

Pew Sheet for 27th September 2026

Revd. Clare 01327 260204

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

Wednesday 7th October

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

Thursday 8th October

12.30pm Wedding of Jared and Sophie at Eydon

Sunday 11th October

9.30am Harvest Service at Eydon
10.00am Morning Prayer at Boddington
11.00am Common Worship Communion at Aston le Walls
11.00am Café Church 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

Sometimes it can be difficult to work out why the committee who set the revised common lectionary, used in the Church of England and many other denominations, decided to put any set of readings together for a particular week. This week, however, all three of our lectionary readings do seem to have a common theme. In our Old Testament reading the prophet Ezekiel reminds his listeners that their actions have consequences and that they will be judged on their own faithfulness, not on the faithfulness of their ancestors. In our gospel reading Jesus tells a parable which he suggests that it is what we do that matters rather than what we say and in our New Testament reading, which is from Paul's letter to the church in Caesarea Philippi, Paul encourages his readers to model their lives on Jesus and, like Jesus, to let their lives demonstrate God's love for all people.

It's easy to say that we want to live Christian lives, following Jesus and living his way but when we are tired and life is busy it can be much harder to actually do it. Our readings this week encourage us to live lives that speak of God's love for all people but living the life of faith can be costly in time, money or energy. Living the life of faith involves actively choosing to behave in ways that enable those around us to flourish, not just choosing to live in ways that satisfy our own desires. Sometimes we all make poor choices that upset God and harm ourselves or the people around us, but our readings this week remind us that it is always possible for us to change our minds and to start living differently so that our lives as well as our words speak of God's love for us and for all people.

Every blessing

Clare

Sunday

27 September 2026 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find
their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw
us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly
city
where we shall see you face to face;
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

Either **Ezekiel 18:1-4. 25-end**

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the LORD came to me:
What do you mean by repeating this
proverb concerning the land of Israel,
"The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on
edge"? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this
proverb shall no more be used by you in
Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the
life of the parent as well as the life of the
child is mine: it is only the person who
sins that shall die. Yet you say, "The way
of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house
of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your
ways that are unfair? When the righteous
turn away from their righteousness and
commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for
the iniquity that they have committed
they shall die. Again, when the wicked
turn away from the wickedness they have
committed and do what is lawful and
right, they shall save their life. Because
they considered and turned away from
all the transgressions that they had
committed, they shall surely live; they
shall not die. Yet the house of Israel
says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O
house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it
not your ways that are unfair? Therefore
I will judge you, O house of Israel, all
of you according to your ways, says the
Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your
transgressions; otherwise iniquity will
be your ruin. Cast away from you all the
transgressions that you have committed
against me, and get yourselves a new
heart and a new spirit! Why will you die,
O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure
in the death of anyone, says the Lord
GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Or **Exodus 17:1-7**



Re - mem - ber, Lord, your com - pas - sion and love.

PSALM Psalm 25:1-8

R Remember, Lord, your compassion
and love.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to
shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed and
frustrated. **R**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long. **R**

Remember, Lord, your compassion
and love,
for they are from everlasting.
Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness,
O Lord,
according to your steadfast love. **R**

Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the
way.
He will guide the humble in doing right
and teach his way to the lowly. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in
Christ, any consolation from love, any
sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and
sympathy, make my joy complete: be of
the same mind, having the same love,
being in full accord and of one mind. Do
nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,
but in humility regard others as better
than yourselves. Let each of you look not
to your own interests, but to the interests
of others. Let the same mind be in you
that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he
was in the form of God, did not regard
equality with God as something to be
exploited, but emptied himself, taking
the form of a slave, being born in human
likeness. And being found in human
form, he humbled himself and became
obedient to the point of death – even
death on a cross. Therefore God also
highly exalted him and gave him the
name that is above every name, so that
at the name of Jesus every knee should
bend, in heaven and on earth and under
the earth, and every tongue should

confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the
glory of God the Father. Therefore, my
beloved, just as you have always obeyed
me, not only in my presence, but much
more now in my absence, work out your
own salvation with fear and trembling;
for it is God who is at work in you,
enabling you both to will and to work for
his good pleasure.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the
chief priests and the elders of the people
came to him as he was teaching, and
said, "By what authority are you doing
these things, and who gave you this
authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will
also ask you one question; if you tell
me the answer, then I will also tell you
by what authority I do these things. Did
the baptism of John come from heaven,
or was it of human origin?" And they
argued with one another, "If we say,
'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why
then did you not believe him?' But if
we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid
of the crowd; for all regard John as a
prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We
do not know." And he said to them,
"Neither will I tell you by what authority
I am doing these things. What do you
think? A man had two sons; he went to
the first and said, 'Son, go and work in
the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will
not'; but later he changed his mind and
went. The father went to the second and
said the same; and he answered, 'I go,
sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two
did the will of his father?" They said,
"The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly
I tell you, the tax-collectors and the
prostitutes are going into the kingdom of
God ahead of you. For John came to you
in the way of righteousness and you did
not believe him, but the tax-collectors
and the prostitutes believed him; and
even after you saw it, you did not change
your minds and believe him."

POST COMMUNION

Lord, we pray that your grace
may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to
all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.