



# Christian Aid Family Service

***Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026***

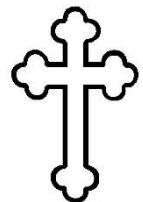
Welcome to this service. Please join in with the words in **bold** that we are invited to say together. When words are in ***bold italic*** they are sung together.

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.

## *Call to Worship*

One: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

***Many:*** **Amen**



## *Welcome*

*We remain seated as we receive words of welcome.*

## *Opening hymn: We are marching*

*We stand as able to sing*

We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, marching,  
We are marching, oh ohhh,  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, marching,  
We are marching, oh ohhh,  
We are marching in the light of God.

We are living in the love of God.  
We are living in the love of God.  
We are living in the love of God.  
We are living in the love of God.  
We are living, living,  
We are living, oh ohhh,  
We are living in the love of God.  
We are living, living,  
We are living, oh ohhh,  
We are living in the love of God.

We are moving in the power of God.

We are moving in the power of God.  
We are moving in the power of God.  
We are moving in the power of God.  
We are moving, moving,  
We are moving, oh ohhh,  
We are moving in the power of God.  
We are moving, moving,  
We are moving, oh ohhh,  
We are moving in the power of God.

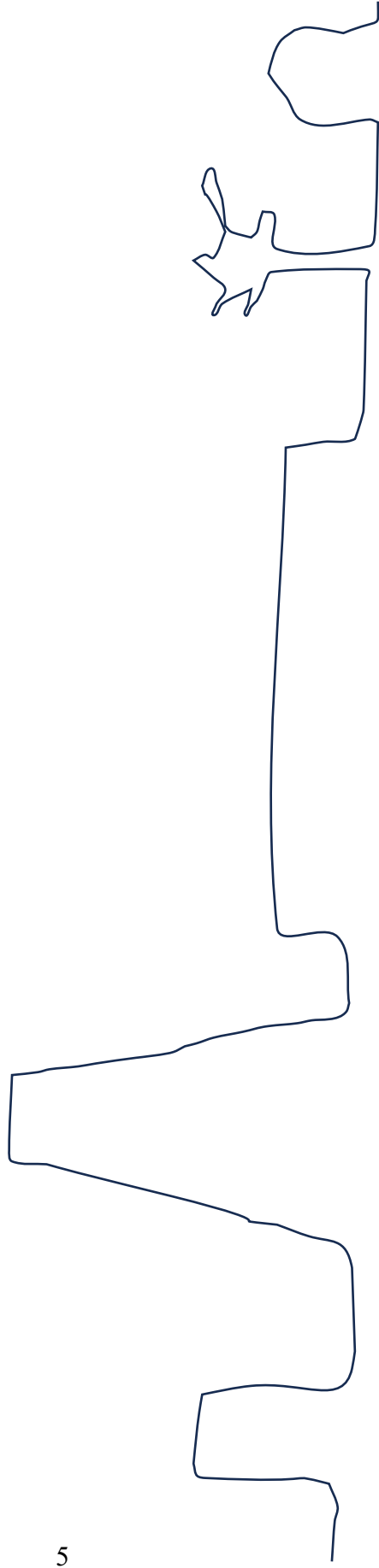
We are dancing in the joy of God.  
We are dancing in the joy of God.  
We are dancing in the joy of God.  
We are dancing in the joy of God.  
We are dancing, dancing,  
We are dancing, oh ohhh,  
We are dancing in the joy of God.  
We are dancing, dancing,  
We are dancing, oh ohhh,  
We are dancing in the joy of God.

*African Origin, author unknown*

*What does Christian Aid do?  
We sit to listen to the talk.*



# Two-minute doodle



*Song: Let Justice Roll*

*We stand as able to sing, the words and actions will be on the screen.*

Our wonderful planet is hurting  
It's time for people to act  
The global climate is changing  
It's not fiction – it's a fact

Leaders will you listen? Leaders will you listen?

Solutions to this crisis  
are already in your hands  
It's time for climate action  
Already we're taking a stand

Companies will you listen? Companies will you listen?

*Let justice roll like a river  
We want a fair world for all  
Let justice roll like a river  
People in power hear our call*

Flooding and droughts are  
threatening homes  
Surely this isn't right?  
You've let this go on for far too long  
Now we are paying the price

Governments will you listen? Governments will you listen?

*Let Justice Roll Like a River*  
*Let justice roll like a river*  
*We want a fair world for all*  
*Let justice roll like a river*  
*People in power hear our call*

Let's harness the sun, the wind  
and the tide  
And stop burning fossil fuels  
Let's keep up the pressure, with  
hope for the future,  
On people who make up the rules

Leaders will you listen? Companies will you listen?  
Governments will you listen? Everyone will you listen?

*Let justice roll like a river*  
*We want a fair world for all*  
*Let justice roll like a river*  
*People in power hear our call*

*© Fischy Music 2023. Lyrics and music by Stephen Fischbacher, Margaret McLarty  
and Suzanne Butler for Christian Aid Global Neighbours*

*What is happening Nairobi?*  
*We sit to listen to the talk.*

*Reading: Luke 13:18-19*

<sup>18</sup> He said therefore, 'What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? <sup>19</sup> It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.'

One: This is the word of the Lord

**Many: Thanks be to God**

*Beacon of Hope*

*We remain seated as we listen to the reflection, and those who would like to are invited to plant seeds in the cone garden.*

*Fridah's story*

*We remain seated as we listen to the Fridah's story.*

*Hymn: Show me how to stand for justice*

*We stand as able to sing*

Show me how to stand for justice:  
how to work for what is right,  
how to challenge false assumptions,  
how to walk within the light.  
May I learn to share more freely  
in a world so full of greed,  
showing your immense compassion  
by the life I choose to lead.

Teach my heart to treasure mercy,  
whether given or received –  
for my need has not diminished  
since the day I first believed:  
let me seek no satisfaction  
boasting of what I have done,  
but rejoice that I am pardoned  
and accepted in your Son.

Gladly I embrace a lifestyle  
modelled on your living word,  
in humility submitting  
to the truth which I have heard.  
Make me conscious of your presence  
every day, in all I do:  
by your Spirit's gracious prompting  
may I learn to walk with you.

*Martin E Leckebusch*

## *Prayers*

*We sit for our prayers. Instructions will be given about  
collecting an individual pot to plant as we pray.*



*At the end:*

## *The Lord's prayer*

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

**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  
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.*

### *Final thoughts*

*We remain seated as we listen.*

### *Offertory Hymn: When I needed a neighbour*

*We stand as able to sing. During the song a collection for Christian Aid will be taken. The PCC will match donations made today up to the total value of £500. If you give online please let Terry our treasurer know so these can be added.*

When I needed a neighbour  
Were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour  
Were you there?  
*And the creed and the colour  
And the name won't matter  
Were you there?*

I was hungry and thirsty  
Were you there, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty  
Were you there?  
*And the creed and the colour  
And the name won't matter  
Were you there?*

I was cold, I was naked  
Were you there, were you there?  
I was cold, I was naked  
Were you there?  
*And the creed and the colour  
And the name won't matter  
Were you there?*

When I needed a shelter  
Were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a shelter  
Were you there?  
*And the creed and the colour*

*And the name won't matter  
Were you there?*

Wherever you travel  
I'll be there, I'll be there.

Wherever you travel  
I'll be there.

*And the creed and the colour  
And the name won't matter  
I'll be there.*

*Sydney Carter*

### *Blessing and dismissal*

*We remain standing to receive God's blessing:*

One: May Christ,  
who out of defeat brings  
new hope and a new future,  
fill you with new life;  
and the blessing of God...

**Many: Amen.**

One: Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia

**Many: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Tea, coffee, squash and biscuits are served at the back of church after  
the service. Do stay if you can.*

*Our APCM will start at 12pm.*

---

## NEWS AND NOTICES

---

### UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May 10am:	Holy Communion
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 10am:	Breathing Space
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> May 10:30am:	Holy Communion
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 10am:	Holy Communion
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 10:30am:	Holy Communion

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

This week's sanctuary flowers are the gift of the Goodwin family.

### 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 15<sup>th</sup> May & 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

### MAY ECO TIPS – SUPPORT POLLINATORS

Nothing says Spring like the buzz of a bee! But these precious pollinators are declining due to habitat loss, climate change and agricultural intensification. Wednesday 20 May is **World Bee Day**, so look around to see how you can improve habitats for bees and other pollinators. Sow a pollinator-friendly seed mix, make or buy a bee hotel,

let some wild flowers grow in your garden, and don't use pesticides. Pray that our pollinator populations will increase.

### **WOMEN'S THEOLOGY**

Mother Diane our curate and Mother Charlotte Gibson, who works for the diocese of Birmingham, run a Women's Theology Group fortnightly during term times. We meet on Thursday evening at St George's vicarage Edgbaston and on Friday morning at a cafe on Harborne High St. It's open to anyone who identifies as a woman and is 18 years of age and over. It's ecumenical, which means people come from a variety of churches in the local area. No preparation is necessary and its suitable for all levels of knowledge and ability. Each week is a separate session so you can come as and when you like. We look at women's stories in the Bible and see how God shows the good news of themselves to the women and ourselves. If anyone is interested in coming along, speak to Mother Diane and she can give you more details. The next dates are: 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July.

### **PONDERING NUERO-DIVERISTY**

Pondering will be back this June, thinking through neuro-diversity theologically as well as practically. We will run the same session twice on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm** and **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 10:30am**. If you have expertise, experience or a desire to help shape this session please speak to Jenni; she would love to hear from you.

**Ascension Day Holy Communion Service and farewell to our Area  
Dean Mike Sermon – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm, St Mary's Selly Oak.**

A joint service with our Deanery. Mike Sermon will be retiring as Area Dean of Warley and Edgbaston on 17<sup>th</sup> May. We are hugely grateful for his service not just in this role but in the diocese over many years.

Mike's deanery farewell will be on Ascension Day, Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026 when he is preaching at St Mary's Selly Oak at 7.30pm. This is a service which everyone is welcome to join, either for the Eucharist or for refreshments and the presentation afterwards, from about 8.30pm. We are grateful to the Rev'd Hazel White and the PCC for their kind hospitality. Please let Jenni know if you intend to come/stay for refreshments, to help St Mary cater accordingly. Please also let Jenni know if you can offer a lift, or need one, so we can carpool.

**Parish Website Feedback Survey**

We'd really appreciate your help as we continue improving our parish website. Since November 2024, our main website has been hosted on A Church Near You (ACNY), a platform provided by the Church of England for all parishes free of charge. We can update and manage all the content, but the overall design and layout are set by ACNY.

Your feedback will help us understand how the website is being used, what works well, where we can make it better for everyone and whether we should explore an alternative to ACNY. Please complete by 10<sup>th</sup> May.

**<https://bit.ly/st-hildas-website-survey>**

## **Ordination of Priests – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 11am, Birmingham Cathedral**

Our curate Mother Diane Reeves will, God-willing, be ordained Priest at this service. This is a ticketed event and we have very few available due to the large number of ordinands and the size of our cathedral. Diane has a few tickets available so do ask her if you would like to attend. Everyone is invited to bring and share lunch to celebrate with Diane in our church hall afterwards from 1:00pm. If you can help with some of the practicalities of this celebration please let Jenni know.

### **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 needed 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 Baynam, 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.

### **Tidying the garden at the front of the church**

From 11<sup>th</sup> 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: 6<sup>th</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 1<sup>st</sup> August, 5<sup>th</sup> September, and 3<sup>rd</sup> October. If you have any queries, please speak to Rob Eaton or Anne Harris. As with all volunteering roles volunteers will be required to complete Basic Awareness Safeguarding training prior to starting.

**This week please pray for;**

- Jenni and Diane as they offer Chaplaincy at Cygnet hospital Oldbury.
- Rev'd Mike Sermon, our Area Dean, as he retires.
- Those elected as Wardens, Synod Reps and PCC members at our APCM.
- The church's finances as we continue to run a deficit budget.



# Explorations of the Early Church: St George's Talks 2026

## ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, EDGBASTON

**Friday 20th March, 7pm**

### WAS THERE A BIBLE IN THE EARLY CHURCH?

The Revd Dr Sam Gibson  
Vicar, St George's Church, Edgbaston

**Friday 26th June, 7pm**

### ST AUGUSTINE: A THINKER ROOTED IN THE EXPERIENCE OF THE AFRICAN CHURCH

Lord Rowan Williams of Oystermouth  
World-renowned Poet and Theologian  
104th Archbishop of Canterbury

Bishop Rowan will also be  
preaching at St Alban's Church,  
Highgate, for the Patronal Festival  
Mass: Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>, 11am  
followed by parish lunch

**Friday 18th September, 7pm**

### A BODY SHARED: MICROCHIMERISM AND THE MYSTERY OF MARY'S ASSUMPTION

The Revd Charlotte Gibson and The Women's Theology Network

**Friday 13th November, 7pm**

### THE REST IS DARKNESS: KEY FIGURES IN EARLY AFRICAN CHRISTIANITY

The Revd Jarel Robinson-Brown  
Vicar, St German's Church, Cardiff



## Useful Contacts

Rev'd. Jenni Crewes	Vicar (day off Monday)	07377363915 or 0121 429 1384 <a href="mailto:revjennicrewes@gmail.com">revjennicrewes@gmail.com</a>
Mother Diane Reeves	Curate (working days Wednesday- Sunday)	07977464696 <a href="mailto:dianereeves89@gmail.com">dianereeves89@gmail.com</a>
Mrs Julie Batham	Churchwarden	07931133951, <a href="mailto:juliebatham60@gmail.com">juliebatham60@gmail.com</a>
Mr Ian Dickinson	Churchwarden	07950666654, <a href="mailto:ian_fatbudgie@hotmail.com">ian_fatbudgie@hotmail.com</a>
Mrs Fran Ellis	Reader	0121 429 6267
Liz and Jon	CAMEO	<a href="mailto:sthildascameo@gmail.com">sthildascameo@gmail.com</a>
James Atkinson	Eco Church PEC	<a href="mailto:jda85@hotmail.com">jda85@hotmail.com</a>
Enquires about hiring hall or church		<a href="mailto:sthildasbooking@gmail.com">sthildasbooking@gmail.com</a>
Safeguarding Team		07942919308 <a href="mailto:sthildasafeguarding@gmail.com">sthildasafeguarding@gmail.com</a> <a href="https://bit.ly/sthildas-safeguarding">https://bit.ly/sthildas-safeguarding</a>
<p><u>Safeguarding information</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Never promise to keep a secret.</li> <li>2. Assure the person that what they say will be taken seriously.</li> <li>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".</li> </ol> <p><a href="http://www.sainthildawarlevwoods.co.uk/SAFEGUARDING.html">http://www.sainthildawarlevwoods.co.uk/SAFEGUARDING.html</a></p>		

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



**Inclusive  
Church**

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

### Acknowledgements

Copyright material is included from Common Worship: Services and Prayers for The Church of England and New Patterns for Worship. The Archbishops' Council 2000 CCL License No. 134913.

St Hilda's is a registered Charity, number 1181258