



Berkhamsted Baptist Church

A family following Jesus

Weekly News for

Sunday 21st May 2023

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. *Hebrews 12 v 2a (NIV)*

Welcome to our Worship Service with communion led by our minister Revd Karen Bugg.
Sunday School will be held in the Upper Hall.

Order of Service

Welcome and notices

Call to worship

Song 1046: Give thanks to the Lord

Introduction to service theme

The wise and foolish builder

Song : Hear the call of the Kingdom

Children to leave for their groups

Bible reading: Hebrews 12 vs 1-3 and Matthew 7 vs 24 -29

Talk

Reflective activity

Song 162: The servant King

Communion

Intercessions

Song 275: I heard the voice of Jesus say

Blessing

Notices

Note that there will be a **Church Members Meeting** after the morning service today.

On **Wednesday 24th May** at 7.30pm there will be a **Praise** session on Zoom led by Vicky. We will be sharing worship videos and hopefully singing along! A link will be sent nearer the time. All are welcome.

Raeni Blessing Blakes's dedication is on **Sunday 28th May**. Please join us for tea and cake afterwards. Everyone welcome.

Open Church takes place every Thursday **10.00 am until noon**. When the weather is cold, we are indoors and the main church is a designated 'warm space'. Come and have tea/coffee and cake with us. *Carla and Sue*

Our **Small Groups** run weekly and fortnightly. You are encouraged to attend one to share in mid-week fellowship and learn more about Jesus through his Word. Please speak to Pat Ginger, Sandra Wotton or Alun Sainsbury if you wish to join or try a group.

We're pleased to be able to say that we now have a new church cleaner, Alison. Thank you to everyone who has helped out over the last few weeks.

We are continuing to collect food and other grocery items for the **DENS Foodbank**; these are delivered to Hemel Hempstead each week. Please leave your contributions in the box in the church entrance. Their urgent needs include:

- Tinned fruit
- Long life 200ml small juices
- Long life juice/squash
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned fish
- Small jars of coffee
- Tinned ham
- Rice
- Tinned vegetables
- Long life milk
- Carrier bags
- Shampoo

- Nappies
- Washing up liquid (small)
- Deodorants
- Laundry liquid/tabs/powder (small packs only)
- Sanitary products

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayers

Please pray for

- The leadership team
- Young people taking exams
- Carers and those they care for
- Our Christian brothers and sisters in countries where they can't worship openly

From BMS World Mission

Pray that the church and community ministry of John and Sue Wilson in Paris, which includes a food bank and a women's hostel, will have the resources and people needed to continue to be a strong witness in the area.

Creator God, we glimpse your beauty
in setting sun, mountain top, eagle's wing.
We sense your power in thunder crash,
lightning flash and ocean's roar.
Creator God we praise you

Precious Jesus, we see your love
stretched out upon a cruel cross.
We stand in awe at your sacrifice,
pure love poured out for humankind.
Precious Jesus we praise you

Holy Spirit, we see your power
in lives transformed, hearts on fire.
We listen for your still, small voice,
comforting, guiding, calling.
Holy Spirit we praise you
(from <https://www.faithandworship.com>)

We have heard your glorious whisper,
Almost silent, yet insistent,
Breaking through the chatter
Of many voices,
The clatter
Of background noises,
The wind,
The rain,
Storm and hurricane,
Through all of this
Your voice remains,

Unchangeable,
Cuts through to heart
And soul,
Unmissable.
'Come follow me
Pick up the Cross...
My burden is no burden at all,
It is simply love,
Poured out for you
And through you,
Sustaining,
Empowering ...
Come follow me'
(from <https://www.faithandworship.com>)

Almighty God, Father of all creation, Lord of love and light, we open our minds to the wonders of the universe.

We give praise for the beauty and grace your spirit brings, and to the miracle of life, in all its variety and abundance.

As we pray for the world, we ask that you awaken our souls,
And lead us to understand your heart for all you have made.

Father, there is such suffering, such sorrow and distress across humanity.

May your Spirit move across the lands to bring change and transformation.

Lord, help us to engage with the issues in the world and be part of the change you seek to bring.

May we see justice for the poor, freedom for those in chains and peace in lands torn apart by war and conflict.

Help us to work and pray so that your love and truth breakthrough every stronghold and overcome every darkness.

O Holy One, we pray that you would bring your light and life into every nation across this Earth, until the day that your glory covers the lands, as the waters cover the seas.

We ask all this in the wonderful name of Jesus.
Amen.

(prayer by Julie Palmer courtesy of www.prayerscapes.com)

And finally...

No one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 3 v 11 (NIV)

Items for the next News Sheet to Chris Hayward by Thursday 25th May, please.

Motto text 2023: Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Hebrews 12 v 1-2a