

# FAMILY SERVICE

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 12 April 2026



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

# Everyone Welcome!

Welcome to our Family Service this morning.

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 aren't running today as it is Family Service and children stay in church.

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

STAY (Year 7 upwards) runs in the Ark every 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 to sing*

**In the darkness we were waiting**

Without hope without light  
Till from heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes  
To fulfil the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

*Praise the Father, Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of glory, Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

2. To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross  
For even in Your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You died

*Praise the Father ...*

3. And the morning that You rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored  
And the Church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel shall not faint  
By His blood and in His Name  
In His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me

*Praise the Father ...*

**WELCOME**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.

**And also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Please sit for the notices*

## CONFESSION

God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

**God of love, we remember before you the things we have done which were wrong, and the good things which we have not done. We pray for forgiveness and a new beginning, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*We are assured of God's forgiveness:*

The God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## PRAISE

*Please stand*

Let everything be said and done in the name of the Lord Jesus:  
**giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.**

Sing psalms, hymns and sacred songs:  
**let us sing to God with thankful hearts.**

Open our lips, Lord:  
**and we shall praise your name.**

*We sing*

**My hope is built on nothing less**  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

*Christ alone  
Cornerstone  
Weak made strong  
In the Saviour's love  
Through the storm  
He is Lord  
Lord of all*

2. When darkness seems to hide his face  
I rest on his unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil

*Christ alone  
Cornerstone ...*

3. When he shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in him be found  
Dressed in his righteousness alone  
Faultless stand before the throne  
*Christ alone*  
*Cornerstone ..*

*Please sit for our reading*

*John 20: 19-end*

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE TALK

*We stand to sing*

**From heaven you came, helpless babe,**  
entered our world, your glory veiled;  
not to be served, but to serve,  
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,  
he calls us now to follow him,  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.*

2. There in the garden of tears,  
my heavy load he chose to bear;  
his heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.  
*This is our God, the Servant King ...*

3. Come, see his hands and his feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered.  
*This is our God, the Servant King ...*

4. So let us learn how to serve,  
and in our lives enthrone him;  
each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.  
*This is our God, the Servant King ...*

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,**  
**from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**  
**We believe in God the Son,**  
**who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**  
**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,**  
**who strengthens us with power from on high.**  
**We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**  
**Amen.**

*Please sit*

## **PRAYERS**

*We sit or kneel to pray for the world, the church and our community.*

*These responses may be used:*

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

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

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

*We stand to sing*

**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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

*(verse 4 overleaf)*

4. 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'll stand!

*Please sit.*

*Birthday cards are given out.*

*We stand for the final blessing.*

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*Please stand to sing*

**In my wrestling and in my doubts**

In my failures You won't walk out  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence, You won't let go  
In the questions, Your truth will hold  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

My Lighthouse, my lighthouse  
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You  
My Lighthouse, my lighthouse  
I will trust the promise,  
You will carry me safe to shore  
Safe to shore  
Safe to shore  
Safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings  
With each morning I'll rise and sing  
My God's love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,

My Lighthouse, my lighthouse  
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You  
My Lighthouse, my lighthouse  
I will trust the promise,  
You will carry me safe to shore  
Safe to shore  
Safe to shore  
Safe to shore

Fire before us, You're the brightest  
You will lead us through the storms *(repeat)*

My Lighthouse, my lighthouse  
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You  
My Lighthouse, my lighthouse  
I will trust the promise,  
You will carry me safe to shore  
Safe to shore  
Safe to shore  
Safe to shore

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Please join us for refreshments in the Ark after the service*

An open space

to  
unpack  
life's

big  
questions

for anyone  
who's



# curious

about the

Ever wondered what life is really all about? **Christian faith**

Come along to The Ark, St Andrews Church, Sonning,  
Wednesday 15th April, 7pm to hear about the Alpha  
course.

Next course starts on 29th April. Everyone is welcome.

For more information please contact the church office  
by email: [office@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:office@sonningparish.org.uk)

**Try Alpha.**



# Parish News

**EASTER LILIES** - Thank you to all those who contributed to the wonderful display of lilies in church in memory of loved ones.

**RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB** - Tuesday 14th April. The menu will be chicken or vegetarian casserole followed by black forest gateau. 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. Nomination forms for the PCC/Church Wardens 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 will begin on Thursday 23rd April 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 the final revision date of Wednesday 29th April via the office post box or scanned via email to [office@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:office@sonningparish.org.uk).

**ALPHA COURSE - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** - 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. We are seeking volunteers to assist with hospitality to:

- Prepare a meal on one (or more) Wednesdays during this period
- Help serve food and drinks during the evening
- Assist with washing up afterwards

If you are able to support in any of these ways, please speak to Helen Craig or contact [office@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:office@sonningparish.org.uk)

**MEAL TRAIN FOR CORINNE AND MATT** - If you would like to make a meal to drop off to help Corinne & Matt while they adjust to their new life with their baby, the meal train is still running and there are a few spaces left - please sign up here: <https://mealtrain.com/w42qm0>  
Please contact Helen Craig for further information 07714 715716.

