

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ALDENHAM

Sunday 26^h April 2026

The Fourth Sunday of Easter



10:30am Holy Communion (CW) – 6:30pm Evensong

Collect of the Day

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.

10:30am HOLY COMMUNION (COMMON WORSHIP)

We are delighted to welcome back

The Ven. Jonathan Smith to celebrate and preach.

This service will also be transmitted 'live' and for catchup on this link:

<https://youtube.com/live/5cfXv7Rpgc?feature=share>

**Please refer to the Mass of St Thomas booklet for the music.*

Opening Hymn: *NEH 105 Christ the Lord is risen again!*

Gathering, Prayer of Preparation, Summary of the Law

Confession and Absolution

***Gloria**

Collect

Epistle: *Acts 2.42 - end read by Valerie Turner*

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Gradual Hymn: *NEH 463 Thine for ever, God of love*

Gospel: *John 10.1-10 read by the Ven Jonathan Smith*

***Acclamation:** *Glory to you, O Lord*

‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit.

The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

**Accl.: Praise to you, O Christ!*

Sermon – Ven Jonathon Smith

Creed

Prayers of Intercession *led by the Churchwarden Mark Jones*

Peace

Preparation of the Table

Offertory Hymn: *NEH 275 Praise the Lord! Ye heavens, adore him*

***Preface**

***Sanctus and Benedictus**

Eucharistic Prayer

**Accl.: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again!*

**Accl.: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.*

Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

***Agnus Dei**

Prayer before Communion / Distribution of Communion

Communion Hymn: *NEH 102 A brighter dawn is breaking*

Closing Hymn: *NEH 251, I danced in the morning when the world was begun*

Blessing / *Dismissal

Please be invited to remain in the Church for coffee after the service which will be followed by the APCM/AGM.

6:30pm EVENSONG

We are delighted to welcome back The Revd. Philip Green to lead us in worship.

Opening hymn: *NEH 341: "Blest are the pure in heart"*

General Confession / Absolution

Lord's Prayer / Preces and Responses

Psalm: *Ps. 29*

OT Lesson: *Ezra 3.1–13 read by Mark Jones*

Magnificat

NT Lesson: *Ephesians 2.11 – end read by Mark Bassett*

Nunc Dimittis

Creed

Lesser Litany and Responses

Collect for the Day, Second and Third Collect

Address – Rev Philip Green

Second hymn: *NEH 250 Saviour, again to Thy dear Name we raise*

Prayers

Closing hymn: *NEH 251: "Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear"*

Blessing

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for: *Fiona McGuinness, Isla Hart, Natalia, Rostislav Myslov, Lucy Haslar, John Chapman and Martin Cannon.*

(Do let us know if there is someone to remember here – with their permission)

The APCM and AGM *will be held after morning service this Sunday, 26th April. This is an opportunity to share your thoughts and ask questions of the PCC. If you're unable to attend but would like your question raised, please let us know by email.*

Jill has arranged a lunch at the Golf Club, with a choice of two or three courses payable on the day. It may still be possible to join us for this if you let us know now!

The agenda, reports and other information was sent by separate email earlier in the week.

Next Sunday: Join us at 10:30am for Holy Communion, BCP and at 6:30pm for Evensong.

Children's Church takes place on the first Sunday of every month, with the next session scheduled for next Sunday - May 3rd at 10:30am.

Parking for the Morning Service is available at the Social Club Car Park. Kindly reserve spaces immediately outside the church for those with limited mobility.

Pastoral Care If you require support or assistance at any time, please contact Sue Barnard or Jackie Wilson — either in person on Sunday, via the website contact box, or by calling Jackie at 07949 587828.

Thank you!

INFORMATION

General questions or queries -
info@aldenhamchurch.com

More information and diary -
www.aldenhamchurch.com.

Donations – through the website at
www.aldenhamchurch.com/donations
or via BACS to Barclays a/c no. 90100668
sort code 20-74-09

St. John the Baptist, Aldenham Parish Church

Seven new trees planted this week in the churchyard, some already in flower and some that will look magnificent in the future.

THANK YOU to everyone who donated to make this happen!

(Now we have to water constantly!)

