



# AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

## MORNING WORSHIP

led by The Revd Erna Stevenson and The Revd Ian Green

Organist: Richard Brazier

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

## GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

**\* HYMN 43: I sing the almighty power of God** *Tune: London New*

*During which the bible is placed in the pulpit*

**Opening Responses** *from Psalm 119*

Minister: O God, let your praises pour from our lips,  
**All:** **for we have set our hearts in finding you.**  
Minister: We come to rejoice in your paths  
**All:** **and find delight in your word.**  
Minister: Great is your compassion, Lord,  
**All:** **and in your love you grant us life.**  
Minister: The Lord be with you  
**All:** **And also with you.**

## Prayers of Adoration and confession

**The Lord's Prayer** back cover of the hymn book

## Welcome and Notices



## WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

**\* Hymn: Forty Days and Forty Nights** G.H.Smyttan Tune: Heinlein R&S 507 CCL257120

**1 Forty days and forty nights  
you were fasting in the wild;  
forty days and forty nights  
tempted, and yet undefiled.**

**2 Burning heat throughout the day,  
bitter cold when light had fled;  
prowling beasts around your way,  
stones your pillow, earth your bed.**

**3 Let us your endurance share  
and from earthly greed abstain,  
with you watching unto prayer  
with you strong to suffer pain.**

**4 Then if evil on us press,  
flesh or spirit to assail,  
Victor in the wilderness,  
help us not to swerve or fail!**

**Readings:** Psalm 32 OT p.467 from the NRSV

Matthew 4:1-11 NT p.2

*This morning's reader is Peter Burdin*

**Reader:** In this is the word of the Lord

**All:** **Thanks be to God**

**\*Hymn** The word of God is like a lamp *Tune: St Columba 448 R&S*

**I. The word of God is like a lamp  
which scatters light around,  
revealing truth, rekindling youth,  
defining holy ground.**

**2. The word of God is like a sword  
which pierces to the core,  
disabling lies, dispelling sighs,  
to bless and never bore.**

**3. The word of God is like a chest  
which brims with precious gold,  
enriching all who heed God's call  
with wisdom, new and old.**

**4. So let us praise our gracious God  
who gave the world this word;  
and let our mind be sealed and signed  
by Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*John L Bell & Graham Moule 2018 Wild Goose Resource Group CCL257120*

**Sermon** followed by Silent Reflection

## OUR RESPONSE

**\*Hymn:** We come with thanks for all the ways you find us *Tune: Finlandia*

**1. We come with thanks for all the ways you find us,  
for ev'rything that helps your presence prove:  
for written word that tells us of your rescue –  
how God has come to earth from heav'n above;  
for nature's voice in grandeur and in beauty,  
for ev'ry hint you give us of your love.**

**2. We come with thanks for those who showed us Jesus,  
for all who tried to lead us to their Lord:  
for those whose care has moulded, nurtured, shaped us,  
made life without you patently absurd;  
for teachers, friends and all our private heroes  
who helped us turn and listen to your Word.**

**3. We come with thanks for all who keep us faithful,  
who day by day renew our walk with you:  
for those who see our inward spirit flagging  
and in life's struggle help us still pull through;  
for those around who give that we, receiving,  
may give in turn, and to our God be true.**

**4. So let us live with thankfulness and caring,  
show all around a life touched by your care;  
that even we might help someone find Jesus,  
pass on the love, by action and in pray'r;  
that they may walk, with us, through earth to heaven,  
share in the joy of living with you there.**

*John Campbell © 2016 Kevin Mayhew Ltd CCL257120*

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

### **Presentation of the Offering**

*Each week we make our gifts in a variety of ways, by placing cash or envelopes in the baskets as we enter or exit church or through direct bank giving. All these offerings are dedicated now as we sing:*

**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.**

*Thomas Ken (1637-1711)*

**\*Hymn 72: Now thank we all our God**

**\*Dismissal and Blessing with sung Amen**

*Morning Coffee will be served in the church hall after the service*

