



AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

Sunday 16th August 2026

MORNING WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

led by The Revd Ian Green and The Revd Erna Stevenson

Organist: Dominic Detre – *Pre-Recorded*

Wherever you are on the journey of faith, you are invited to receive communion.

If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, please let them pass by without embarrassment.

If you are able, please stand for those parts of the service marked with an asterisk ()*

GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

* **Hymn 72:** Now thank we all our God *During which the Bible is placed in the pulpit*

Opening Responses

Minister: We come as the people of God,

All: **seekers after truth and companions
together on a journey of faith.**

Minister: We join together to present to God our praise,

All: **to read his word and offer our prayers.**

Minister: We gather to listen out for God,

All: **who speaks through bible, sermon and sacrament,
in silence and in fellowship.**

Minister: The Lord be with you

All: **And also with you.**

Opening Prayers of Praise, Confession and Lord's Prayer

followed by **Welcome and Notices**

Introduction to the Theme: *Sitting in the wrong part of the bus*

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Readings: Isaiah 56.1,6-8 O.T. p. 617

Matthew 15.21-28 N.T. p.14

This morning's reader is Peter Burdin

Reader: In this is the word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

* **Hymn:** Be calm, for the peacefulness of God *Tune: Be still for the presence of the Lord*

1. **Be calm for the peacefulness of God, the Holy One is near,
with outstretched loving arms, to keep you safe from fear.
In music and in song, your God will keep you strong.
Be calm, for the peacefulness of God, the Holy One is near.**
2. **Be true, for the wisdom of your God
will carry you through pain.
She'll hold you in her love, till joy springs forth again.
Through sorrow and despair, you'll learn the power of prayer.
Be true, for the wisdom of your God
will carry you through pain.**
3. **Go on, for the promise of your God is calling you to dream,
and in the darkest hour, the ray of hope will gleam.
So, trust the gracious word, the calling of your God.
Go on, for the promise of you God is calling you to dream.**

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Sermon: Crossing Boundaries

followed by Silent Reflection Sermon notes are available as you leave and on the church website

***Hymn 349:** I heard the voice of Jesus say

Prayers of Intercession

* **Hymn 373:** Lord Jesus Christ

THE COMMUNION

***The Peace** all standing

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you

All: **and also with you.**

Minister: We say for one another:

All: **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore.**

***The Offertory Procession**

Minister: We give thanks to God and sing:

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Invitation to Communion

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Therefore with all your people in heaven and on earth we sing the resounding hymn of your glory:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,**

Sung: 13 in heaven and earth are full of your glory.

hymn book Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution *and then the* Sharing of bread and wine

Post Communion Prayer

**Generous and Gracious God,
You have met us here in bread and wine,
Send us out with your love in our hearts,
And with your light to guide us upon our paths.
And so may we live the words we have sung,
To your praise and glory. Amen**

Hymn: In the garden Mary lingers Tune: Angel Voices R&S 405

**I In the garden Mary lingers,
broken and forlorn,
then an unexpected greeting
names her in the dawn:
so she meets her risen Saviour
on the resurrection morn.**

**2 Evening journey: two disciples,
grieving for the dead,
find a stranger walks beside them,
cheers their hearts instead-
finally they recognise him
as he breaks and shares the bread.**

**3 Ten distraught, confused apostles
hide away in fear;
rumours that the grave is empty
they are shocked to hear-
yet when Jesus stands among them
dread and sorrow disappear.**

**4 Fishermen who toiled for nothing
on the lake all night
hear the sound of Jesus' welcome
in the morning light:
in the friendship shared at breakfast
old mistakes are lost to sight.**

**5 Every day a fresh beginning-
newness, come what may!
In the most unlikely places
Jesus reigns today;
from the past to new horizons
Christ our Saviour leads the way.** *Martin E Leckebusch CCL 257120*

***Dismissal and Blessing with sung Amen** *All Standing*

Morning Tea and Coffee is served in the Church Hall after the service.

