



# Berkhamsted Baptist Church

*A family following Jesus*

Weekly News *for*

Sunday 19th March 2023

Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all." *Mark 9 v 35 (NIV)*

Welcome to our Family Worship Service with communion led by  
our Minister Revd Karen Bugg.

## Order of Service

Welcome and notices

Call to worship

Mothering Sunday Prayer

Gift distribution

**Song:** Great things (Come let us worship the King)

Prayer

**Song:** Worthy of ev'ry song

*Children to leave for their groups*

Bible reading: Mark 9 vs 30-37

Sermon

Time of Reflection

**Song:** Behold the Lamb (The Communion Hymn)

Communion

Intercessions

**Song 1129:** With a prayer (Love incarnate)

Prayer

**Song 564:** Praise to the Lord

Blessing

The Grace

## Notices

In our services between now and Easter we will be exploring Mark's gospel to help us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus (see our motto text 2023). I really do encourage you to read the whole of chapter 9 either before the service or sometime the following week. Next week we will be exploring a passage from chapter 10, and the week after from chapter 11, and so on.  
*Karen*

**Open Church** takes place every Thursday **10.00 am until noon**. Now the weather has turned colder 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.

Our **Church members meeting and AGM** is on Sunday March 26th after the morning Service. The AGM is a time for giving thanks for the past year and recommitting ourselves in service to God as we serve this church fellowship. It is also a time to commission those who take a lead within the various groups of church life. It is also a time to recommit to, or step down from, a particular role. Please pray earnestly regarding these issues.

We look forward to seeing you there. *Maggie*

Many thanks to all who supported our Lent lunch for Christian Aid on Thursday. We raised £560 with £102 gift aided.

Many thanks

*Margaret Pike*

The Church has made a donation of £150 to the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed in Bangladesh where John Carter and Janet have been working. They have made several similar visits in the past few years.

The Church has also donated £250 to Christian Aid, who are working in partnership with the Disasters Emergency Committee in Turkey and Syria. The money will be used to aid the victims of the recent substantial earthquakes in the area.

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 fish (not tuna)
- Cereal bars
- 750ml squash
- Tinned potatoes
- Instant mash
- Small jars of coffee
- Tinned ham/corned beef
- Rice
- Tinned vegetables
- 20p carrier bags
- Shampoo
- Large black refuse sacks
- Washing up liquid (small)
- Deodorants
- Laundry liquid/tabs/powder (small packs only)
- Sanitary products

## Prayers

- The Open Church team
- Those struggling financially
- The future direction of our church
- Refugees in all parts of the world
- Those in our church family struggling with health issues

### *From BMS World Mission*

BMS worker Joy Ransom works with rural primary school teachers in Nepal to improve education opportunities. In Joy's last year of service, pray that she completes all that needs to be done, and hands on the baton to others to continue the work.

Son of God,  
you love each one of us  
as if there were just one of us;  
those who have striven hard  
to obey your commands,  
those who have drifted here,  
unsure of the path they trod,  
those who are here simply  
because of your grace,  
individuals, all of us.  
Son of God,

**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.

you love each one of us  
as if there were just one of us,  
how can we not sing your praises  
for all that you have done. Amen  
(from <https://www.faithandworship.com>)

Lord, we would grow with you  
New shoots reaching out  
Hands stretched upward  
Like leaves newly formed  
Soaking up your light and warmth  
Lord, we would grow with you

Lord, we would grow with you  
In sunshine and rain  
In darkness and light  
In cold days and summer days  
From Springtime to Winter  
Lord, we would grow with you

Lord, we would grow with you  
And bring forth fruit  
That is pleasing to you  
Fed by your living water  
Giving sustenance to others  
Lord, we would grow with you  
(from <https://www.faithandworship.com>)

Dear Lord,  
Help us to follow your example,  
by looking out for those who each day feel that they  
are marginalised,  
who cannot find hope,  
who believe that they have little to offer,  
who are overcome by the challenges of poverty.  
Help us to widen our horizons,  
to make space for the stranger,  
to watch out for those who feel invisible,  
to give time to the outsider,  
to talk to the person facing silence,  
to restore justice and value.  
Give us the courage to undertake this, the  
determination to join with others in seeing grace in  
every human face,  
and the faith to embrace the opportunity in your  
name.  
Amen  
(from <https://baptist.org.uk>)

## And finally...

He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. *Isaiah 53 v 3a (NIV)*

*Items for the next News Sheet to Chris Hayward by Thursday 23rd March, please*

*Hebrews 12 v 1-2a*

