

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY

AFTER TRINITY

08 OCTOBER 2023

<https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/>

Welcome to St Hilda's. We are delighted that you are able to share in our morning worship today,

If you are new to the church please do take time to introduce yourself to the people at the back of the church and to the ministry team at the end of the service. We would be delighted to meet you.

If you are able please join us for tea or coffee after the service so we can get to know one another.

Should you need any help during the service please do not hesitate to ask those around you and we are sure they will be able to support you.

For children, Junior Church meets in the Church Hall during the first part of the service, and there is a children's corner in the north aisle which they are very welcome to use.

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art,
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
Be thou ever with me and I with thee, Lord,
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Be thou mine Inheritance now and always:
Be thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won,
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

*[Irish c. 8th century
tr. Mary Byrne, versified Eleanor Hull]*

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All and also with you.

Words of welcome or introduction are said; we pray with Junior Church.

Prayer of Preparation

**All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save from our sins
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all

**All Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
All and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect - *The Collect for the Week is said after a moment of silence*

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – Exodus 20 vv 1 - 4, 7 - 9, 12 - 20

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, 'You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.' Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.'

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Philippians 3 vv 4b - 14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 21 vv 33 - 46

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’

Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes”?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.’

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers end with the following:

Merciful Father

**All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called the children of God.

We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

During this hymn a collection will be taken

All for Jesus! all for Jesus!

**This our song shall ever be;
For we have no hope nor Saviour
If we have not hope in thee.**

**All for Jesus! thou wilt give us
Strength to serve thee hour by hour:
None can move us from thy presence
While we trust thy love and power.**

**All for Jesus! at thine altar
Thou dost give us sweet content;
There, dear Saviour, we receive thee
In thy holy sacrament.**

**All for Jesus! thou have loved us,
All for Jesus! thou hast died,
All for Jesus! thou art with us,
All for Jesus, glorified!**

**All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
This the Church's song shall be
Till at last the flock is gathered
One in love, and one in thee.**

[W. J. Sparrow-Simpson]

The table is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All and also with you

Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.
You give us breath and speech, that with angels and
archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

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

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:

*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.*

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
*Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*

Christ is the bread of life:

All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus
until you come in glory.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.
Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with Hilda and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting
praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
Be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God,
All you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**All Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The president and people receive communion.

Communion Hymns

Anthem: If ye love me, keep my commandments

[Thomas Tallis © Oxford University Press 2002]

When I survey the wondrous Cross,
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson like a robe,
Spreads o'er his body on the Tree;
Then am I dead to all the globe,
And all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

[Isaac Watts]

My song is love unknown,
My Saviour's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne
 Salvation to bestow,
But men made strange, and none
 The longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my friend, ny friend indeed,
Who at my need his life did spend!

Sometimes they strew his way
 And his sweet praises sing,
Resounding all the day
 Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
And for his death they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done?
 What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
 He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
Themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise

They rise and needs will have
 My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
 The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes
That he his foes from thence might free.

In life no house, no home,
 My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb,
 But what a stranger gave.
What my I say? Heav'n was his home,
But mine the tomb wherein he lay.

**Here might I stay and sing;
No story so divine,
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!**

*[Samuel Crossman (1624-1684)
Music © 1924 John Ireland Trust]*

Prayers after Communion

Silence is kept after which the Post-Communion prayer is said.

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where you reign
with all your saints for ever.

All Amen.

**All Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Notices

THE DISMISSAL

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen

Recessional Hymn

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
And the precious corner-stone,
Who, the two walls underlying,
Bound in each, binds both in one,
Holy Sion's help forever,
And her confidence alone.**

**All that dedicated city,
Dearly loved by God on high,
In exultant jubilation,
Pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Threefold glory,
Singing everlastingly.**

To this temple, where we call thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today;
With thy wonted loving-kindness,
Hear thy people as they pray;
And thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls for ay.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
Gifts of grace by prayer to gain;
Here to have and hold for ever,
Those good things their prayers obtain,
And hereafter, in thy glory,
With thy blesséd ones to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,
Laud and honour to the Son,
Laud and honour to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One;
One in love, and One in splendour,
While unending ages run.

[Latin c 7th Century tr. J. M. Neale]

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SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 11th October 11am

Sunday 15th October 10am

The Sunday service is livestreamed and can be viewed later our Facebook page Following the teaching of 'Loving thy Neighbour' - If you feel unwell, we ask that you do not attend in person so that we can maintain the health and safety of all who attend the services.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:

Michael Brown	Pat Kyle	Jonathan Wren
Lizio Cassar	Finley Mackriel	David
Ros Clifton	Ray Nation	Elaine
Saffi Cobham	Pat Parker	Rachel
Joan Davies	Lena Richardson	Solange
Melvyn Jansen		

If you would like a name added to or removed from the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office. If you know of someone ill or in hospital in need of prayer and support please tell our LLM Rosalyn Young (contact details on back cover).

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Neville Wareham	Graham Petre	Gertrude May Hayes
Ray Cutler	Mary Ann Forsbrey	Cecile Barbara Woodhead
Bill Dansie	Alan Leonard Dale	Myrtle Maud Emily Nunn
Lawrence Maltby		

THOSE PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE:

Andrew Milton and Amy Foreman

Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula

NOTICES

***** Can you help us? *****

For our forthcoming Messy Church sessions we need about 20 small Jam jars, and a similar number of small cardboard egg boxes and kitchen roll tubes. There is a box at the back of the church for any contributions. Thank you

***** Planning meeting for the Frost Fair after the service TODAY.*****

Mothers' Union Lunch - Tuesday 10th October at 12.15

PCC Meeting - Tuesday 10th October at 7.15pm

Community Lunch - Wednesday at 12 noon

Join us in church for the Community Lunch at midday

If you are able to come forward and help, even once a month, please do liaise with Bobbie.

**** Open Deanery Synod meeting - Wednesday 11th October ****

at Nicholas's Church, Shepperton (TW17 9JY) Starting at 7.30pm with refreshments from 7pm. The speaker will be Emma Thompson, a journalist and founding member of the Save the Parish Organisation (see <https://savetheparish.com/>), who will be speaking on "The Parish System – How can we save the Parish?" followed by a Q&A session.

Note 1: parking at St Nicholas Church is currently severely restricted.

There is large car park nearby in Manor Park on Church Road which attendees can use - and car-share where possible.

Note 2: visitors to the synod cannot vote at the meeting.

Bible Study Group – No meeting this week

so members can attend the Open Deanery Synod meeting.

Wednesday 18th October at 5.00pm

Fr. Joseph will be preaching in St. Paul's Cathedral.

Saturday 21st October at 9.30am

Join us for breakfast, chat and talk in Church.

We welcome as our speakers - Erika and Elizabeth who will be telling us about ICV - Independent Custody Visitor Scheme.

Please sign up the sheet at the back of Church so that we have an idea of numbers.

Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 24th October at 2.30pm

Do come and join us .We meet on the 4th Tuesday, from 2.30pm – 4pm in Church with tea, coffee and cake, to explore topics on Christian themes. A donation of a £1 is welcomed to cover the cost of the refreshments.

Oct 24th St Francis of Assisi

Nov 28th Pick and Mix

Ambling through Acts course –Thursday 2nd November

(7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month)

Everyone is very welcome to attend. There will be refreshments at the end. We finish by saying Compline (Night Prayer) together round about 9pm. I hope to see you there. Please bring a bible – ideally the NRSV, but any version will do.

Confirmation 5th November at St Hilda's

The preparation sessions continue on Saturdays at 9 am for adults and 10 am for children.

For more information please contact Rosalyn Young on

rosalyn@sthilda.org

The Parish Office is available by phone or email.

Any appointments in person must be booked.

Our parish administrator is Laura Goodman. Her office hours are:

Monday: 3.30-5pm

Wednesday: 3.30-6.30pm

Thursday 6.30-9.30pm

Saturday: 9.45-11.15am

St Hilda's Newsletter

The latest issue of the Newsletter is available via the St. Hilda's web site (under "About Us"). We put a few printed copies at the back of church: please leave these for people without internet access and for visitors.

Contributions have been so few that we will be producing this every two months instead of monthly, and unless more people provide material the Newsletter will end.

This is your magazine -if you want it to continue, start writing!

The deadline for items for the **December/January** issue is **Sunday 5th November**. Please send your contributions to: editor@sthilda.org

Frost Fair - Saturday 4th November from 11.30am

We would welcome donations, but **ONLY** the following:

Screw top wine bottles - preferably full

Empty L'Or coffee jars

Items for the Tombola

Raffle Prizes

Cakes and preserves for the cake stall

Toys for a toy stall.

PLEASE **NO** Bric-a-brac, furniture or household items.

You can continue to leave clothing in the blue bins in church and hall, for fundraising towards St Hilda's House.

TAKE THE FOUR WEEK CHALLENGE

Volunteer for just four weeks and be amazed at the difference you will make.

Week 1 See what we get up to

Week 2 Start to help out

Week 3 Get a little more involved

Week 4 You'll know if Scouting is for you

4th Ashford Scout Group, located in Ashford Road, needs Leaders for Beavers, cubs and Scouts.

Interested ? For more information email Dave our Group Scout Leader:

fourthashfordgsl@outlook.com



Frost Fair

Saturday 4th November

St Hilda's Church

Ashford, TW15 3QL

Christmas gifts, books & toys,
tombola, children's games
homemade cakes & preserves,
jewellery, Cards & much more

FROM 11.30 AM
HOT LUNCH SERVED
FROM 12.00



Ashford Church of England



Primary School



School Road

Ashford TW15 2BW

**Do you have a child starting school in September 2024?
We would love to meet you! Please come along to one of our open events.**

Saturday 7th October

10am - 12 noon

There will be a talk by the Headteacher at 10am and then time for you to meet the team and look around the school.

For further details and to book, please scan here



Tuesday 10th October

6pm - 8pm

There will be a talk by the Headteacher at 6pm and then time for you to meet the team and look around the school.

For further details and to book, please scan here



Contact Information

Vicar

Vacant

Licensed Lay Minister

Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwarden

Paula Gething

PCC Secretary

Liz Brian

Email: secretary@sthilda.org

PCC Treasurer

Vicky Palmer

treasurer@sthilda.org

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

The Parish Office:

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Website: www.sthilda.org

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CCLI: 708985

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