Berkhamsted Baptist Church

Weekly News
Sunday 29th November 2026

A family following Jesus

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.
Hebrews 11 v 1 (NIVUK)

Welcome to our Morning Service led by Revd Karen Bugg

Order of Service

Welcome and notices
Opening prayer
Song 1086: Light of the world (Here I am to worship)
Song 375: Jesus, name above all names
Advent wreath lighting and prayer
Song: Hark the glad sound, the Saviour comes
All-age item
Song 537: On Christmas night all Christians sing
Bible Reading - Matthew 1 vs 18 -25
Talk
Reflective song: All the way my Saviour leads me
Intercessions
Song: Be thou my vision
Final prayer and blessing
The grace

Notices

Christmas services and events
Sunday 13th December 10.30am Christingle service
Friday 18th December 7pm Glee Club concert
Sunday 20th December 4pm Carol service
Friday 25th December 10.30am Christmas Day service
Sunday 27th December 10.30am Informal service

Carol singing for Christian Aid is on **Saturday December 12th** 10.30- 11.30 approx. Do join us if you can even for half an hour. I know it is the day of the lunch, but we need to raise money for people like Donnay who had to flee from devastating floods at short notice in Ethiopia. *Margaret Pike*

This year our **Gift Day Appeal** has raised £2845. A big 'thank you' goes to all those who contributed to this sum.
As agreed by our members, this money will be split between the charity Mercy Ships, to support their fully fitted out hospital ships, and our own church, as we explore different ways to follow God's calling.
John Ball, Treasurer

We will be supporting the **Salvation Army Christmas present appeal** to help children in need. If you would like to contribute a gift there is a collection box in the crèche area in church. All gifts should be new and unwrapped. See Kathleen for further information about appropriate toys and gifts. All donations will be taken to the Salvation Army in Hemel Hempstead to be distributed locally. **This is the last week we will be collecting for this.**

St Mary's Church in Northchurch are holding their **Christmas Tree Festival** 4th - 6th December, in aid of Crisis at Christmas and St Mary's Church Fund. Times and more details are on the notice board in the hall.

Meet & Make takes place on **Tuesdays, 1.30 – 3.00 pm** in the Lower Hall, using the Holliday Street entrance. Come and join us for a time spent doing arts and crafts or jigsaws and puzzles. All welcome.

Open Church is on **Thursdays 10.00 am until noon,** on **the 1st and 3rd** Thursdays of the month. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake in the Lower Hall.

First Steps, our parent/carer and toddler group, is on **Thursdays 1.30 – 2.45 pm**. Please pray for the families and our small team.

Our **Small Groups** meet 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 try or join 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:

- UHT milk
- Tinned peas
- Tinned carrots
- Cup soups
- Pot noodles
- Long life puddings
- Christmas chocolates
- Shower gel
- 2-in-1 shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Laundry liquids/tabs/powder
- Carrier bags

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayers

Please pray for

- The Bible Study groups
- Our Christmas services and events
- Those suffering due to war and unrest
- Those who are unwell

From BMS World Mission
Praise God for the many baptisms taking place in new mission locations in Bangladesh. Pray that mission pastors will continue to faithfully proclaim the good news among unreached people.

This Advent-time
we remember Mary and Joseph,
giving thanks for their faithfulness,
courage and obedience,
stepping out into the unknown
in the strength of your Spirit,
playing their part
in the fulfilment of your plan
to bring your prodigal people
home again.
We pray that their example
might be the pattern of our lives,
that when your gentle whisper
breaks through the clamour of this world
and into our small corner,
we might be ready to listen,
and having listened, to act.
From https://www.faithandworship.com/

For love that offers refreshment
to all who drink of it,
Light to all who walk in it,
Strength to all who hope in it,
Healing to all who have need of it,
Wholeness to all who live in it,
This is the God we serve,
The God we worship,
The God we proclaim,
This day and all days,
with our words and our lives.
From https://www.faithandworship.com/

In you, Lord my God,
I put my trust.
I trust in you;
do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
No one who hopes in you
will ever be put to shame,
but shame will come on those
who are treacherous without cause.
Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Saviour,
and my hope is in you all day long.
Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth
and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,
for you, Lord, are good.
Psalm 25 vs 1 -7 (NIVUK)

And finally…

You are my portion, Lord; I have promised to obey your words. *Psalm 112 v 57 (NIVUK)*

Items for the next News Sheet to Fliss Nesbitt by Thursday 3rd December please

Motto text 2026: So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.
Colossians 2 vs 6 - 7 (NIV)