

Pew Sheet for 20th September 2026

Revd. Clare 01327 260204

Sunday 20th September

9.30am BCP Communion at Aston le Walls
10.00am Family Service at Eydon
11.00am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse
6.00pm Harvest Service at Boddington

Tuesday 22nd September

2.00-2.45pm Little Angels at Eydon

Wednesday 23rd September

9.45am Morning Prayer at Byfield
11.45am Prayer Group at Woodford Halse

Thursday 24th September

6.00-7.30pm Rising Stars at Byfield

Friday 25th September

11.00am Funeral of Chris Howes at Eydon

Sunday 27th September

11.00am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse
12.30pm Baptism of Leo at Woodford Halse
5.00pm Harvest Communion at Aston le Walls

Wednesday 30th September

9.45am Holy Communion at Byfield
11.45am Prayer Group at Woodford Halse

Saturday 3rd October

5-7pm Youth Church at Woodford Halse

Sunday 4th October

9.30am Holy Communion at Boddington
9.30am BCP Morning Prayer at Eydon
10.00am Café Church at Woodford Halse
11.00am Harvest Communion at Byfield

Byfield Harvest Supper

Sunday October 4th 6pm Byfield Village Hall
£10 Adults £5 Children up to 15
Buffet supper & auction of goods for farm charity.
Gifts of produce, chutneys, jams, flowers, plants
and bakes very welcome both then or at Harvest
Service
Tickets available from Chris Cross
chrisxx43@gmail.com or
Lyn Grennan 261596

This weekend we begin to celebrate harvest. Over the next few weeks there will be harvest festivals in all five churches of the benefice, our two church schools will celebrate harvest festivals in their respective churches (Boddington and Woodford) and Byfield school will celebrate their harvest festival in school. In a rural multi church benefice harvest always feels like a long season of celebration, but this year following the incredibly hot dry summer harvest has been very difficult to prepare for. For many of the farmers in the benefice this year has been a poor harvest, yields of most crops are down and many livestock farmers have had to use their winter feed during the summer because of the lack of grass caused by the prolonged drought so they are now worrying about how they will feed their flocks over the winter.

As Christians we believe that God invites us to share in his work, caring for the earth and nurturing it so that it becomes fruitful and full of life, but our harvest festivals remind us that however hard we work ploughing, planting, weeding and watering we cannot control the outcome of our labour. Each year we turn over the soil and plant seeds hoping that they will produce a harvest but our harvest festivals remind us that ultimately nothing we have is ours by right and that everything we have comes as a gift from God. After such a difficult year and such a poor harvest it can be difficult to celebrate but I think that our harvest festivals remind us to notice what we do have and to be thankful for it, as well as promoting us to share what we have with those who have nothing. This harvest, however difficult the world that we live in, let's look out for the many small blessings that surround us, let's remember to give thanks to God for his goodness and let's do what we can to protect and care for the beautiful world that God has given us.

Every blessing, Clare.

Sunday

20 September 2026 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jonah 3:10 – end of 4 *A reading from the book of Jonah.*

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not

know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Or Exodus 16:2-15

PSALM Psalm 145:1-8

R Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

I will exalt you, O God my King,
and bless your name for ever and ever.
Every day will I bless you
and praise your name for ever and ever.
Great is the Lord and highly to be praised;
his greatness is beyond all searching out. **R**

One generation shall praise your works to another
and declare your mighty acts.
They shall speak of the majesty of your glory,
and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. **R**

They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts,
and I will also tell of your greatness.
They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.
The Lord is gracious and merciful,
long-suffering and of great goodness. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 1:21-end *A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.*

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the

same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Great is the Lord and high-ly to be praised