



Weekly News

Sunday 2nd August 2026

A family following Jesus

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches. *Matthew 13 vs 31,32 (NIV)*

**Welcome to our All Age Morning Service with communion
led by Michael Clarke and Carla Ball**

Order of Service

Welcome and notices

Opening prayer

Call to worship

Song 1046: Give thanks to the Lord, our God and king

Song 307: I will enter his gates with thanksgiving

Song 99: Come on and celebrate

Bible Reading 1: Luke 3 vs 41-47

Activity 1

Song : Our God is a great big God

Activity 2

Bible Reading 2: Matthew 11 vs 28 - 30 & 13 vs 31, 32 & Luke 13 vs 18 , 19

Talk

Song 541: One shall tell another

Communion

Intercessions

Song 746: What a friend we have in Jesus

Final prayer and blessing

The grace

The Leadership Team has begun exploring how we might be able to offer different ways of helping our local community connect with God and grow in faith. So that the whole church can be involved in seeking God about this, Karen has written a series of daily reflections for each of us to use that she is hoping will help us think about who God is asking us to be and what God is asking us to do in this next season. Most people will receive these via email but if you would like a paper copy please speak to Karen or Fliss.

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 **6th and 20th August**. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake in the Lower Hall.

There will be **no Meet and Make sessions in August**. The team will be taking a well-earned break.

First Steps, our parent + toddler group, has now finished for the summer term. We will be back in September.

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.

Notices

Karen will be on holiday Saturday 1st - Saturday 8th August inclusive. Whilst she is away, please contact the Leadership or Pastoral Care Team with any church-related issues.

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.

You break in
When defences are down,
With an Angel's shout,
Or the quietest sound,
You break in,
You break in.

And we change,
And all things change,
When you break in.

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

Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.
The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

surely I have a delightful inheritance.
I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With him at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
Psalms 16 vs 5 - 8 (NIV)

Creator God
who breathed this world into being,
who is discernible within
the harmony of nature,
the perfection of a butterfly's wing,
the grandeur of a mountain range,
the soaring eagle and humming bird,
thank you for this world
which you have created.
Thank you for summer sun,
which reminds us
that your creative breath
is still alive and active.
Thank you for the warmth of your love,
sustaining this world,
your garden
From <https://www.faithandworship.com/>

And finally...

'I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.' *Matthew 13 v 35 (NIV)*

Items for the next News Sheet to Chris Hayward by Thursday 6th August, please

Prayers

Please pray for

- The Bible Study groups
- Those affected by wild fires
- Our government
- Those who are unwell

From BMS World Mission

Please lift up the Kasese region of Uganda. Ask God to bring protection, healing and lasting change for women and children through ongoing work addressing gender-based violence..

Into the daily cycle of our lives,
When all seems well
With us and with the world,
When our yoke is easy
And the burden light,
You break in,
And scatter our complacency.

Into the daily cycle of our lives,
When we are comfortable
And at our ease,
When the fire is lit,
But eyes are closed,
You break in,
And challenge our dependency.

You break into
Our daily prayers,
Humble hearts,
Lay souls bare,
You break in,
You break in.

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)

