# ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



# CHRIST THE KING 26 NOVEMBER 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.

### Praying for peace in Israel and Gaza

Bishop Sarah encourages us to join in with Archbishop Hosam Naoum of Jerusalem, who has offered the following prayer:

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen

#### THE GATHERING

#### **Introit Hymn**

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
Mortals give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When he had purged our stains,
He took his seat above:

His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and Heav'n,
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given;

He sits at God's right hand
Till all his foes submit,
And bow to his command,
And fall beneath his feet:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

[Charles Wesley]

## 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**

Jesus says,
'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

The kingdom is yours, but we turn away from your just rule: Lord, have mercy.

#### All Lord, have mercy.

The power is yours, but we trust in our own power and strength: Christ, have mercy.

#### All Christ, have mercy.

The glory is yours, but we fall short of the glory of God: Lord, have mercy.

#### All Lord, have mercy.

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

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

#### All Amen.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### Old Testament Reading – Ezekiel 34 vv 11 – 16, 20 – 24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

#### All Thanks be to God.

#### New Testament Reading – Ephesians 1 v 15 – 23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

#### All Thanks be to God.

#### Gospel Reading – Matthew 25 v 31 – 46

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven.

#### All Alleluia

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

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

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

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.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

#### All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

#### All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

#### All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

#### All This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
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

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

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

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King,
Lord of heav'n, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.

Word incarnate, truth revealing, Son of Man on earth! Pow'r and majesty concealing by your humble birth: Refrain

Suff'ring servant, scorned, ill-treated, victim crucified!

Death is through the cross defeated, sinners justified:

\*Refrain\*

Priestly King, enthroned for ever high in heav'n above!
Sin and death and hell shall never stifle hymns of love:

Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name.

So, our hearts and voices raising through the ages long,
Ceaselessly upon you gazing, this shall be our song:
Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name.

[© Words: 1964 Michael Saward - The Jubilate Group Music: 1982 John Barnard - The Jubilate Group (Admin. by Jubilate Hymns Ltd, sub to Hope Publishing for various regions)]

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 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For with the oil of gladness you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son, to be our great high priest and king of all creation. As priest, he offered himself once for all upon the altar of the cross and redeemed the human race by this perfect sacrifice of peace. As king he claims dominion over all your creatures, that he may bring before your infinite majesty a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

And so with angels and archangels and all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join their unending hymn of praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

All 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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

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

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

# All Lord, by your cross and resurrection You have set us free. You are the Saviour of the World.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with Hilda and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

#### The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour 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**

The King of love my Shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me, And on his shoulder gently laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; Thy unction grace bestoweth; And O what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house forever.

[H. W. Baker]

From heaven you came, helpless babe, Entered our world, your glory veiled: Not to be served but to serve, And give your life that we might live.

This is our God, the Servant King, He calls us now to follow him, To bring our lives as a daily offering Of worship to the Servant King.

There in the garden of tears,
My heavy load he chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn.
"Yet not my will but yours", he said.

Refrain

Come, see his hands and his feet, The scars that speak of sacrifice, Hands that flung stars into space, To cruel nails surrendered.

Refrain

So let us learn how to serve, And in our lives enthrone him; Each other's needs to prefer, For it is Christ we're serving.

This is our God, the Servant King, He calls us now to follow him, To bring our lives as a daily offering Of worship to the Servant King.

[Graham Kendrick © 1983 Thankyou Music]

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie In pastures green; he leadeth me The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
Even for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill: For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished In presence of my foes; My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me; And in God's house forevermore My dwelling place shall be.

[Scottish Psalter]

#### **Prayers after Communion**

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

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### All Amen.

#### All Father of all,

we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord.

**Notices** 

#### THE DISMISSAL

#### **Blessing**

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory; 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**

Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high,
His praise may thither fly;
The earth is not too low,
His praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The church with psalms must shout,
No door can keep them out;
But, above all, the heart
Must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

[George Herbert]

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#### **SERVICE TIMES**

# Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 11am Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 10am

#### Junior Church will be in the hall for Messy Church

The Sunday morning 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 Melvyn Jansen David
Lizio Cassar Pat Kyle Elaine
Ros Clifton Finley Makriel Rachel
Saffi Cobham Ray Nation Solange

Joan Davies Lena Richardson

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

Ann Jacqueline Haxton Ryan

#### THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Elsie Mary Pinfold David Raymond Warne Thomas Peterson

Laura Wilkinson Doris May Kerry Reginald Clarke Julie Weiszberg

#### **THOSE RECENTLY CONFIRMED**

Ariana, Chrissie, Sadie, Daniel, Katie, Sarah, James, Noah, Johnathan, Gabriel

Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula

#### **NOTICES**

#### \*\*\* Can EVERYONE help us with January's Messy Church? \*\*\*

At the back of church is a small Jar and a box of small strips of coloured paper. Could you sign your CHRISTIAN name on one slip of paper and put it in the jar. Ideally we would like every member of the congregation including little people to take part.

#### **Vacancies for Altar Servers**

We are currently seeking volunteers to join the team of Altar Servers.

St Hilda's Church currently has a team of 7 altar servers, down from the 12 we used to have pre Covid. Primarily servers are required for the 10 o'clock Sunday services but they also assist with the Wednesday morning 11 o'clock service and other special services e.g., confirmation, candles of remembrance, St Hilda's day, Easter Eve and Midnight Mass.

Support and training will be given to undertake this role. If interested please either speak to me or to any of the current servers.

Thank you. Alan Sloan (Head Server)

#### **More Help Wanted**

The team serving refreshments after Sunday services would appreciate more help. If you can volunteer please speak to Valerie Scott or Paula.

#### Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 28thNovember 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.

Nov 28th Pick and Mix

#### 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.

#### Bible Study Group - Wednesday at 7.30pm

We meet in Church on most Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. We are currently using an Advent-to Epiphany course: you are very welcome to come and join us even if for just one session.

#### Ambling through Acts course -Thursday \*\*14th\*\* December

(7:30pm usually 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.

#### 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 February/March issue is Sunday 7th
January 2024. Please send your contributions to: editor@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



Advent and Christmas Services				
Every Sunday except 24th Every Wednesday		n 10am 11am	Parish Eucharist Holy Communion	2000
Sunday 3rd	58		Memorial Service	200
Sunday 10th 4pm		Christingle Service		
Andrew Control State Control of the		Ashford CofE School St. James School		
Sunday 17th	300 to 200 CV	Carol Service		
Sunday 24th	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Crib Service Midnight Mass (with the Bishop of Kensington)		
Christmas Day	10am	Holy Communion		
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#### Crib Service Appeal - Sunday 24th December at 10am

This is a service of the word aimed at young people and children. To enter into the spirit of the occasion please could everyone (big and little, young and old) wear a head-dress representing a character from the Nativity Story?

Be brave and join me – I've given you plenty of warning!

#### **Food Bank at Christmas**

We are continuing to collect donations for the Food Bank in the chest at the back of church. Please consider giving something special as a Christmas treat for someone who is struggling to make ends meet - but make sure that any food is well within its Best Before date.

#### **Covid Precautions**

As Covid infections are increasing again, the PCC would like to remind you that masks and bottles of hand sanitizer are available at the back of church if you wish to use them.

During the Peace, please be considerate to those who feel vulnerable and only shake hands with people who are happy with the contact.

# **Contact Information**

#### Vicar

#### Vacant

#### **Licenced Lay Minister**

Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

#### Churchwarden

Paula Gething

# PCC Secretary PCC Treasurer

Liz Brian Vicky Palmer

Email: <u>secretary@sthilda.org</u> <u>treasurer@sthilda.org</u>

#### **Church Hall Bookings**

Chris Davenport 01784 252170

#### **The Parish Office:**

St Hilda's Church, Stanwell Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 3QL

Telephone: 01784 253525 Email: office@sthilda.org

Website: www.sthilda.org

Charity Number: 1134119 CCLI: 708985

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