Berkhamsted Baptist Church

Weekly News
Sunday 15th November 2026

A family following Jesus

'The Lord has done this for me,' she said. 'In these days he has shown his favour and taken away my disgrace among the people.' *Luke 1 v 25 (NIV)*

Welcome to our Morning Service with communion led by Revd Karen Bugg

Order of Service

Welcome and notices
Call to worship
Opening prayer
Song 1222: Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
Song 200: Great is thy faithfulness
Pass the parcel
All age focus
Song: Water you turned into wine
Elizabeth media clip
Bible Reading - Luke 1 vs 5 - 25
Talk
Communion
Intercessions
Prayer to share together
Song 631 : Tell out my soul
Blessing
The grace

Notices

Christmas services and events

Sunday 22nd November	Festival of Light
Sunday 13th December	Christingle service
Friday 18th December	Glee Club concert
Sunday 20th December	Carol service
Friday 25th December	Christmas Day service
Sunday 27th December	Informal service

There will be a **church meeting** after the service this morning in the lower hall. All are invited to attend, but only members may vote.

This **Wednesday, 18th November, at 7.30pm** we will be praying together on zoom. A link will be sent nearer the time. Please join if you can.

The **Men's Group** will meet at **7.00 pm on Thursday 19th November** at Potten End Bowls Club for a session of carpet bowls. Bring cash for entry and refreshments.

This year our **Gift Day Appeal** has raised £2845. A big thanks 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 to our Church, as we explore different ways to follow God's calling.
John Ball, Treasurer

From Douglas Goss
I felt overwhelmed by the love, encouragement and support on the occasion of my baptism, and this message comes to say thank you to you all for making the day so memorable for me. Thank you too to Alice for letting me share the day with her.

The Berkhamsted **Festival of Light** is next **Sunday 22nd November**. We will be opening the church that afternoon with the dressing-up clothes for photos and for people to bring their crown stones. If you are able to come and help any time from 3.30 to 6.00 pm please let Karen or Fliss know.

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.

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 **19th November and 3rd December**. 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.

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 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 Open Church team
- Our government
- Refugees throughout the world
- Those struggling as the weather gets colder

From BMS World Mission
Praise God for opening Cambodia to the gospel. Pray for peace with neighbouring countries and for the Church to be strengthened by effective prayer, evangelism and Bible teaching.

For each step that I might take,
Be my guide, O Lord of life.
For each load that I might bear,
Be my strength, O Lord of life.
For each mountain I might face,
Be my power, O Lord of life.
For each river that might impede,
Be my safety, O Lord of life.
For each place where I might rest,
Be my peace, O Lord of life.
For each sunrise and sunset,
Be my joy, O Lord of life.
From https://www.faithandworship.com/

Bless those whose faith,
even when tested
by pain, loss or sorrow,
still shines through
the darkness of their lives
as a witness to you,
and speaks so clearly
of your love for them.
Bless them, for their witness
to your grace and mercy,
and hold them gently
in the comfort of your arms.
From https://www.faithandworship.com/

Teach me your way, Lord,
that I may rely on your faithfulness;
give me an undivided heart,
that I may fear your name.
I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart;
I will glorify your name for ever.
For great is your love towards me;
you have delivered me from the depths,
from the realm of the dead.
Psalm 86 vs 11-13

And finally…

For no word from God will ever fail. *Luke 1 v 37 (NIV)*

Items for the next News Sheet to Chris Hayward by Thursday 19th November 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)