



Sunday 30th August 2026 - Trinity 13

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.

Opening Hymn: Morning has broken
Number 260 in Common Praise

Collect¹

Passionate Lord,
walking to Golgotha
in the midst of our confusion:
free us from our images of you
which keep you enthroned in idle power,
separate from the pain and sin of the world;
lead us to embrace the scandal of the cross
and let our violence die that greater life might rise;
through Jesus Christ, who took the form of a slave.
Amen.

¹ Steven Shakespeare, *Prayers & Blessings for an Inclusive Church*, Canterbury Press, 2025, page 33

First Reading: Exodus 3:1-15

¹Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' ⁴When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ⁵Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' ⁶He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷Then the Lord said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.' ¹¹But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the

Israelites out of Egypt?’ ¹² He said, ‘I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.’

¹³ But Moses said to God, ‘If I come to the Israelites and say to them, “The God of your ancestors has sent me to you”, and they ask me, “What is his name?” what shall I say to them?’ ¹⁴ God said to Moses, ‘I am who I am.’ He said further, ‘Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “I am has sent me to you.”’ ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you”.

Gradual hymn: Above the Moon Earth Rises

Number 249 in Common Praise

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, ‘God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.’ ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ 'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Offertory Hymn: Stars and Planets Sing Your Glory

Stars and planets sing your glory,
God of might and God of love;
time and space proclaim your story
written in the realms above.
All the beauty of the cosmos,
summoned by your great command
gathered shape; while out of nothing
matter formed, as you had planned.

Power beyond our wildest dreaming:
forces weak and forces strong
melded in the cosmic streaming
when the universe was young.

Out of chaos, spheres and orbits
found their form through ages long:
and creation's still unfolding
in a great ongoing song.

Here on earth a mighty wonder
brought about life's earliest trace,
basis for both plants and creatures,
and in time, the human race:
Though we've grown in understanding
sin has torn this earth apart,
pitched against it we were helpless,
captive to our wayward hearts.

So the God who shaped the cosmos
set aside all power and might;
came, a humble human baby
in the darkness, God's own light:
taught us through his life of loving
how he would redeem our race,
by the death and resurrection
of the God of time and space.

By Trevor Thorn
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Communion hymn: Be still for the presence of the Lord
Number 383 in Common Praise

Final hymn: Great is Thy Faithfulness
Number 453 in Common Praise

NEWS AND NOTICES

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 2 nd September 10am:	Holy Communion
Sunday 6 th September 10:30am:	Holy Communion
Wednesday 9 th September 10am:	Holy Communion
Sunday 13 th September 10:30am:	Holy Communion

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

This week's sanctuary flowers are the gift of Mrs A. Harris.

BAT NIGHT – TONIGHT!

Join us for a special Bat Night this evening as we celebrate International Bat Night. We'll spend a relaxed 45 minutes in our church gardens watching for bats as they emerge at dusk. As an Eco Church, we're keen to boost biodiversity in our church gardens and encourage and protect wildlife, so this is a chance to discover more about these fascinating creatures and see what takes flight as the sun sets. Everyone is welcome!

THE GIFT OF SILENT PRAYER

"Welcome to Breathing Space. This is a time to practise the ancient Christian tradition of contemplative silent prayer. It is an invitation to simply be present with God. To discover God's peace in a noisy world. And when we are at peace we might create ripples of peace in the world around us".

All are welcome to join others in the choir vestry (entry through the

church's back door) on 18th September 10am - 10.45am. If you want to know more please speak to Fran.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES:

POST SERVICE REFRESHMENT SERVERS

Help is required to serve tea, coffee, squash and biscuits after the Sunday morning service. Volunteers are put on a rota and on duty no more than 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 Sue Eaton or ask the person serving you today to find out more.

AUGUST ECO TIP

Times of drought and dryness can be dangerous for wildlife. Provide water for birds and insects - put a dish of water out to help wildlife stay hydrated. Insects, small mammals, birds, and even badgers and foxes could benefit. A stone in a plant saucer helps bees to perch and drink without drowning. These small actions make a big difference and are just some of the ways we can live out our calling to care for God's creation. See this blog on looking after wildlife in the heat for more warm weather eco tips: arochoa.org.uk/looking-after-wildlife-in-the-heat

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: 5th September, and 3rd 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;

- Staff and students as school starts, especially those beginning at new places.
- PCC as it meets on Thursday.
- Jenni and Diane as they offer chaplaincy at Cygnet hospital on Thursday.

The Hut

The Scouts left last year and now we have a vacant building on our site. The hut has it's own small kitchen and toilets, electricity supply as is s separate from the hall and church. The PCC are inviting the congregation and community to think about what it could be used for.

List of non negotiables;

- It needs to be financially sustainable.
- Cause of conflict with parking (i.e. 6 cars during hall and church's busiest times)
- Minimal noise, with no activities after 10pm.
- It can't be aimed at ex-offender groups with folk who might be on child sex register (because of the regularity of children's groups in the hall)
- No groups/activities that are not in line with church ethos and mission values.

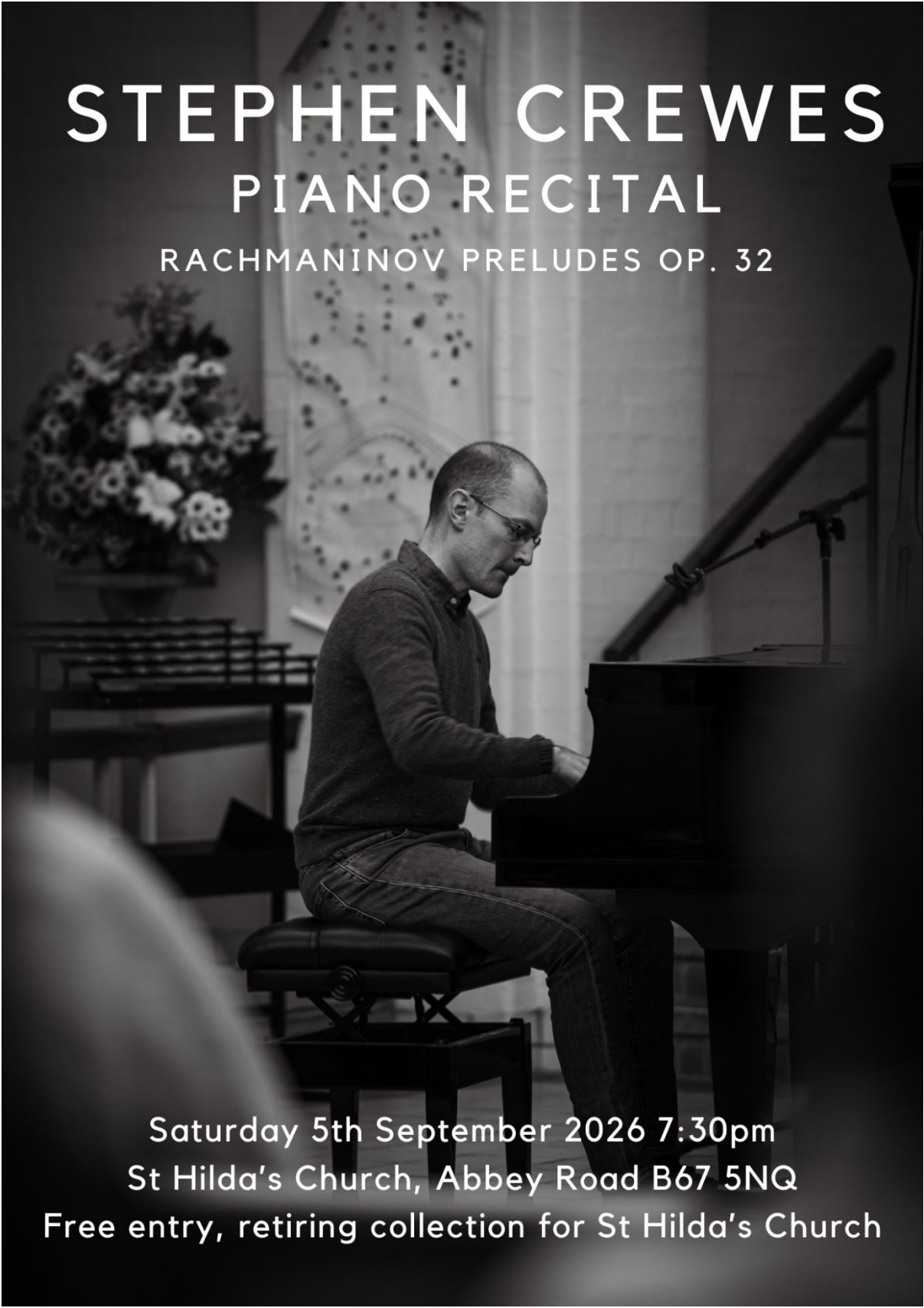
The hut needs a lot of work! We are open to partnering with a charity, social enterprise or organisation and will seek funding for the work that needs to be done to make it fit for it's next purpose.

Questions we'd love you to think and pray about, and answer on the board at the back of church (or email to the Church Wardens or Jenni);

Where is the 'treasure' in our communities? What gifts, skills and assets do we have?

What are the needs of our communities?

What do you think God might be saying to us about how the hut could be used?



STEPHEN CREWES

PIANO RECITAL

RACHMANINOV PRELUDES OP. 32

Saturday 5th September 2026 7:30pm
St Hilda's Church, Abbey Road B67 5NQ
Free entry, retiring collection for St Hilda's Church

People's Emergency Briefing

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On the climate and nature crisis

**St Hilda's Church
Warley Woods, Smethwick**

Film screening and discussion

St Hilda's Church, Abbey Road, B67 5NQ
11 September 2026, 6:45pm - 8:45pm

Refreshments provided.
Suitable for 16+, with under 18s accompanied by an adult.



Book your free tickets:
<https://bit.ly/peb-st-hildas>



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
<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'



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

Acknowledgements

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