St Hilda's Warley Woods

Sunday 25th October 2026

In here you'll find today's hymns and readings, and this week's notices to use alongside the Ordinary Holy Communion order of service.

Opening Hymn: Come let us join our cheerful songs

Number 401 in Common Praise

Collect[1]

Lord of the teasing riddle,
whose questions undo our certainty
and set us on a different path:
give us a heart of passion,
a searching mind,
gentle strength of body
and unseen depths of soul,
that we might love you wholly and our nieghbour as ourself;
through Jesus Christ, the law of grace.
Amen.

[1] *Steven Shakespeare,* Prayers and Blessings for an Inclusive Church, Canterbury Press, page 37

First Reading: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount
Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the
Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, **2** all
Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of
Judah as far as the Western Sea, **3** the Negeb, and the Plain—
that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as
Zoar. **4** The Lord said to him, 'This is the land of which I swore
to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, "I will give it to
your descendants"; I have let you see it with your eyes, but
you shall not cross over there.' **5** Then Moses, the servant of
the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's
command. **6** He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab,
opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this
day. **7** Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he
died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated.
8 The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty
days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

9 Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because
Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed
him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

10 Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses,
whom the Lord knew face to face. **11** He was unequalled for all
the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in
the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his
entire land, **12** and for all the mighty deeds and all the
terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the
sight of all Israel.

Gradual Hymn: In heavenly love abiding

Number 479 in Common Praise

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:34-46

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the
Sadducees, they gathered together, **35** and one of them, a
lawyer, asked him a question to test him. **36** 'Teacher, which
commandment in the law is the greatest?' **37** He said to him,
'"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and
with all your soul, and with all your mind." **38** This is the
greatest and first commandment. **39** And a second is like it:
"You shall love your neighbour as yourself." **40** On these two
commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus
asked them this question: **42** 'What do you think of the
Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of
David.' **43** He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the
Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

44 "The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet'"?

45 If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' **46** No
one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did
anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Offertory Hymn: The world we thought we knew

The world we thought we knew is changing fast,
and longingly we cling to what is past –
that settled life which made no great demand
Our foretaste of the hoped for promised land.

But as for you, dynamic, Pilgrim God,
you do not linger on the path well trod,
but ever lead your pilgrim people on
to risk an unknown future with your Son.

The challenge of diversity and change
will take us well beyond our former range.
Exposing us to things we do not know,
demanding all the love that we can show.

You take the stuff of chaos, fear and dread,
and make a path where we can safely tread;
and if we fear the wildness of the wave,
we know your outstretched hand is there to save.

Words © Rosemary Wakelin, tune Woodlands

Communion hymn: Here is love, vast as the ocean

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
Loving-kindness as the flood;
When the Prince of Life, my ransom,
Shed for me his precious blood.
Who his love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing his praise?

He shall never be forgotten,
Through Heav'n's everlasting days

On the mount of crucifixion,
Fountains opened deep and wide,
Through the flood-gates of God's mercy,
Flowed the vast and gracious tide;
Grace and love, like mighty rivers
Poured incessant from above,
And God's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love.

Let me all your love accepting,
Love you, ever all my days;
Let me seek your kingdom only
And my life be to your praise;
You alone will be my glory,
Nothing in the world I see;
You have cleansed and sanctified me,
You have loved and set me free.

In your truth you will direct me
By your Spirit, thru' your Word;
And your grace my need is meeting,
As I trust in you, my Lord.
All your fulness you are pouring
From your endless wells above,
Without measure, full and boundless
As I yield myself in love.

William Rees, translated by William Edwards

Final hymn: God who sets us on a journey

God who sets us on a journey
to discover, dream and grow,
lead us as you led your people
in the desert long ago;
journey inward, journey outward,
stir the spirit, stretch the mind,
love for God and self and neighbour
marks the way that Christ defined.

Exploration brings new insights,
changes, choices we must face;
give us wisdom in deciding,
mindful always of your grace;
should we stumble, lose our bearings,
find it hard to know what's right,
we regain our true direction
focused on the Jesus light.

End our longing for the old days,
grant the vision that we lack –
once we've started on this journey
there can be no turning back;
let us travel light, discarding
excess baggage from our past,
cherish only what's essential,
choosing treasure that will last.
When we set up camp and settle
to avoid love's risk and pain,

you disturb complacent comfort,
pull the tent pegs up again;
keep us travelling in the knowledge
you are always at our side;
give us courage for the journey,
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.

Words: Joy Dine (1937 – 2001) © Revd Mervyn Dine. Tune: Hyfrydol

NEWS AND NOTICES

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 28th October 10am: Holy Communion
Sunday 1st November 10:30am: Holy Communion
Sunday 1st November 6:30pm: All Souls Service
Wednesday 4th November 10am: Holy Communion
Sunday 8th November 10:30am: Remembrance Sunday

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

This week's flowers are the gift of Mrs E. Farrier and Mrs R. Clee.

CONSERVATOIRE CONCERTS

Concerts given by Conservatoire students will resume at the end of September. The concerts last between 45 minutes and one hour. They take place twice a month, on the second Friday, starting at 13.00 and on the last Saturday, starting at 19.30. The next ones are:
Friday 13th November - French horn: Jennifer Robson and piano: Isaac Butler
Saturday 28th November - Harp ensemble: Veronika Lemishenko, Jiatong Chen, Molly Hartley
Friday 11th December - Piano: Galina Umanskaia
Entry is free, however, donations are welcome to help cover costs of heating, performers rights and performer expenses. There is the chance to talk to these very talented musicians over a cup of tea or

coffee and biscuits after their recitals, which you will not get in a concert hall! Please do your best to come and support these musicians. If you wish to be kept up to date about concerts, please contact sthildasconcerts@gmail.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

Greening your home this Autumn

Tackle climate change and reduce your heating bills by finding and reducing the draughts in your home. Find the gaps that let cold air in and warm air out (keyholes, letterboxes and gaps around windows, doors, loft hatches and floorboards for example). Do what you can to fix these gaps - there are lots of tutorials on how to do this online. It's also a good time to prepare for winter by putting radiator reflector foil or baking foil behind the radiator. This will reflect heat back into your room.

Book Swap

After the service on Sunday 15 November we will be holding a book swap. Bring a book (in good condition) and swap it for another - either for yourself or for someone else as a Christmas gift! As we approach Christmas, this is a great opportunity to share joy by passing on books you've loved but no longer need, save money during an expensive season, and care for the environment by reusing and reducing waste. Elizabeth has been putting together gift baskets which also will be available in return for a donation to the church.

Parish Litter Pick

Join us for the final parish litter pick of the year on Thursday 5 November at 11am-12pm. We'll meet in Lightwoods Park where Lightwoods Hill and Adkins Lane meet. We have a limited number of litter pickers and high vis vests available, bring your own if you have them. Please bring gloves!

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 Evoke 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. Autumn dates –5th and 6th November, 19th and 20th November and 3rd and 4th December.

ALL SOULS SERVICE – SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 6:30PM

If you would like name(s) of loved ones who have died read out at this service please either email Jenni or write their names on the list in the porch.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES:

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Do you understand 'safeguarding' to mean 'safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm and abuse by a person or persons who have positions of power over them'?
Do you see 'power' as coming from various sources, including people's roles, personalities, money, possessions, education, race, gender and many other factors?
Do you believe that perfect power rests with God and power can be used for the benefit of individuals and the common good but it can also be misused to exploit people?
How do you feel about inequalities, injustice and exclusion in the power and opportunities which people have in their lives?
Do you believe that God loves each person as a special, unique individual?
Do you believe that we should reflect this in the way we respect each

person's individuality, dignity, integrity and their rights to be listened to, to make choices and decisions, to promote their best interests and wellbeing, to avoid harm and to be offered protection when it is needed?
Do you believe in the Christian values of hope, healing and wholeness?
Do you like to work in ways which further good teamwork and communication?
Do you feel able to volunteer a few hours of your time each month to work as a member of St Hilda's safeguarding team, helping to create and maintain a safe environment for everyone who is part of St Hilda's community and activities, being watchful, responding to any safeguarding concerns and ensuring the right action is taken?
Would you be happy to be supported by and accountable to the Incumbent, the PCC and the Birmingham Diocese safeguarding team?
Would you enjoy working with a user-friendly national Church of England parish safeguarding dashboard which is a data base to monitor and record safeguarding compliance, including progress with volunteers' role descriptions, safeguarding training and 'safer recruitment'?
Would you be willing to complete the (mostly online) safeguarding training required of a Parish Safeguarding Officer and apply for an enhanced DBS certificate for the children's and adults' workforces?
If you feel that your answers to these questions are 'yes' and you would like to learn more about the role of a Parish Safeguarding Officer at St Hilda's, please speak to Revd. Jenni Crewes, Vicar or Anne Harris, Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator and we can help you to consider this further.

FLOWER ARRANGERS

Help is required to arrange our beautiful flowers in church, which usually takes place on a Friday morning. A role description and full training will be given. As with all church roles Basic Awareness Safeguarding training will be need to be completed before starting. Please see Liz Farrier

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 need to be completed before starting. Please see Sue Eaton or ask the person serving you today to find out more.

YOUTH GROUP HELPER

Our youth group for secondary aged young people meets on the second Sunday of the month from 5:30-7:30pm in the church hall. We are looking for someone to join the team. This role will require a DBS check, basic and foundation levels of Safeguarding training, Raising awareness of domestic abuse training and two references. For more information and a full role description please see Jenni Crewes or Marian Hills.

MUSICIANS

Are you able to play a musical instrument? We rely on three excellent volunteers to play the piano and organ to accompany our singing at services. We really need some more people to help with accompanying. If you can play an instrument that can accompany singing (piano, guitar, organ etc) would you be willing to play occasionally on a Sunday morning? As with all church roles Basic Awareness Safeguarding training will need to be completed before starting. Please speak to Jenni if the answer is yes!

This week please pray for;

- Autumn and Ada-May as they are baptised today.
- All those who find the school holidays difficult.
- All who grieve and will attend our All Souls Service.
- The patients and staff at Cygnet hospital, Oldbury.

JENNI ON LEAVE

Please note that our Vicar, Jenni is on annual leave until Saturday 31st October and won't be answering calls or emails until then.

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

Safeguarding information

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'

Inclusive Church

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

Acknowledgements

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