



Weekly News

Sunday 27th September 2026

A family following Jesus

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with corn, for so you have ordained it. *Psalm 65 v 9*

Welcome to our Harvest Service led by Revd Karen Bugg

Order of Service

Welcome and notices
Opening prayer
Song (mp4): Come, you thankful people, come
Hymn 557: Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Introduction, including video
Talk & activity - Part 1 The essentials of life /
Thanksgiving
Hymn BPW 212: For the beauty of the earth
Bible reading: Acts 3.1-10
Talk – Part 2
Stories of the people: Isabel, Petronilo & Mayra
Talk – Part 3
Hymn: Look and see what God is doing
Intercessions
Hymn BPW 474: For the healing of the nations
Blessing and The Grace

Notices

In this **Harvest Service** we will be collecting cash/cheque donations for the work of Operation Agri. If you would prefer to donate electronically, here is the link to the Operation Agri donation page: <https://operationagri.org.uk/product/make-a-donation/>

Ladies' and Men's Group: Little Hay Restaurant can offer us tables for our joint Christmas meal at **lunchtime on 12th December**. Could everyone who would like to attend please let me know as soon as possible?
Vicky Sainsbury

Our **baptistry** will be open and filled for our church anniversary service on **Sunday 1st November**. So far one person has asked to be baptised. If you haven't yet taken this step do have a chat with Karen.

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.

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**, but **only on the first and third Thursdays** of the month. Our next two meetings are therefore **1st and 15th October**. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake in the Lower Hall.

St Albans Cathedral hosts a monthly Free Church Communion service on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:00 am in the Lady Chapel. On **7th October** this will be led by Revd Andrew Openshaw, **CBA regional minister**. Details are on the notice board.

A message from **The Way Inn**

The Way Inn is so much more than a Post Office; it is a Christian presence on our High Street. Over the coming weeks we will be welcoming our Christmas stock, so why not pop in to pick up an Advent Calendar, choose your Christmas cards or select a gift? There will also be some Christmas books at bargain prices and local produce. The Way Inn is run

by a Christian charity which is looking for some **new trustees**. Is this something you or someone you know might be able to do? Please pray about it and speak to The Way Inn to find out more.

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 tomatoes
- Tinned peas
- Tinned carrots
- Tinned sweetcorn
- Cooking sauces
- Custard
- Shower gel
- 2-in-1 shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Liquid hand soap
- Laundry liquids/tabs/powder
- Carrier bags

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayers

Please pray for

- the Bible Study groups
- the children and young people in our church
- our outreach to those around us
- those who are looking for work

From BMS World Mission

Please pray for peace and stability for Chad. Pray that the government would make wise decisions that have a positive impact on Chadians.

Creator God,

We thank you today

for the splendour and beauty of creation;
for the ordered succession of seasons;
for your love which made the world.

We thank you for the good and fertile earth;
for the fruits of the earth in their seasons;
for the life that sustains our life;
for the food that we daily enjoy.

We thank you for those whose labour supplies our physical needs;
for those who harvest our crops, those who transport them,
those who process them, those who sell them.

Loving God,

we thank you for the gift of yourself
in Jesus, our Saviour and Lord;
for his living, dying, and rising again
in your loving redemption of the world.

Life-giving God,

we thank you for your Holy Spirit, the giver of life;
for the Church, a foretaste of your new creation,
and for our privilege in being part of it.

Redeeming God,

we thank you for your mighty acts
in creating and saving your world.
We offer ourselves to you in gratitude,
that we may serve you
and our fellow men and women
joyfully and faithfully throughout our lives;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

From <https://www.baptist.org.uk/>

Did I hear your voice
in the beat of a butterfly's wing,
the melody in a blackbird's song?
Did I feel your presence
in the warmth of a summer breeze,
the coolness of a mountain stream?
Did I sense your touch
in the smile on a young child's face,
the shoulder I can lean upon?

You speak to us
in many ways.

Reveal yourself

in many ways

if our ears can hear,
our heart can feel,
our mind can know,
and our hands are open
to your touch

From <https://www.faithandworship.com/>

In your time, Loving God,
When we had wandered far,
In your perfect time,
You embraced the prodigal
Within the security of your arms.
Remind us always,
As we look at pain caused,
And hardship endured,
That at the centre of our faith
Is the forgiving love of God.

From <https://www.faithandworship.com/>

And finally...

He said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.
Matthew 9 vs 37 & 38

*Items for the next News Sheet to Fliss Nesbitt by
Thursday 1st October, 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)

