

# Service Sheet

30<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 10.30am St Mary's  
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Welcome to St Mary's Church!** We are so glad you are here – whether you are in the church building or watching online. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello (in the chat feature online, or to the service leader or a member of the welcome team in church). You can find out more about our church on our website ([www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/denhamparish.church](https://facebook.com/denhamparish.church)).

*Christoph Lindner, Rector*

## WELCOME

### HYMN

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

It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,  
and drives away our fear:

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

Dear name! The rock on which I build,  
my shield and hiding-place,  
my never-failing treas'ry filled  
with boundless stores of grace.

Jesus! My shepherd, brother, friend,  
my prophet, priest, and king,  
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,  
accept the praise I bring.

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

Till then I would thy love proclaim  
with ev'ry fleeting breath'  
and may the music of thy name  
refresh my soul in death.

## CONFESSION

God of mercy, we acknowledge that we  
are all sinners. We turn from the wrong  
that we have thought and said and done,  
and are mindful of all that we have failed  
to do. For the sake of Jesus, who died for  
us, forgive us for all that is past, and help  
us to live each day in the light of Christ  
and his resurrection. Amen.

## ABSOLUTION

May almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive you your sins, and bring you to  
everlasting life, through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen

## COLLECT

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your  
Father's sheep: teach us to hear your  
voice and to follow your command, that  
all your people may be gathered into one  
flock, to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen

## THE VOICE

Loving Lord,  
there are many sounds around us,  
lots of voices making lots of noise.  
Help us to hear your voice:  
of encouragement, of challenge,  
of peace and comfort and joy,  
as you speak into our hearts today.  
Amen.

## SONG

With me, God is with me  
Yes He's with me every step  
With me, God is with me  
Yes He's with me every step  
And I know God is with me every step I go  
Yes I know God is with me every step

With you, God is with you  
Yes He's with you every step  
With you, God is with you  
Yes He's with you every step  
And I know God is with you  
every step you go  
Yes I know God is with you every step

*And oh the love of God  
is with me every day, every step I take  
He will lead me on into his perfect plan  
Walking hand in hand*

With us, God is with us  
Yes He's with us every step  
With us, God is with us  
Yes He's with us every step  
And I know God is with us  
every step we go  
Yes I know God is with us every step

*(Children leave for Sunday Club)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FIRST READING: 1 Peter 2. 19-end

<sup>19</sup>For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' <sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges

justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: John 10.1-10

'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. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. <sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate.

Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.

<sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

### OFFERTORY HYMN

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want,  
He makes me lie in pastures green.  
He leads me by the still, still waters,  
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone,  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,  
And He anoints my head with oil,  
And my cup, it overflows with joy,  
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one,  
For You are with me,  
and Your rod and staff  
Are the comfort I need to know.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. Amen.**

### PRAYERS

*We pray for our five mission partners: Bible Reading Fellowship, Church Army, SHOC/Trinity, Tearfund and Wycliffe Bible Translators. We thank you for their sharing of good news in action and word and pray that you would sustain and inspire them. May they see rich fruit in their work for you.*

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

**Our Father in heaven  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen**

## HYMN

I will sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me,  
how he left the realms of glory  
for the cross on Calvary.  
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me  
sing it with his saints in glory,  
gathered by the crystal sea.

I was lost but Jesus found me,  
found the sheep that went astray,  
raised me up and gently led me  
back into the narrow way.  
Days of darkness still may meet me,  
sorrow's path I oft may tread;  
but his presence still is with me,  
by his guiding hand I'm led.

He will keep me till the river  
rolls its waters at my feet:  
then he'll bear me safely over,  
made by grace for glory meet.  
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me  
sing it with his saints in glory,  
gathered by the crystal sea.

### SENDING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, as we leave this place,  
go with us and guide us  
through the coming days.  
Protect us from harm and help us  
to hear your voice.  
Create opportunities for us  
to share your love  
with those we meet. Amen.

## BLESSING

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# Diary

## Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> May

9.30am: Little Lions toddler group  
St Mark's. Contact:  
eddalindner18@gmail.com

2.30pm: Service of Thanksgiving  
for Audrey Baker, St Mary's.

## Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May

No 9am service!

10.30am Coronation Weekend  
Community Service at St Mary's

No Café Church!

## Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May

No 9am service!

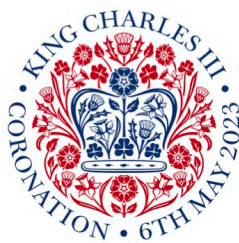
10.30am Sunday Service with  
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH  
MEETING

## Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 4.30pm

Ordination of Azita Jabbari as  
Priest at St Mary's Wendover  
**PLEASE NOTE:** Sadly, seating is  
limited and Azita only has a small  
number of 'tickets', which have all  
been allocated. We will publish the  
link for the live stream nearer the  
time.

### Let's pray together ...

- For King Charles and his family, the Archbishop of Canterbury and all who will have a part in the coronation next Saturday.
- For conflicts and wars in our world: For people of peace to find ways of making peace.
- For those who have lost loved ones especially the family of Cheryl Malvermi, Rita Bishop and Audrey Baker.



## CORONATION WEEKEND AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

**SUNDAY, 7 MAY, 10.30 am**  
Coronation Community Service

**MONDAY, 8 MAY, 2 pm–5 pm**  
St Mary's Royal Tea and Tour

*Have a cuppa on us, free of charge, and take a tour of  
St Mary's Church with special Coronation flower decorations*

[www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)



## APCM: 21 May, 10.30am, St Mary's

Please join us for our Annual Church Meeting, where we review 2022 and pray for the future of our ministry and mission. We will elect church officers and give thanks to those who sustain our work week by week.

Our APCM will be integrated into a short morning service and there will be no 9am service, so we can all be together.

The Annual Report is essential reading and will be available from Sunday 14 May. Please pick up a paper copy from church on the day or from our church office in the week (during office hours).

We are continually updating a poster at the back of church and on our website with candidates for APCM elections.

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