



AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

Sunday 1st September 2024

MORNING WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

led by The Revd Ian Green and The Revd Erna Stevenson

Organist: Edward Cross

*Wherever you are on the journey of faith, you are invited to receive communion.
If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, please let them pass by without embarrassment.
If you are able, please stand for those parts of the service marked with an asterisk (*)*

GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

* **Hymn 67:** Immortal, invisible God only wise

During which the Bible is placed in the pulpit

Opening Responses

Minister: We have come together to worship God.

All: We gather in his name to sing his praise.

Minister: We come as pilgrims on a journey.

All: As Seekers after Truth travelling hopefully.

Minister: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.

All: His steadfast love endures forever.

Minister: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Opening Prayers of Praise, Confession and Lord's Prayer

followed by **Welcome and Notices** *followed by*

Hymn 104: Praise my soul *as we sing we give thanks for the life of Mr Jim Campbell*

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Readings: James 1.17-27 N.T. p203

Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23 N.T. p35

This morning's reader is The Revd Heather McIntyre

Reader: In this is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Prayer before the sermon

Minister: Gracious God, we open the bible
and long to receive your word.

All: **Open, we pray, our minds and hearts
to receive that word
with all its comfort and in all its challenge. Amen.**

Sermon: Have you washed your hands?

followed by Silent Reflection. Sermon notes are available as you leave and on the church website

***Hymn:** The spacious firmament on high *chosen for us by Hazel Richardson*

Tune: Tallis's Canon R&S 416

**The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue ethereal sky,
And spangled heavens, a shining frame,
Their great Original proclaim.**

**Unwearied sun from day to day
Does his Creator's power display,
And publishes to every land
The work of an almighty hand.**

**Soon as the evening shades prevail
The moon takes up the wondrous tale,
And nightly to the listening earth
Repeats the story of her birth;**

**Whilst all the stars that round her burn,
And all the planets in their turn,
Confirm the tidings, as they roll,
And spread the truth from pole to pole.**

**In reason's ear they all rejoice,
And utter forth a glorious voice,
For ever singing as they shine,
'The hand that made us is divine.'** *Joseph Addison based on Psalm 19 CCL 257120*

Prayers of Intercession

* **Hymn 438:** An Upper Room

THE COMMUNION

***The Peace** *all standing*

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Minister: We say for one another:

**All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore.**

***The Offertory Procession**

Minister: We give thanks to God and sing:

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Invitation to Communion

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Therefore with all your people in heaven and on earth we sing the resounding hymn of your glory:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,**

*Sung: 13 in
hymn book* **heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution and Sharing of the bread and wine

Post Communion Prayer

**All Self-giving God,
With thanksgiving we have remembered
and celebrated your love in Jesus.
May your cross and resurrection
constantly speak into our lives and sustain our living.
So, sent out in the strength of the Spirit
may your generosity and kindness
become the reality of our lives.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***Hymn: Sing my soul** *Tune: Cross of Jesus R&S 355*

**1 Sing, my soul, when hope is sleeping,
sing when faith gives way to fears;
sing to melt the ice of sadness,
making way for joy through tears.**

**2 Sing, my soul, when sickness lingers,
sing to dull the sharpest pain;
sing to set the spirit leaping:
healing needs in glad refrain.**

**3 Sing, my soul, of him who shaped me,
let me wander far away,
ran with open arms to greet me,
brought me home again to stay.**

**4 Sing, my soul, when light seems darkest,
sing when night refuses rest,
sing though death should mock the future:
what's to come by God is blessed.** *John Bell & Graham Maule CCL 257120*

***Dismissal and Blessing with sung Amen** *All Standing*

Sunday Lunch will be served in the Church Hall after the service – all welcome