



# ABC NEWS

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**'Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.'**

**Hebrews 12:1-2**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Our Family worship service**

**'New Year, New Start**

**Hebrews 12:2**

**John Smith and Simon Downing**

**TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE**– Join us for our monthly family service as Simon and his band lead us in inspiring worship! John, of course, will also return with one of his interactive specials which we hope will challenge you, bring light into your life and make you smile. The theme of the service is 'New Year, New Start' based on Hebrews 12:1-2

Of course, we do hope you can join us for the service in the church but if you can't actually join us, you will be able to access the service at any time by going to -

<https://www.aldwickbaptist.co.uk/category/current-sermons>

**BREAKFAST TIME – 9:30AM (All Ages Welcome)** - Before the service, we invite you to Breakfast Time, open to everyone! This is a relaxed and welcoming space to share food, friendship, and conversation. It's a place to build relationships, show hospitality, and extend kindness and generosity - helping everyone feel valued and that they truly belong. As friendships grow, it's also an opportunity for conversations about faith to naturally develop over time. Don't miss this chance to connect, celebrate, and worship together!

**NEXT WEEKEND'S SERVICE – 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026.** As we step into 2026, we begin a fresh journey through the fast-paced and powerful Gospel of Mark. This series will take us back to the heart of the Christian faith — seeing Jesus as those who walked with Him saw Him: full of power, authority, compassion, and grace.

Each week, we'll encounter Jesus through the eyes of those who knew Him — and be amazed again at who He truly is. Don't miss part 1 - Messiah — prepare the way!

**ERNIE PAYNE** – Ernie's funeral service will take place at the Chichester Crematorium on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January beginning at 12.30pm. This will be followed by a service at ABC starting at 1:45pm followed by refreshments in the hall.

**THINKING ABOUT BAPTISM** – We're holding a baptismal service on May 14<sup>th</sup> — a joyful celebration of lives made new in Christ! If you're a believer and haven't yet been baptised, why not take time to pray and ask: **"Is now the moment to take this step?"** Baptism is a beautiful declaration of faith — a public "yes" to Jesus, and a powerful picture of new life. If you'd like to explore this further, we'd love to chat with you. Simon and Derek.

**THE COMMUNITY CAFÉ** – Reopens its doors at 10 am on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> January. Not only is the Community Café a great place to relax and chat with friends old and new. Why not join us?

**FOODBANK** - We are very grateful to all those who donate items for the Bognor Foodbank. Current urgently needed items are: Tinned rice puddings, Biscuits, UHT fruit juice, Peanut Butter and Honey. Please place them in the donation point on the left hand side of the church foyer. Thank you very much.

**"You crown the year with your bounty, and your paths overflow with abundance." – Psalm 65:11 (NIV)**

As we leave 2025 behind and step into the unknown paths of 2026, we pause to give thanks — for the beauty of the place we call home, for the memories we hold close, and for the faithful God who walks beside us through every season.

This poem is both a reflection and a prayer — for all we've seen, and all that's still to come.

**From Shore to Summit: A New Year's Prayer**

The tide has turned, the year rolls on,  
And soon the page of time is gone.  
We've walked the beach, we've watched the skies,  
With sunshine bright and tear-filled eyes.

The sea still whispers prayers and praise,  
The Downs stand strong through all our days.  
God's hand has held us through each wave,  
In laughter shared, and love we gave.

We've said farewell to faithful friends,  
Their journey reached its peaceful end.  
But memories shine like morning light,  
Still warming hearts through winter's night.

And now a new year gently starts,  
With open doors and open hearts.  
New faces soon will find their place,  
Drawn in by love, and held by grace.

So may this church — by coast and sun —  
Keep shining bright for everyone.  
With every step, both sure and new,  
May God be seen in all we do.

TAB (The Aldwick bard)

**HOMEGROUPS** – Are you a member of a homegroup? If not – why not? They are great places to dig into God's word, to really get to know people and share your prayer requests. If you want to know more, just talk to me. Derek.

**Prayer Wall** ... and finally

**Prayer: Drawing Near to God**

Did you know that prayer is not just something we do — it's how we grow in relationship with the living God?

It's where we thank Him for who He is, praise Him for all He has done, and listen for the gentle whisper of His Spirit.

In a noisy world, prayer creates space.

In a busy life, prayer brings balance.

In uncertain times, prayer leads us back to peace.

Whether in joy or struggle, we are never alone — God invites us to draw near, and promises He will draw near to us (James 4:8).

So why not take a step closer?

You are warmly invited to join us for our

Church Family Prayer Meeting

Tuesday, 6th January

7.00 – 8.00 pm

In the church

Let's seek God together — in faith, in unity, and in hope for all He has yet to do

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