

The Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway Stavanger Congregation

Stavanger Anglicans' website:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8466/>

Stavanger Anglicans on Facebook:

<https://m.facebook.com/stavangeranglicans/>

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12 April 2026

2 nd Sunday of Easter

Menighetshus Rektor Steens gata 7: 1030

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 14.10-end; 15.20,21

Acts 2.14a,22-32

John 20.19-end

Reflection

Dear friends,

Picture this: the disciples are hiding behind locked doors. Not “oops-I- locked-my-keys-in-the-car” locked, but “we-are-very-scared-and-probably-shouldn’t-open-for-anyone” locked. The world outside feels uncertain, tense, and honestly a bit overwhelming. And then, without knocking, without a doorbell, without even a polite “hello?” Jesus just appears in the middle of the room. Which is both comforting and slightly alarming.

His first words? Not “Why are you hiding?”

Not “You should have had more faith.”

Not even “Surprise!”

He says: “Peace be with you.”



Which is probably the only thing that could stop a room full of frightened people from collectively fainting.

The disciples had locked the doors.

But Jesus doesn't care much about locks.

And that's the first bit of good news for us today:

Whatever doors we've shut: fear, worry, exhaustion, the state of Europe, the news cycle, the price of groceries, Jesus doesn't stand outside tapping his foot.

He comes right into the middle of it.



Not to scold.

Not to panic.

But to say: **“Peace be with you.”**

Then there's Thomas.

Poor Thomas gets remembered as “the doubter,” but really he's just the one who said out loud what everyone else was thinking:

“Are we sure about this?”

And honestly, in times like these, many of us are a bit Thomas-ish.

We want hope, but we'd also like some evidence, please.

A receipt. A tracking number. Maybe a small sign.

And Jesus doesn't say, “Oh, come on, Thomas, get it together.”

He says, essentially:

“Come closer. Look. Touch. I'm not afraid of your questions.”

Which means this:

Doubt is not the opposite of faith.

Giving up is.

Jesus doesn't just bring peace, he also sends them out:



“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

Which is slightly inconvenient, because it means hope is not just something we feel, it's something we do.

In a time when things feel uncertain, hope might look like:
choosing kindness when cynicism is easier telling the truth
when fear says “stay quiet” building bridges when others are
busy building walls making tea for someone who looks like
they need it (a very underrated spiritual gift)

So if you came in today feeling:

a bit locked in

a bit unsure

a bit like Thomas

or just very tired of the news

Then hear this:

Jesus still walks into locked rooms.

Jesus still speaks peace.

Jesus still meets us exactly where we are.

And, somehow, mysteriously, stubbornly....

hope is still alive.

Even here.

Even now.

Even in Europe in 2026.

So take a breath.

Unlock what you can.

Leave the rest to God.

And if Jesus suddenly shows up in your living room,
well... at least now you'll know what he's going to say.

Peace be with you. **Amen.**



Carlos Bautista

<http://ministry-to-children.com>



Doubting Thomas —
John 20:27

Contacts and Connections



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For pastoral needs,
Baptisms
Blessing of Civil
Marriages
Funerals
Please contact the
Assistant Chaplain



Safeguarding concerns, workshops,
or Safe Church enquiries: Please
contact Jane, who will be happy to
assist.

**Acts of Mercy - fundraising,
donations, or finances: Contact**

Rumi

+4796837193

Email: talk2rumi@yahoo.com

For website enquiries, please contact Sarah +4798543363

Collect

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen



Collection
offering via
vipps

667359
Stavanger Anglicans

We are back at Menighetshus and we pay rentals. Our finances are not looking good may you please help us by donating through VIPPS or Bank Account Number 3201 08 90631

Chaplaincy council
members (4)

Chaplaincy Warden

Chaplaincy Warden

Deanery Synod
members (3 year
term) (3 positions)

Hon. Secretary

Hon. Treasurer



ANGLICAN
CHAPLAINCY IN
NORWAY

**ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING**

Tuesday,
14th April
18:30 on Zoom

Contact Forstander
or Churchwarden
for Zoom link
and report

Come and help
shape the future
of your church

Join us!

The poster features a background image of a church steeple with a cross on top. The text is arranged in a vertical layout on the left side of the image.

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**Come and help
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Tea/Coffee

After our Holy Communion service, everyone is warmly invited to stay behind for tea/coffee and fellowship. This is a lovely opportunity to share time together and strengthen our life as a church family

