



For the Lord God is a sun and a shield

This summer we hope to have solar panels fitted on the hall and lounge roofs (with a bit of 'red tape' needing to be dealt with first). In this short article I want us to think about how the sun is such a good metaphor for how God looks over us. But, before that I am so conscious that there is a great deal of misinformation regarding solar panels so let me make a bunch of statements of fact.

1. Solar panels are not a fire risk, but actually carry the same risk as the fridge in your kitchen. 2. Solar panels do work on cloudy days. 3. Solar panels don't stop working when it gets too hot and sunny. 4. The savings from our energy costs will actually pay for the solar panels in 6-7 years.

In reality, the solar panels will reduce our bills, will increase our energy security from significant international events and alongside our infrared heating will mean that we can keep people warm in the winter for significantly lower bills for the church. All of that is alongside us also reducing the church's carbon footprint.

So, that's some of the reasoning behind this, but I want to spend a few paragraphs looking at words from Psalm 84 and thinking about God's goodness. This Biblical psalm has some well known lines. It begins, *"How lovely is your dwelling place LORD Almighty. My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh cry out for the living God."* The psalm then continues with that way of thinking and speaks of God's goodness towards those who follow him.

Then Psalm 84:11 says, *"For the LORD God is a sun and a shield."* As we think about the sun and how no life could exist on earth without it, then we realise that in the same way no life could exist without God. He gives us all that we need in life; physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and spiritually. So much of this is about his presence with us each day, helping us to live as he calls us to and as we should. But ultimately, everything that we have is a gift from God.

And he is a shield who watches over us and protects us. So many of us have examples of times when he has answered prayer in the most spectacular of ways (although we also know that he often doesn't answer as we hope he would at that time). God was there in the midst of the struggles we faced, like a shield of protection.

The greatest way that God shows us that he provides for us and shields us is in sending Jesus as our Saviour. He provided all that we needed for the forgiveness of our sins (Jesus' death on the cross), and in doing so he protects us from our own destructive ways. He is so good to us!

So, when the solar panels do go up and we can think about how the sun is giving us free energy for our church, let's also make sure that we remember God and how he provides all that we need and is a shield around us.

God bless,

Paul

New or Visiting?

First Time Here?

If it's your first time here then welcome! It's great to have you with us. Here are a few short notes that you might find helpful.

Relax - You're our guest, so make yourself at home. If there is anything that you would like to know then ask one of the Welcome Team by the front door.

We don't expect guests to give - For those who are members or regular attenders there is an offering plate at the back, but we don't ask our guests for any money.

We have a Loop System - Switch your hearing aid to T-coil.

You might find it useful to sit towards the middle.

Hang around afterwards - Come and join us for a cup of tea or fresh coffee, and for a chat—drinks are served in the hall and we usually gather in the lounge to chat.

Prayer - If you would like someone to pray with you — either prayer for you or for someone you know — there are people who would love to do so after the service. Please make yourself known to the service leader.

Children & Youth - Once a month, the whole church worships together. On other weeks, there is a Sunday School for primary aged children. One of the Welcome Team can show you where Sunday School meets. For pre-school age children, there are green tables at the side of church with activities. Please don't be embarrassed if your children make any noise—they are welcome here and are part of the service, too! All our children and youth leaders have DBS checks and have undergone safeguarding training.

Next Steps

We are all on a journey through life, and our faith is no different. Depending upon where you are on your journey with God here are some 'Next Steps' you could take:

COMMIT YOUR LIFE TO CHRIST

Commit to follow Jesus today!

RE-COMMIT TO CHRIST

It's never too late for a fresh start with faith.

DECLARE YOUR FAITH THROUGH BAPTISM

If you feel you've made a commitment to God but have never been baptised, then this could be a great step for you.

JOIN A LIFE GROUP

If you're not in one, there are a number of groups that meet in homes throughout the week to get to know each other better, look at the Bible and pray together.

BE PART OF THE MISSION

There are lots of ways you can use your gifts to serve God, his Church and the wider community. Speak to one of the church team to find out more.

JULY 2026

Wednesday 1st

9:00-11:00 Café (Just the morning today)

7:00-8:30 Youth Club

Sunday 5th

10:00 Morning Family of God Service

6:30 Evening Communion Service

Wednesday 8th

9:00-1:00 Light Café

1:00-1:15 Pause for Thought

7:00-8:30 Youth Club

Sunday 12th

10:00 Morning Service & Sunday School

6:30 Evening Service

Wednesday 15th

9:00-1:00 Light Café

9:30-11:00 Messy Toddlers

1:00-1:15 Pause for Thought

7:00-8:30 Youth Club

Sunday 19th

10:00 Morning Communion Service & Sunday School

6:30 Evening Service

Wednesday 22nd

9:00-1:00 Light Café

1:00-1:30 BCP Holy Communion

Thursday 23rd

7:30 Social Night

Sunday 26th

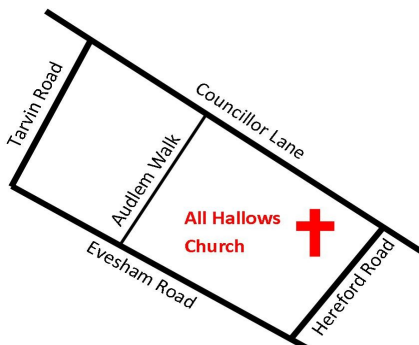
10:00 Morning Service & Sunday School

6:30 Evening Service

Contact Details

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allhallows.cheadle@gmail.com
allhallows-church.org.uk



If you would like to make a one-off donation to the work of All Hallows Church you can do so by using the QR Code.

PRAYER MEETINGS

Monday

10:00-11:00 Zoom Prayers

Tuesday and Thursday

9:30-10:00 Morning Prayer in Room 2
(off the Church Hall)

Wednesday

1:00-1:15 Pause for Thought in Church

Saturday Prayer Relays

Book a half hour slot during the day to pray, before somebody else takes over