

# PARISH EUCHARIST

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2026



THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, SERVING  
CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

# Everyone Welcome!

Welcome to our Parish Eucharist service for the Fourth Sunday of Easter.

You will be guided by the welcome team to receive communion at the appropriate time.

We have gluten free communion wafers for those with gluten allergies. Please let one of the welcome team know if you would like to receive one at communion. If you are hard of hearing, we have a hearing loop in church. Please turn your hearing aid to the appropriate position to use it. Large print copies of this service booklet are available.

Sunday Club and STAY are running today in the Ark.

Sunday Club (Reception to Year 6) usually runs on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month in the Ark during term time.

STAY (Year 7 upwards) usually runs in the Ark every 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of each month in the Ark during term time.

The children's area is open and toys are available for younger children there. Please would parents supervise their children using this area and tidy toys away afterwards.

Please do join us for refreshments in The Ark following the service.

To request more information about our church activities please scan the QR code to the right or contact the church office by telephone or email - details on the back page.



If you would like to make a donation to the ministry and mission of this church you can do so by leaving a donation in the collection plate, using the contactless terminal by the main church door or scanning the QR code here:



*The responses and prayers in **BOLD** type are said by the whole congregation*

*Please stand for the hymn (A&M 214)*

**Paschal Feast! Upon the cross**

Jesus gave himself to save us.  
Sin's sad leaven throw away:  
break the bread of life he gave us.  
*Alleluia!*

3. Christ is risen from the grave,  
all who sleep in death awaking.  
First fruit of the harvest Weld:  
now our Easter dawn is breaking.  
*Alleluia!*

2. Risen again, our living Lord  
death's dominion now has shattered.  
Now we share his risen life,  
hell's dread powers for ever scattered.  
*Alleluia!*

4. As through man death comes to all,  
so has man unlocked death's prison.  
As in Adam all are dead,  
so in Christ shall all be risen.  
*Alleluia!*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Alleluia, Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed, Alleluia.**

*Please sit for the welcome and notices.*

## **Prayers of Preparation and Penitence**

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

*(1 Corinthians 5. 7,8)*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please stand to sing the Gloria in Excelsis*

**Glory to God, glory to God. Glory to God in the highest.**

**Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,**

**We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God, glory to God. Glory to God in the highest.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, glory to God. Glory to God in the highest.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,**

**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**In the glory of God the Father.**

**Glory to God, glory to God. Glory to God in the highest.**

### **The Collect for The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Almighty God,

whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:

raise us, who trust in him,

from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,

that we may seek those things which are above,

where he reigns with you

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*Please sit*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*New Testament Reading: Acts 2: 42-end New International Version (NIV)*

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the hymn (A&M 664)

**How sweet the name of Jesus sounds**  
in a believer's ear!

It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,  
and drives away his fear.

2. It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
and calms the troubled breast;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul,  
and to the weary rest.

3. Dear name! the rock on which I build,  
my shield and hiding-place,  
my never-failing treasury filled  
with boundless stores of grace.

4. Jesus! my Shepherd, Brother, Friend,  
my Prophet, Priest, and King,  
my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,  
accept the praise I bring.

5. Weak is the effort of my heart,  
and cold my warmest thought;  
but when I see thee as thou art,  
I'll praise thee as I ought.

6. Till then I would thy love proclaim  
with every fleeting breath;  
and may the music of thy name  
refresh my soul in death.

*Please remain standing for the Gospel Reading*

*John 10: 1-10 (New International Version)*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

'Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognise a stranger's voice.' Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

Therefore Jesus said again, 'Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please sit*

**The Sermon**

*Please stand*

**The Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Please sit or kneel*

**Prayers of Intercession**

*The end of each prayer concludes with 'Lord, in your mercy' to which we respond:*  
**Hear our prayer.**

*And at the end: 'Merciful Father' to which we respond*

**Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Please stand for the Peace*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. (*John 20. 19,20*)

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a word or a sign of peace.

## Preparation of the Table

*Hymn (A&M 422)*

### **Alleluia, sing to Jesus!**

His the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia, his the triumph,  
his the victory alone:  
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia, not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
alleluia, he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how:  
though the cloud from sight received him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore'?

3. Alleluia, bread of angels,  
thou on earth our food, our stay;  
alleluia, here the sinful  
flee to thee from day to day:  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia, King eternal,  
thee the Lord of lords we own;  
alleluia, born of Mary,  
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:  
thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
in the eucharistic feast.

*Please sit*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here: **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you because you raised him gloriously from the dead. For he is the true paschal lamb who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world.

By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of St Andrew and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*(Sunday Club parents please collect your children from The Ark now)*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

## **Giving of Communion**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*We sing:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

*If you are a communicant member of any Christian Church you are welcome to take communion with us, or if you would prefer a blessing please bring this booklet with you when you are invited to the communion rail.*

*While communion is being taken the choir will sing "At the Lamb's high feast we sing" (A&M 198) followed by an anthem 'Alleluia sing to Jesus' (Smith)*

## Prayer after Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*STAY or Sunday Club tell us about their morning's activities*

*Please stand*

## THE DISMISSAL

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Hymn (A&M 203)*

**Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!**

Now is the triumph of our King.  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. The Lord of Life is risen for ay:  
bring flowers of song to strew his way;  
let all the earth rejoice and say

3. Praise we in songs of victory  
that Love, that Life, which cannot die,  
and sing with hearts uplifted high

4. Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,  
and sing to-day with one accord  
the life laid down, the life restored:

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Organ voluntary*

# Parish News

**REVD SAM** – As many of you know, Revd Sam has now returned to Kenya for his wedding to Lynn. Despite searching for options, we currently do not have accommodation for him when he returns. If anyone knows of a self-contained bedsit/flat that is available from the middle of May for several months (rent free), please would you contact Ruth Jeffery on [churchwarden@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden@sonningparish.org.uk)

**RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB** - Tuesday 28th April. Join us for an opportunity to chat with old friends and make new ones. We meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month and the next menu will be tuna and leek bake or leek bake followed by chocolate brownie and ice cream. To book please email [office@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:office@sonningparish.org.uk) or phone Hilary on 0118 969 3298.

**CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL AND APCM** - The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Sunday 17th May after the morning service. PCC/Church Warden nomination forms are available at the north door of the church. In advance of that meeting, Church Representation Rules state that the Church Electoral Roll must be revised for new members or any members who wish to be removed from it. The revision has begun and forms are available at the north door of the church (or by emailing the church office) for those who wish to be added or to amend their details. Existing members who have no changes need not complete a form. Forms should be returned to the church office before Wednesday 29th April via the office post box or scanned via email to [office@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:office@sonningparish.org.uk).

**CHURCH OFFICE OPENING HOURS** - The church office will be closed from tomorrow for the week. Emails will continue to be monitored, so for anything urgent during this time please email [office@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:office@sonningparish.org.uk). Non urgent enquiries will be dealt when it reopens on Tuesday 5 May.

**ALPHA COURSE** - We are running an Alpha course from 29th April to 15th July. Alpha provides a welcoming and supportive space for those who are exploring the Christian faith and asking questions about life and belief. If you would like to join the group please contact Helen Craig via the office email - [office@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:office@sonningparish.org.uk)

**FRIENDS OF ST ANDREWS** - FoStAC are serving refreshments on 24th – 25th May for the Scarecrow weekend. We serve tea/coffee and homemade cake at this event kindly donated by our own parish bakers. If any of you would like to kindly agree to make a Victoria Sponge, Lemon Drizzle, Coffee or Carrot cake or chocolate sponge or brownies we would be very appreciative.

Please contact Sally Wilson on [mustangsallywilson41@gmail.com](mailto:mustangsallywilson41@gmail.com)

