# ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



# THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

**10AM 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2025** 

The Sunday service is livestreamed and can be viewed later our Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/live\_videos">https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/live\_videos</a> or see: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@sthildachurch8263">https://www.youtube.com/@sthildachurch8263</a>

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.

There is a toddlers' corner in the north aisle which young children are very welcome to use, and there activity sheets are available to occupy them.

Please indicate to the priest if you want a gluten free wafer during communion

We encourage parishioners to donate via PARISH GIVING: https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/ashford-st-hilda-ashford/



# THE GATHERING

# **Introit Hymn**

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord: Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; Tender to me the promise of his word; In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name: Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; His mercy sure, from age to age the same; His holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might: Powers and dominions lay their glory by; Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word: Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord To children's children and for evermore.

[Timothy Dudley-smith © 1961 Dudley-Smith, Timothy]

# 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 are said.

# **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 us from our sins and 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 Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all your sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us 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 of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

#### All Amen.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

# First Reading – Jeremiah 2:4-13

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, 'Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness. in a land of deserts and pits. in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?' I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?' Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me;

the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you, savs the Lord. and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care: see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

## All Thanks be to God.

# **Second Reading** – Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers.

Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' So we can say with confidence,

'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

# **Gradual Hymn**

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace, Eternal fount of love, Inflame, we pray, our inmost hearts With fire from heaven above.

As thou in bond of love dost join
The Father and the Son,
So fill us all with mutual love,
And knit our hearts in one.

All glory to the Father be, All glory to the Son, All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee, While endless ages run.

[Latin, Charles Coffin, tr. John Chandler]

# Gospel Reading - Luke 14:1,7-14

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

#### All Alleluia.

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

# All Glory to you, O Lord.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## All Praise to you, O Christ.

#### The Sermon – All sit

#### The Creed

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

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come, Amen.

# **Prayers of Intercession**

Encouraged by our fellowship with all the saints, let us make our prayers to the Father through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 – All stand

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

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. You can use the QR code on page 2 for online donations.

O Christ the same, through all our story's pages,
Our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
Eternal Lord, the King of all the ages,
Unchanging still amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
Who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze;
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
We bring our thanks to you for all our yesterdays.

O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
Our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
Still as of old upon your body bearing
The marks of love, in triumph glorified:
O Son of man, who stooped for us from heaven,
O Prince of life, in all your saving power,
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given,
We bring our thanks to you for this the present hour

O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
Our lives and loves, our days and years remain;
Our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
Our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
For all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee,
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
We bring our thanks to you for all that is to be.
[© Words: 1971 Dudley-Smith, Timothy; Music: Public Domain]

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, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high. Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever 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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, 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, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

#### All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 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

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

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**

All 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, have mercy on us.

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

# **Giving of Communion**

The president says the invitation to communion

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

ΑII We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The president and people receive communion.

All confirmed Anglicans, as well as all baptized Christians who truly believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and are in a state of grace, are welcome to receive communion, provided they would normally do so in their own church. If you are not receiving communion today, you are warmly invited to come forward for a blessing; please indicate this by bringing your order of service with you.

# **Communion Hymns**

Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt, Fighting within, and fears without, O Lamb of God, I come. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in thee to find O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve: Because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am (thy love unknown Has broken every barrier down), Now to be thine, yea thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
Here for a season then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

[Charlotte Elliott]

Anthem: Panis Angelicus

[Words: Thomas Aquinas, Music César Franck © 2006 The Royal School of Church Music]

I danced in the morning when the world was begun, And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth; At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Dance, then, wherever you may be, I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John They came with me and the dance went on.
Refrain

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high;
They left me there on a cross to die.

\*Refrain\*

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black - It's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, But I'm the Dance, and I still go on.

\*Refrain\*

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he

[Sydney Carter © Words: Stainer & Bell Ltd, Music: Stainer & Bell Ltd]

# **Prayers after Communion**

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

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people
have celebrated that one true sacrifice
which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:
by our communion
keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel
and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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** - see page 23

#### THE DISMISSAL

# **Blessing**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always **Amen.** 

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

# **Recessional Hymn**

All my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew,
Me through change and chance he guideth,
Only good and only true.
God unknown,
He alone
Calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
Sword and crown betray his trust;
What with care and toil he buildeth,
Tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power,

Hour by hour,
Is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:
Splendour, light and life attend him,
Beauty springeth out of naught.

Evermore
From his store
New-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th'almighty Giver
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
His desire our soul delighteth,
Pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand
At his hand;
Joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done,
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ, his Son.

Christ doth call
One and all:

Ye who follow shall not fall.

[Robert Bridges based on the German of J. Neander]

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# Please remember in your prayers this week:

## THOSE FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ASKED:

Ben Bishop, Stan Bishop, AnneMarie Bough, Sandra Davis, Tony Diggins, Sheila Freeman, Gemma Hart, John Hunt, Pat Kyle, Denis Marshall, Ray Nation, John Parish, Massimo Pellizzari, Lena Richardson, Edith Smith, Delia Woodley, Ben, Debora, Eric, Fiona, Melissa, Peter

# THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Pat Parish

#### THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Ena Hardy, Charles Henry Elsom Smith, Lisle Rutherford Minns, Winfred Laura Sloan, Jean Maud Loomes, Eileen P Rudd

# Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula, and for Fr. Domingos and his family

also for Christians facing persecution in countries such as North Korea, Somalia, Libya, Eritrea, Yemen, Iran and Nigeria.

for more details see <a href="https://www.opendoorsuk.org/">https://www.opendoorsuk.org/</a>

Pray for the areas of the world where there is conflict, including: the Middle East including Gaza, the West Bank, Israel and Iran; India and Pakistan; Ukraine and Russia; Sudan; Myanmar.

## **SERVICE TIMES next week**

# Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 11am

with Mothers' Union

# Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 10am – Children's Sunday Start of Stewardship Month

followed by Volunteers' Fair – find out what happens around church and where you might be able to help

#### **NOTICES**

The deadline for items for the Service Sheet is noon on Thursday. Send to communication@sthilda.org

# The Collation and Installation of The Revd Prebendary Joseph Fernandes as Vice-Dean and Canon for Congregation and Community will take place in Chelmsford Cathedral at Choral

Evensong on Sunday 21 September 2025 at 3.30pm.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church if you plan to attend. Please sign **by noon next Sunday** (7<sup>th</sup> September) so we can send a combined response.

# Community Lunch in church - Wednesday at 12 noon

## Bible Study Group - Wednesday at 7.45pm.

We meet in **church** most Wednesday evenings. This week we are looking at Peter's first epistle. You are very welcome to join us.

# Ambling Through Acts – Thursday 4th September at 7.30pm

In church. Finishes with Compline (Night Prayer) and tea/coffee and biscuits. Please bring a bible (NRSV preferred but any modern translation is fine).

# Community Sing – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 8.10pm

In church, fortnightly. No commitments: each Friday is stand alone to learn a single piece of music, try Taizé, sing for health and well-being

# Jumble Sale - Saturday 20th September (details to follow)

# Parish Mission Weekend - 26th - 28th September

Sign-up sheet for the Saturday lunch is at the back of church.

The Parish Office : Office hours are

Mon: by appointment only,

Tue: 9am-6pm, Wed: 12 noon-4:00pm, Thur: 9am-6pm

# **Contact Information**

Vicar

Fr. Julius Anozie

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**Lay Minister** 

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**Churchwardens** 

Alison Garner Stuart Young

Email: warden@sthilda.org

PCC Secretary PCC Treasurer

Tyler Pannone Khadijeh

Email: secretary@sthilda.org treasurer@sthilda.org

**Church Hall Bookings** 

Chris Davenport 01784 252170

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