

St John the Baptist, Aldenham

Sunday 3rd May 2026

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

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



Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

10:30am HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)

We are delighted to welcome The Revd. Stephen Mepham to celebrate the sacrament and preach.

The service will also be transmitted 'live' and to catch up with on this link:

<https://youtube.com/live/FD1VBgsDah0?feature=share>

Opening Hymn: *NEH 265 Lord of beauty, thine the splendour*

Gathering, Lord's Prayer / Collect for Purity

The Summary of the Law / Kyries

Prayer for the Sovereign / Collect

Epistle: *Acts 7.55 – end read by Alan Lambert*

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.



Gradual Hymn: *NEH 225 Give me the wings of faith to rise*

Gospel: *John 14.1-14, read by Revd Mepham.*

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Creed

Sermon: Revd. Mepham

Offertory / Offertory Hymn: *NEH 285 For the beauty of the Earth*

Bidding Prayers / Confession / Absolution / The Comfortable Words

Sursum Corda / Sanctus / Benedictus

Prayer of Humble Access / Consecration of the Sacrament / Agnus Dei

The Administration of the Sacrament

Communion Hymn: *NEH 275 Blessed Jesu, Mary’s son*

Final Prayers / Blessing

Final Hymn: *NEH 271 Alleluia, sing to Jesus*

Please be invited to remain in the Church for coffee after the service.

6:30pm EVENSONG

The service will be led by the Churchwarden, Dr Mark Jones.

Opening hymn: *NEH 138 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire*

Confession / Collect for Absolution

Lord's Prayer / Preces and Responses

Psalm: *Ps. 147 vv. 1-11*

OT Lesson: *Zechariah 4.1-10 read by Sue Barnard*

Magnificat

NT Lesson: *Revelation 21.1-14 read by Jill Gillam*

Nunc Dimittis

Creed

Preces and Responses

Collect for the Day, Second and Third Collect

Reflection: *The Churchwarden Mark Jones*

Second Hymn: *NEH 137 Come down, O love divine*

Prayers

Closing Hymn: *NEH 342 Breathe on me, Breath of God*

Closing prayer

PRAYER LIST

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

We commend to God the soul of Helen Wastling, praying for her family and friends.

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

THIS TUESDAY 5TH MAY

7.15 FOR 7.30PM, THE LICENSING SERVICE FOR REV JOHN CASTLE

Licensing by the Bishop of Hertford, The Right Reverend Dr Jane Mainwaring
And Installation by The Archdeacon of St Albans, The Venerable Charles Hudson
Everyone is welcome to come to this service with refreshments afterwards but please be seated by 7.15pm.

Parking is available in the Social Club and the Golf Club and the service will be streamed on this link:

<https://youtube.com/live/Rb2vXDhJpgE?feature=share>

Children's Church takes place **THIS SUNDAY** for all under 12's during the 10.30 am service. Julia and the team are eager to welcome you for a morning of fun and crafts centred around a bible text.

Next Sunday: Join us at 10:30am for Morning Service and at 6:30pm for Evensong and celebrate with our new vicar, Revd John for the first time!

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!

The APCM and AGM. Thank you if you came to the APCM/AGM last week or attended the lunch at the Golf Club. If you are receiving this by email the minutes will be attached.

QUIZ NIGHT

Another exciting evening of fun and not too challenging questions together with F & C supper and some banter along the way.

Do join us for tables of 6 or individually. Please let Ken know how many tables you need 😊. Family and friends welcome!!

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

