A Service of Commemoration for the Faithful Departed

Sunday 2 November 2025





Please stand for the opening hymn (A&M 24)

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended, The darkness falls at thy behest; To thee our morning hymns ascended, Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy Church unsleeping, While earth rolls onward into light, Through all the world her watch is keeping, And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island The dawn leads on another day, The voice of prayer is never silent, Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking Our brethren 'neath the western sky, And hour by hour fresh lips are making Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it Lord; thy throne shall never, Like earth's proud empires, pass away; Thy Kingdom stands, and grows for ever, Till all thy creatures own thy sway.

Please sit

Welcome

The Revd. Jamie Taylor Vicar of Charvil, Sonning and Sonning Eye

Opening Prayer

Poem

'Footprints' - Read by Hilary Rennie Parish Office Manager

Choir anthem

'Lachrymosa' (Goodall)

Bible Reading

John 14: 1-6- Read by Liz Nelson Church Warden

Please stand for the hymn (A&M 594)

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side:

Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain: Leave to your God to order and provide: In every change he faithful will remain. Be still, my soul; your best, your heavenly friend Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; your God will undertake To guide the future as he has the past: Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake: All now mysterious shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know His voice, who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart, And all is darkened in the vale of tears, Then you shall better know his love, his heart, Who comes to soothe your sorrow, calm your fears. Be still, my soul: for Jesus can repay From his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on When we shall be for ever with the Lord: When disappointment, grief and fear are gone, Sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, All safe and blessèd we shall meet at last.

Please sit

Address

The Revd. Jamie Taylor Vicar of Charvil, Sonning and Sonning Eye

Hymn (A&M 678)

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song:
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe! This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save. Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied: For every sin on him was laid: Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am his and he is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me: From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from his hand: Till he returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I stand!

Prayers

Led by Corinne Robertson Youth & Children's Minister

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Choir anthem 'Call to Remembrance' (Farrant)

Lighting of candles of remembrance

The names of those to be remembered are read out. Please follow the directions of the welcome team to the altar to place your candle in remembrance of your loved one.

We keep a time of silence for reflection.

Prayer of Commemoration

Poem

'Seashore' by Henry Van Dyke - Read by Revd. Jamie Taylor

The Blessing

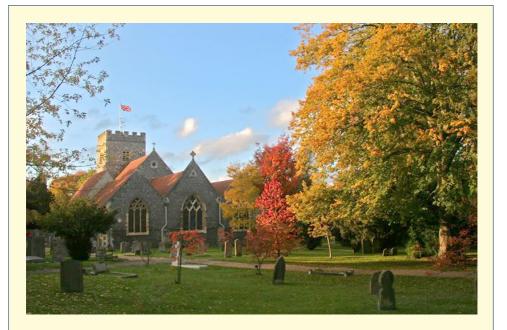
Hymn (A&M 652)

- 1. Guide me, O thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but thou art mighty; Hold me with thy powerful hand: Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me now and evermore, Feed me now and evermore.
- 2. Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow; Let the fiery cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through; Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, Be thou still my strength and shield, Be thou still my strength and shield.
- 3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side: Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will ever give to thee, I will ever give to thee.

Please do stay for refreshments in the church after the service



To book your place or for more information contact the Parish Office on 0118 969 3298 or email office@sonningparish.org.uk



Parish Contacts

Vicar: Revd Jamie Taylor 0118 969 3298 vicar@sonningparish.org.uk (off duty Friday)

Youth Minister: Chris West 07946 224 106

youthminister@sonningparish.org.uk

Youth & Children's Minister: Corinne Robertson 0118 969 3298

corinne@sonningparish.org.uk

Parish Office Manager: Hilary Rennie 0118 969 3298

office@sonningparish.org.uk

The Parish Office is open from 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday

Our Services

Every Sunday at 8am - Holy Communion (Book of Comon Prayer)

1st Sunday of the month at 10.30am - Family Service 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays at 10.30am - Parish Eucharist

1st Sunday of the month at 4pm - Choral Evensong (followed by tea and homemade cakes in the Ark)

For more details please see the church website www.sonningparish.org.uk or contact the parish office