

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

2nd READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13

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.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:23-32

²³ When Jesus 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?' ²⁴Jesus 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. ²⁵Did 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?"' ²⁶But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' ²⁷So 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." ²⁹He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. ³¹Which 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. ³²For 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.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 27th September 2026 17th SUNDAY after TRINITY

Jesus said, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:38

Today

Let us be bold in bringing our requests before God in prayer, because he hears and answers. Especially pray for a spiritual awakening here in Wem.

Monday—28th September

Pray for the Monday prayer group that they may grow deeper in unity and love. Pray that others may be called to this important ministry.

Tuesday—29th September

Pray for God's protection over young people especially to protect their minds and hearts from destructive influences on the Internet.

Wednesday—30th September

Pray for young people leaving school and starting University, College, apprenticeships or employment, that they may adjust to the changes well and flourish in their chosen direction.

Thursday—1st October

Pray for the Lord's blessing on our Rector, John's ministry in St. Peter's School. Pray that he will build a good relationship with the children and make Jesus known to them.

Friday—2nd October

Pray for the Lord's blessing on those who will be decorating the Church for the Harvest Festival. Thank the Lord for his provision and be ready to share what we have.

Saturday—3rd October

Pray for those with addictions that they may receive the help they need to be released from them. Pray that they may find new life in Jesus.

NEWS UPDATE—starting 27th September
Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On **FRIDAY 2nd OCTOBER** From 10:30 — we will be decorating the church ready for **HARVEST FESTIVAL** on **SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER**. If you would like to help with this please speak to Sybil. All help will be much appreciated. At our services on **SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER** please bring your donations of dried and tinned food for WEM STORE CUPBOARD or bring **cash**, as the plate collection will be divided between NEPAL & WEM STORE CUPBOARD. Thank you.

SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER

14:30 — An Afternoon with Musical Friends.

Tickets £12

from Kim 07970 357553 or
Wendy 07828 282996 or
on line £13



SATURDAY 31st OCTOBER

10:00 -12:00 Coffee Morning in Wem Church Hall

HELPERS AT CONCERTS AND COFFEE MORNINGS

If you are able to help at any of the upcoming events please add your name to the list at the back of church and tick the boxes to serve tea and coffee, make cakes, look after the raffle or sell/check tickets on the day.

Services in the Benefice

Sunday 27th September—TRINITY 17

WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	11:00	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist—BCP

Thursday 1st October

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
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Sunday 4th October—TRINITY 18

WEM	08:00 09:45	Harvest Service Harvest Service
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist

Thursday 8th October

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
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Come and join us for coffee and biscuits in the hall after the 9:45 service.

ALL WELCOME!



Sybil

**Sybil Farmer, PCC Lay Chair
St Peter & St Paul's Church, Wem**

To view our October Services & Events
please go to our website: <https://wemcofe.co.uk>



THE COLLECT

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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 for ever.

1st READING: EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-end

The word of the Lord came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?