

Willen Church Newsheet
The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

www.willenchurch.org



Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership
St Mary Magdalene Willen
Sunday 27th September 2026
The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity



Come Ye Thankful People Come

Today: Harvest Thanksgiving

Theme: The Lord of the Harvest

9.30am Holy Communion for Harvest Festival led by Revd. Dr. Kofi Tekyi-Ansah
Thank you, Kofi, for leading us this morning and Helen for playing the organ.

Harvest produce for Harvest Thanksgiving: Your offerings of non-perishable foodstuffs (for instance cans of food, pasta, rice etc.) are invited for the Harvest Festival Service. Donations will be passed on to the Milton Keynes Food Bank.

10.00am Family Breakfast Club at Cross & Stable with Service at **11.00am** led by Revd. Dr. Sam Muthuveloe

Service details for SEP churches are on SEP website and in monthly newsletter

This week

St Mary Magdalene church is open for private prayer or quiet reflection on Sundays from 9.30am until evening and on Mondays.

ChatterboxMK at Cross & Stable each **Wednesday** 10.30am to 12.30pm. All Welcome - tea - coffee - cakes - meet and chat. Come and meet others.

The monthly communion service at **Oaktree Court**, Portland Drive will be at **2.15pm on 1st October**. Anyone who would like to join would be welcome.

Please come along and join the **volunteer gardeners** on Saturday mornings 10am - 12pm in the Garden of Remembrance. No special skills needed.

Next week: September 27th The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am All Age Morning Worship led by Margaret Moakes LLM

The next **Bible study** meeting on "God in Three Persons". will be on **Monday 4th October** from **7.00 to 9.00pm** at 91A Aldrich Drive, Willen, All welcome

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Enquiries: To contact about weddings funerals and baptisms or other enquiries please call 01908 382458; or E. sburyepadm@gmail.com or contact a churchwarden.	
Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership: www.stantonbury.net and Facebook Please email short succinct notices to notices@willenchurch.org by 5pm on the preceding Thursday	

Collect

Eternal God,
You crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need
and for our own well-being:
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever. **Amen**



Psalm 65 (© The Archbishops' Council 2005)

- 1 Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; ♦
to you that answer prayer shall vows be paid.
- 2 To you shall all flesh come to confess their sins; ♦
when our misdeeds prevail against us, you will purge them away.
- 3 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there. ♦
We shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house, even of your holy temple.
- 4 With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, ♦
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.
- 5 In your strength you set fast the mountains ♦
and are girded about with might.
- 6 You still the raging of the seas, ♦
the roaring of their waves and the clamour of the peoples.
- 7 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth tremble at your marvels; ♦
the gates of the morning and evening sing your praise.
- 8 You visit the earth and water it; ♦
you make it very plenteous.
- 9 The river of God is full of water; ♦
you prepare grain for your people, for so you provide for the earth.
- 10 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; ♦
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.
- 11 You crown the year with your goodness, ♦
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- 12 May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness ♦
and the hills be girded with joy.
- 13 May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep ♦
and the valleys stand so thick with corn that they shall laugh and sing.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Corinthians 9: 6 – 15 (NRSVA)

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

⁶The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

‘He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.’

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING

Luke 17: 11 – 19 (NRSVA)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke

Glory to you, O Lord

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, ‘Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!’ ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, ‘Go and show yourselves to the priests.’ And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, ‘Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?’ ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’ ¹⁹Then he said to him, ‘Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.’

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ



NOTICES

Heritage Week A big **THANK YOU** to all who helped with events during Heritage Week and especially to Sharron and the team for all their work in organising the programme of events and to Lesley and Harold who braved all weathers to keep the plant stall open throughout. The plant stall raised £472.50; the rose raffle £287 and in total the plant sales and raffle have raised £1145.50 in 2026. The total raised in Heritage Week was over £670. A fantastic result for everyone's efforts. Thank you.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS Please pray for

- Those in Debt: Many people have debts that are unsustainable, or find themselves trapped in a vicious cycle of rising debt. Please pray for those who owe money to others and for debt advice services and credit unions, who are trying to help.
- A Rocha, a Christian charity working to protect and restore the natural world and to equip UK Christians and churches to care for the environment. www.arocha.org.uk

Sick: Mark & Janice Earls, Fr Edmund Wheat SSM, Alison Read, Cindy Williams, Rosie Fletcher, Lynda Phillips, Carolyn and John Trood, Harold Judd

World Prayers: for people and animals lacking the food they need; that the ears of those in power may be opened to hear the cries of the hungry, and hearts opened to share from the abundance of their nations, including our own. Sept. 27 World Tourism Day; 28 Sep International Day for Universal Access to Information; 29 Sep International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste; 30 Sep International Translation Day; 1 Oct International Coffee Day; International Day of Older Persons; 2 Oct International Day of Non-Violence

Faithful, loving God, at harvest time we pause to remember your goodness. Thank you for the wonderful things we have: the beauty of your creation, the kindness of others and the hope you give us in every season of my life. We're grateful for moments of joy, for the people who walk with us in life and for your love. Help us to hold onto that gratitude, even during hard times, and to share that hope with other people. Amen.

The Collect of the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



HYMNS - Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New

- 133** Come, ye thankful people, come
- 236** God, whose hand is all creation
- 184** For the beauty of the earth
- 719** We plough the fields and scatter



Psalms 78: 1 – 4, 12 – 16 (© The Archbishops' Council 2005)

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; ♦
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; ♦
I will pour forth mysteries from of old,
- 3 Such as we have heard and known, ♦
which our forebears have told us.
- 4 We will not hide from their children,
but will recount to generations to come, ♦
the praises of the Lord and his power
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 For he did marvellous things in the sight of their forebears, ♦
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He divided the sea and let them pass through; ♦
he made the waters stand still in a heap.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day ♦
and all the night through with a blaze of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness ♦
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the rock ♦
and made water gush out like rivers.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 17: 1 – 7 (NRSVA)

A reading from the Book of Exodus

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?' ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 2: 1 – 13 (NRSV)

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21: 23 – 32 (NRSV)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' ²⁴ Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" ²⁶ But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." ²⁹ He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

