



Berkhamsted Baptist Church

A family following Jesus

Weekly News for

Sunday 14th May 2023

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. *Micah 6 v 8 (NIV)*

Welcome to our Christian Aid Service led by Revd Karen Bugg and Margaret Pike.
Sunday School will be held in the Upper Hall.

Order of Service

Welcome and notices

Call to worship

Prayer of approach

Song 1040: Come, now is the time to worship

Song 828: Filled with compassion

Esther's story

Song 806: Beauty for brokenness

Children to leave for their groups

Bible reading 1: Joel 1 vs 10-12 & 2 vs 18-29

Bible reading 2: Matthew 13 vs 31-32

Christian Aid video

Talk

Intercessions

Song: Jesus, Jesus, fill us with your love

Sending and blessing

The Grace

Notices

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

Help needed! Cakes wanted for the **Christian Aid stall on 20th May** outside Tesco between 9 am and 12 approx, and any preserves. If you can spare half an hour to help with selling that would be great. Customers wanted too. Also, people needed to

deliver only envelopes 14th-20th May. Please see Margaret Pike if you can help.

Note that our next **church meeting** will take place after the morning service on **Sunday 21st May**.

Thank you everyone so much for the thought, effort, generosity and love to make such a memorable coronation occasion last Sunday. *Bobbi*

Because of ill health our church cleaner is no longer able to clean for us. While we search for a new one, if you see something that needs doing, e.g. bins emptying, surfaces wiping, etc., please play your part in helping us stay clean and tidy. *Karen*

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 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 work of Christian Aid
- The pastoral care team
- Those waiting for hospital appointments or results
- People struggling to make ends meet

From BMS World Mission

Please pray for BMS mission workers Alan and Megan Barker as they continue to develop their partner support role, both in Nepal and further afield, while also keeping up with their various other roles in the country.

Creator God, you have planted the seed of love in our hearts, in our souls, in our lives.
 We long for the brightness of your presence drawing ever closer to you and to one another, as we join with your people at all times in all places to worship and to serve.
 We confess those frequent times when we have been stony ground, too hard to value the tiny seed, the generous smile, the heartfelt word.
 You grow us into community.
 We confess those frequent times when we have been stony ground, too hard to see beyond our selfish desires and for tacitly accepting a world that smothers the dreams of those with less power and wealth.
 Creator God, once again, you have planted the seed of love in our hearts, in our souls, in our lives.
 We draw near today in the knowledge that your forgiveness waters the seed and nurtures us with the power of your Spirit to grow, to flourish and to bear the fruit of your justice now and forevermore.
 Amen
 (from <https://www.christianaid.org.uk>)

Who do we follow...
 A teacher?
 You were a good teacher,
 Full of wisdom,
 A moral compass,
 Guidance
 For the journey.

Who do we follow...
 A prophet?
 You were indeed a prophet,
 Bringing God's word
 Of love, justice,
 And freedom
 For the journey.

Who do we follow...
 A friend?
 You were certainly friend
 To outcast and sinner,
 Feeding the weak,
 Lightening the load
 For the journey.

Who do we follow...
 All of these,
 None of these,
 For as this world's Saviour
 You are all of these
 And so much more,
 As you take the very least of us,
 And make the very most of us.

Who do we follow?
 Jesus Christ,
 Our Saviour.
 (from <https://www.faithandworship.com>)

Dear Father God,
 I know that when I am weak you are my strength.
 You understand that these are the times when I need to be carried by you. I pray that you would gently renew my strength, speak your words of encouragement into my mind, sing songs of hope over my soul and awaken my heart. I look to you.
 Amen.
 (prayer courtesy of www.prayerscapes.com)

And finally...

The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." *Matthew 25 v 40 (NIV)*

Items for the next News Sheet to Fliss Nesbitt by Thursday 18th 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