PARISH EUCHARIST

ADVENT SUNDAY

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2026



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

Everyone Welcome!

Welcome to our Parish Eucharist service for Advent Sunday.
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 both running today in the Ark.
Sunday Club 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 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month in the Ark during term time. There is also a youth communion service at 6pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month and on the 4th Sunday there is Sunday at Six at 6pm.
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 39)

Hills of the North, rejoice,
river and mountain-spring,
hark to the advent voice;
valley and lowland, sing.
Christ comes in righteousness
and love,
he brings salvation from above.

2. Isles of the Southern seas,
sing to the listening earth,
carry on every breeze
hope of a world's new birth:
In Christ shall all be made anew,
his word is sure, his promise true.

3. Lands of the East, arise,
he is your brightest morn,
greet him with joyous eyes,
praise shall his path adorn:
your seers have longed to know
their Lord;
to you he comes, the final word.

4. Shores of the utmost West,
lands of the setting sun,
welcome the heavenly guest
in whom the dawn has come:
he brings a never-ending light
who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

5. Shout, as you journey home,
songs be in every mouth,
lo, from the North they come,
from East and West and South:
in Jesus all shall find their rest,
in him the universe be blest.

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

Please sit for the welcome and notices.

A member of the congregation is invited to light the first Advent candle.

God of Abraham and Sarah, and all the patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit to make his home among us.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world.
Amen.

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.

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.
Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice,
and confess our sins to God our redeemer. *cf Ephesians 4.30,32*

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.

We sing the Kyrie eleison:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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.**

The Collect for Advent Sunday

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.
For in him you have been enriched in every way – with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge – God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you.

Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the hymn (A&M 54)

Wake, O wake! With tidings thrilling
the watchmen all the air are filling,
arise, Jerusalem, arise!
Midnight strikes! No more delaying,
'The hour has come!' we hear them saying,
'where are ye all, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes in sight,
raise high your torches bright!'
Alleluia!
The wedding song swells loud and strong:
go forth and join the festal throng.

2. Zion hears the watchmen shouting,
her heart leaps up with joy undoubting,
she stands and waits with eager eyes;
see her Friend from heaven descending,
adorned with truth and grace unending!
Her light burns clear, her star doth rise.
Now come, thou precious Crown,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son!
Alleluia!
Let us prepare to follow there,
where in thy supper we may share.

3. Every soul in thee rejoices;
from earth and from angelic voices
be glory given to thee alone!
Now the gates of pearl receive us,
thy presence never more shall leave us,
we stand with angels round thy throne.
Earth cannot give below
the bliss thou dost bestow.
Alleluia!
Grant us to raise, to length of days,
the triumph-chorus of thy praise.

Please remain standing for the Gospel *Mark 13: 24-end*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark: **Glory to you O Lord.**

"But in those days, following that distress,

"'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'

"At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

"Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

"Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back - whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'"

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

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *cf Luke 1.78,79*

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**
Let us offer one another a sign or a word of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Hymn (A&M 324)

Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,
saying, 'Christian, follow me':

2. As of old Saint Andrew heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for his dear sake.

3. Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, 'Christian, love me more.'

4. In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
that we love him more than these.

5. Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,
Saviour, make us hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.

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.

And now we give you thanks because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death and to make us inheritors of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may with joy behold his appearing, and in confidence may stand before him.

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 the hymn 'Christian people, raise your song' (A&M 435) and the anthem 'Cantique de Jean Racine' (Faure).

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.

Please stand

THE DISMISSAL

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; 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 41)

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

2. Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the Tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

3. Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture, with what rapture,
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

4. Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

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

Organ Voluntary

Parish News

TOY SERVICE SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 10.30am - we will be collecting new and 'as new' gifts for the Reading Family Aid Toy Appeal. For ideas of the sort of gifts to donate please go to https://www.readingfamilyaid.org/what-to-donate.html St Nicholas will be visiting and the tree lights will be switched on.

A CANDLELIT ADVENT CAROLS SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 4pm - the choir will lead us in a service of Advent carols, hymns and readings followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Ark.

CHRISTMAS RENDEZVOUS LUNCH - Tuesday 8th December from 12 noon - a traditional two course Christmas lunch with wine for £15 (vegetarian option available). We will be singing carols accompanied by Jamie on the piano after lunch. To book please phone the parish office on 0118 969 3298 or email office@sonningparish.org.uk Please note this is the only Rendezvous lunch in December and the first one of the new year takes place on Tuesday 12 January.

NEWS SHEET - The order of service with notices and the week ahead is posted under News on the website (www.sonningparish.org.uk) every Friday in advance of the Sunday service. If you would like to receive the notices and diary for the week ahead via email instead, please email office@sonningparish.org.uk with the word NOTICES in the subject line. If at any time you want to cancel, send an email with the subject line NOTICES - CANCEL. *Helen Craig*

Christmas Services

Beers and Carols at The Bull
Sunday 13 December at 6pm

Messy Church Christmas
Sunday 20 December at 3pm in The Ark

Candlelit Nine Lessons & Carols
Sunday 20 December at 5pm followed by wine & mince pies
(no entry before 4.30pm due to choir rehearsal)

Crib Service
Christmas Eve at 4pm for all ages

Midnight Mass The Birth of Christ
Christmas Eve at 11pm

Christmas Communion
Christmas Day at 10.30am

Prayers and Pastoral Visiting

The Ministry Team are always happy to visit, pray for or take home Communion to those in need. Please contact the Parish office if you would like to arrange this.

We remember any who have died who are known to us.

We remember any whose anniversaries fall around this time:
Ron Chrisp, Lynette Chittendon, Mary Stansfield,
Freda Hindmarch Mansell

The Week Ahead

Monday 30 November		
10.30am	Sonning Primary St Andrew's Day service	Church
Wednesday 2 December		
10.00am	Holy Communion	The Ark
Thursday 3 December		
7.30pm	Bellringing practice	Bell tower
Friday 4 December		
6.30pm	Youth and Senior choir practice	St Sarik
6.45pm	STAY on Friday	The Ark
Saturday 5 December		
2.00pm	Wedding of Jake Webber-Cadby & Lucy Collier	Church
Sunday 6 December		
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Church
10.30am	Family Toy Service	Church
4.00pm	Advent Carol Service	Church

Parish Contacts

Vicar: Revd Jamie Taylor 0118 969 3298 - *vicar@sonningparish.org.uk*
Churchwardens: Ruth Jeffery & Helen Craig - *churchwarden@sonningparish.org.uk*
Youth Minister: Chris West 07946 224 106 - *youthminister@sonningparish.org.uk*
Youth & Children's Minister: Corinne Robertson - *currently on maternity leave (in her absence please email queries to childrenswork@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. At all other times please leave a message or send an email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

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