sunday 10th May at 12, after the morning service. If you are not on our electoral roll and would like to vote please fill in a form and return it to Liz Farrier. Anyone over 16 who is baptised and has been worshipping with us for 6 months can join. If you are interested in standing for PCC please ask Jenni or James Atkinson for a helpful booklet about the process.

Conservatoire Concerts March - April 2026

These concerts offer the chance to hear a wide range of music, with free entry. However, donations are welcome to help cover costs of heating, licenses and performer expenses. There is the chance to talk to some very talented musicians over a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits after their recitals, which you will not get in a concert hall!

Dates are:

Saturday 25th April, 19:30-20:30, Viola and Piano

Please do your best to come and support these musicians. If you wish to be kept up to date about concerts, please contact sthildasconcerts@gmail.com and we will add you to our mailing list, or ask Angela, Terry or Marian.

Tidying the garden at the front of the church

From 11th April, weather permitting, the monthly Saturday morning sessions to tidy the church front garden will resume. These will be on the first Saturday of each month, between 10.00 am - 12.00 noon. If you are free, your help would be appreciated at any time during those mornings. Experienced and inexperienced gardeners are all welcome. The 2026 dates will be: 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July, 1st August, 5th September, and 3rd October. If you have any queries, please speak to Rob Eaton or Anne Harris.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES:

DUTY WARDENS

Duty Wardens are responsible for getting the church ready on Sundays, including setting up the altar for Holy Communion, lighting candles, managing the collection, and clearing up at the end of the service. Most duty wardens serve once a month. Full training will be given. As with all church roles Basic Awareness Safeguarding training will be need to be completed before starting.

Please see Church Wardens Ian or Julie to find out more.

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 interests you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: PARISH SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Our current team, Anne Harris, PARISH SAFEGUARDING

COORDINATOR (PSC) and Mike Baynham, PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER (PSO) are looking for help with managing our Safeguarding needs, including the writing and reviewing of policies. Anne Harris will eventually be stepping down and we are seeking to recruit in time for a smooth handover from Anne and for the next PSC to work alongside Mike Baynham and others as part of a team.

These roles are; 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, and the PSOS support this role. These roles 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 more detailed role descriptions. Please pray for the right people to be recruited for this essential aspect of parish life, and whether this could be you.

JENNI ON LEAVE

Please note our vicar Jenni is on leave and won't be responding to calls or emails until Tuesday 14th April.

This week please pray for;

- Jenni and Diane as they offer Chaplaincy at Cygnet hospital Oldbury.
- Ministry team as it meets.
- Jenni and Diane as they visit Annie Lennard School to teach year 6 about Holy Communion.

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		07942919308 sthildasafeguarding@gmail.com https://bit.ly/sthildas-safeguarding
<p><u>Safeguarding information</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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". <p>http://www.sainthildawarleywoods.co.uk/SAFEGUARDING.html</p>		

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



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

Acknowledgements

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