

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD

THE EUCHARIST

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

**THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE
LENT 2023**

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

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

**We have a dream: this nation will arise,
and truly live according to its creed,
that all are equal in their makers eyes,
and none shall suffer through another's greed.**

**We have a dream; our children shall be free
from judgements based on colour or on race;
free to become whatever they may be,
of their own choosing in the light of grace.**

**We have a dream that truth will overcome
the fear and anger of our present day;
that black and white will share a common
home,
and hand in hand will walk the pilgrim way.**

*[Adapted by Michael Forster
from a speech by Martin Luther King]*

The Greeting

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

All Amen

We stand before the throne of God with countless crowds
from every nation and race, tribe and language.

**All Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour,
power and might be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Words of welcome 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

Human sin disfigures the whole creation,
which groans with eager longing for God's redemption.
We confess our sin in penitence and faith.
We have wilfully misused your gifts of creation;
Lord, be merciful:

All Forgive us our sin.

We have seen the ill-treatment of others
and have not gone to their aid;
Lord, be merciful:

All Forgive us our sin.

We have condoned evil and dishonesty
and failed to strive for justice;
Lord, be merciful:

All Forgive us our sin.

We have heard the good news of Christ,
but have failed to share it with others;
Lord, be merciful:

All Forgive us our sin.

We have not loved you with all our heart,
nor our neighbours as ourselves;
Lord, be merciful:

All Forgive us our sin.

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive you your sins and make you holy
to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory to God in the highest,
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 is said after a period of silence*

Merciful God, you are righteous and love justice:
stir the hearts of your people that,
rejoicing in our diversity,
we may repent of the wrongs of the past,
and, by your grace,
seek the peaceable kingdom of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – Genesis 1 v 1 - 2 v 3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs

and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.’ And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, ‘Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.’ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.’ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.’ And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.’

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Romans 8 vv 18 - 25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 6: 25-end

Alleluia, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

All Alleluia.

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

‘So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon – All sit

The Affirmation of Faith – *All Stand*

We say together in faith

***All* Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:

***All* for by his will they were created and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

***All* for with his blood, he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

***All* the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Introduction

Racial Justice Sunday has been observed by churches in Britain and Ireland since 1995 and aims to take deliberate action against racism in all its forms . As we pray, we give thanks to God for human diversity, we remember and lament all whose voices and stories are overlooked and marginalised because of race, and we encourage positive awareness and work to end racism, injustice, and ignorance.

A candle is lit

Let us light a candle to remember that God is love.
There is no fear in love, perfect love casts out fear.
Let us celebrate the love that God has for all God's
creation.

All God of love, you created all human beings
in your image and likeness,
and you call on us to reflect your goodness,
justice, and love to all the world.
Remind us of our call to follow your Son
and to speak out for justice, mercy, and compassion.
As we come before you in prayer,
teach us to respect your image in all human beings,
and help us to defend your image in all human beings,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A candle is lit

Let us light a candle to give thanks to God
for men and women in every generation
who have contributed to the growth of this country
even in the face of racism, discrimination, and
oppression.

All Gracious God, we give you thanks
for all who have built up this country
through their dedication, their witness
and their faith in you.
We give you thanks for those who have inspired us
and challenged our way of life.
Grant us the power to be the people you want us to be
and to do what you want us to do,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A candle is lit

Let us light a candle to remember the ways we treat
others based on the financial profit we can derive from
them:
the people who work in poor conditions and who are
underpaid,

the children who are forced to work and receive less than minimum wage, the migrant workers who are exploited.

**All Gracious God, help us to regard all people as made in your image.
Create in us brave hearts to acknowledge and address our prejudices.
Forgive the way we collude with silence and imprison others in it.
Give us courage to speak words that liberate and heal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A candle is lit

We light a candle of hope.
Hope because God is still at work in our world.
We believe that love is stronger than all the ills of the world.
Racial injustice still exists in our world,
and people from different ethnicities are still the recipients of racism and acts of discrimination.
We are called to let the light of God's love shine in the world.

**All God of justice and compassion let us commit ourselves to bear the light of the hope of our lives.
By the power of your Spirit,
you call us to be of one heart and mind and to the work of lament and action.
From you comes power to give to others the care we have ourselves received
so that we, and all who love your world,
may live in harmony and trust,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Merciful Father,

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace – All stand

God calls us to peace:

All in God's justice is our peace.

Christ calls us to be God's people:

All in Christ is our 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

For the healing of the nations

Lord, we pray with one accord,

For a just and equal sharing

Of the things that earth affords.

To a life of love in action

Help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom,

From despair your world release,

That, redeemed from war and hatred,

All may come and go in peace.

Show us how through care and goodness

Fear will die and hope increase.

**You, Creator God, have written
Your great name on humankind;
For our growing in your likeness
Bring the life of Christ to mind;
That by our response and service
Earth its destiny may find.**

[Fred Kaan © 1968 Stainer & Bell Ltd]

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

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now united on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

All Amen.

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.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your
word, and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image and placed us in the garden
of your delight. Though we chose the path of rebellion you
would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and taught us by your
prophets to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth, we
echo the song of the angels in heaven, evermore praising
you and singing:

**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.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love, made perfect in our
human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.*

In the same way, after supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
*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.*

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for 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

Jesus, Lamb of God,
All have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to 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: Deep peace of the running wave to you

[A Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter © 1978 Royal School of Church Music]

**Sweet sacrament divine,
Hid in thine earthly home,
Lo, round thy lowly shrine,
With suppliant hearts we come;
Jesu, to thee our voice we raise,
In songs of love and heartfelt praise:
Sweet sacrament divine,
Sweet sacrament divine.**

**Sweet sacrament of peace,
Dear home for every heart,
Where restless yearnings cease
And sorrows all depart;
There in thine ear all trustfully
We tell our tale of misery:
Sweet sacrament of peace,
Sweet sacrament of peace.**

Sweet sacrament of rest,
Ark from the ocean's roar,
Within thy shelter blest
Soon may we reach the shore;
Save us, for still the tempest raves,
Save, lest we sink beneath the waves,
Sweet sacrament of rest:
Sweet sacrament of rest.

Sweet sacrament divine,
Earth's light and jubilee,
In thy far depths doth shine
The Godhead's majesty;
Sweet light, so shine on us, we pray,
That earthly joys may fade away,
Sweet sacrament divine,
Sweet sacrament divine.

[Francis Stanfield]

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
That all thy Church might be for ever one,
Grant us at every Eucharist to say
With longing heart and soul, "Thy will be done."
Oh, may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.

For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;
Make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
Draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
By drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:
Thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.

**We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,
Back to the faith which saints believed of old,
Back to the Church which still that faith doth keep:
Soon may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
May we be one with all thy Church above,
One with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
One with thy saints in one unbounded love;
More blessed still, in peace and love to be
One with the Trinity in Unity.**

[William Turton]

Prayers after Communion

Blessed God,
help us, whom you have fed and satisfied in this eucharist,
to hunger and thirst for what is right;
help us, who here have rejoiced and been glad,
to stand with those who are persecuted and reviled;
help us, who here have glimpsed the life of heaven,
to strive for the cause of right
and for the coming of the kingdom of Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns, now and 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 blessing of God the Father,
who made from one every nation that occupies the earth;
of God the Son, who bought us for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation;
and of God the Spirit, who brings us together in unity,
be with 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

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
Fellow trav'lers on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you.
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.

[Richard Gillard

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SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 15th February 11.00am

Sunday 19th February 10.00am

The Sunday service is livestreamed and can be viewed later our Facebook page

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:

Michael Brown	Vicky Hall	Bernice Ross
Lizio Cassar	Melvyn Jansen	Betty Vince
Ros Clifton	Pat Kyle	Barbara Warne
Joan Davies	Pauline Milton	Lisa
Wilfred Galloway	Ray Nation	Nic

If you would like a name added to the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office.

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Shelagh	Fr Marco Lopes	Cedric Harris
Collin Taylor	Dan Blanchford	Roy Stone
Ken Clark		

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Edith Sidwell	Richard Anthony Pegler
Sidney Elliott Pitcher	Donald Anton Ross
Sidney William Callaway	Constance May Anderson
Peggy Pitcher	Violet Clara Brown
Sydney Elliott Pitcher	Michael Rex Jackson
Laurence Curness	Hilda Lund
Georgina Adelaide Carr	

Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula

NOTICES

The Parish Office is available by phone or email. Visitors by appointment only.

Following the teaching of 'Loving thy Neighbour' - If you feel unwell, we ask that you do not attend so that we can maintain the health and safety of all who attend the services.

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 – every Wednesday

Bible Study group meet in Church at 7.30pm. All welcome.

We are starting to looking at various Old Testament characters. Each of these studies is self-contained, so this would be a good opportunity to come and see what we do.

Mothers' Union Lunch - Tuesday 14th February at 12.15pm

St. Hilda's Breakfast - Saturday 18th February at 9:30am

There is now no planned speaker: *Meet the Beat* is postponed until March, but do come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

Please book via the link on the church web site, or through the office.

Suggested donation £5, payable on the day.

Pancake Party - Shrove Tuesday 21st February at 6pm

This will be from 6 to 7pm in church. Everybody welcome!

PCC meeting - Tuesday 21st February at 7pm

Ash Wednesday - 22nd February

In addition to the morning service, there will be an evening service at 7pm.

Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 28th February 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.

The programme for the first half of the year is:

Feb 28th	Pick and Mix
Mar 28th	Hymn Writers
Apr 25 th	Tyndale and the English Bible
May 23rd	Names for Jesus
June 27th	Jargon Busting
July 25 th	Popes – part 2

Ambling through Acts course –Thursday 2nd March

(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.

World Day of Prayer Service - Friday 3rd March at 10.20am

This year's service is organised by the women of Taiwan, with the theme 'I have heard about your faith' (Ephesians 1:15-19.)

The Service will be held at **St Nicholas Church, Shepperton** and will be followed by refreshments.

All are warmly welcome!

Reports for APCM by Sunday 5th March

The Annual Church Parochial Meeting will be held on Sunday 30th April. Would all group leaders please ensure that they get reports to me by Sunday 5th March. Please send to secretary@sthilda.org.

St Hilda's News

Please send items for the Newsletter to kmroach45@gmail.com

Note that it makes the Editor's job much easier if you submit an item as a Word document rather than in the body of an e-mail.

CAR POOL?

Can you offer a lift to church for someone who can no longer drive?

Do you need a lift to church?

Can you and a neighbour share a car journey to church?

Would you be prepared to co-ordinate a car sharing scheme?

For both practical and environmental reasons we would like to start a car sharing scheme. If the answer to any of these questions is "Yes", please see Rosemary Greenwood.

Parish administrator

Our parish administrator is Laura Goodman. **Note that her office hours have changed to:**

Monday: 3.30-5pm
Wednesday: 3.30-6.30pm
Friday: 3.30-6.30pm
Saturday: 9.45-11.15am

Any appointments in person must be booked.

WANTED - Clothing for Bronzefield

They are looking for leggings, leggings, leggings, winter coats, plain T-shirts and long-sleeved tops, and shoes and boots in sizes 5 and 6. Please put any donations in the blue bin at the back of church - they will be separated out from other donations.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 5th-14th March 2024

10 days based in Jerusalem and Galilee

With Father Steve Gayle and Father Joseph Fernandes.

See literature at the back of church for more details.

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