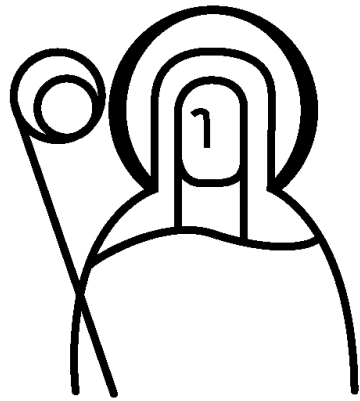




ST Hilda's
Warley Woods

Sunday 16th August 2026

Trinity 11

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.

Opening Hymn: Lord we come to ask your healing

Lord, we come to ask your healing, teach us of love;
all unspoken shame revealing, teach us of love.
Take our selfish thoughts and actions,
petty feuds, divisive factions,
hear us now to you appealing, teach us of love.

Soothe away our pain and sorrow, hold us in love;
grace we cannot buy or borrow, hold us in love.
Though we see both dark and danger,
though we spurn both friend and stranger,
though we often dread tomorrow, hold us in love.

Help us live for one another, bind us in love;
stranger, neighbour, father, mother – bind us in love.
All are equal at your table,
through your Spirit make us able to embrace as sister,
brother, bind us in love.

Jean Holloway – b1939, tune Ar Hyd Y Nos

Collect¹

Confront us with your outspoken voice, O God.
Address us by means of unlikely people and circumstances.
Make us listen when you speak in unexpected ways:
 through brokenness, through waywardness,
 through the bizarre, through daily ordinariness;
help us to recognise your voice
 amongst the many competing sounds we hear.
And when we hear the uninvited and unwelcome truth,
 keep us from taking offence.
Instead, open us to your staggering possibilities
 and complacency-destroying gospel. **Amen.**

¹ Graham Turner, *Alternative Collects: Prayers to a Disruptive & Compassionate God*, Sacristy Press, 2018, page 26

First Reading: Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, ‘Send everyone away from me.’ So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³ Joseph said to his brothers, ‘I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?’ But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, ‘Come closer to me.’ And they came closer. He said, ‘I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, “Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come

to poverty.” ¹² And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.’ ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Gradual hymn: In Christ there is no east or west

Number 477 in Common Praise

Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:10-28

¹⁰ Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, ‘Listen and understand: ¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.’ ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, ‘Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?’ ¹³ He answered, ‘Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.’ ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, ‘Explain this parable to us.’ ¹⁶ Then he said, ‘Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication,

theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.'

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' ²⁴ He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' ²⁶ He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' ²⁷ She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

Offertory Hymn: Let us build a house

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive;
built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

© Marty Haugen

Communion hymn: We come today to celebrate

We come today to celebrate
the life that Jesus gives,
and welcome in God's loving grace
that in the Spirit lives.

The Spirit sanctifies our lives
and helps our darkest days;
we hold each other close to You
with voices joined in praise.

We celebrate diversity,
as well as common ground,
and will continue so to do

while love and peace are found.

For Christ does not discriminate,
but welcomes one and all;
so we will seek to do the same,
responding to God's call.

Words © Stephanie Jenner, 2013, tune Amazing Grace

Final hymn: Brother, sister, let me serve you

Number 393 in Common Praise

NEWS AND NOTICES

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 19 th August 10am:	Holy Communion
Friday 21 st August 10am:	Breathing Space
Sunday 23 rd August 10:30am:	Holy Communion
Wednesday 26 th August 10am:	Holy Communion
Sunday 30 th August 10:30am:	Holy Communion

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

This week's sanctuary flowers are the gift of Mrs C Hadlington.

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: 21st August, 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;

- The family and friends of Pamela Thompson as her funeral takes place on Thursday.
- Jenni as she 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?

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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