

## Hope amidst despair – Sudan’s civil war three years on



This week marks three years since the commencement of the civil war in Sudan. Since then, sources estimate that up to 4,000 people have been killed because of the war. Cities like Darfur and Khartoum have been decimated, many civilians conscripted and millions displaced, with no end to the unrest in sight.

The sheer number of those who have been displaced by the war also eclipses that of any other crisis, according to some sources, with over 11 million individuals forced to flee their homes. Many have found shelter in refugee camps, but their living conditions are no better.

Christians across Sudan face particular pressures, enduring hostility from neighbours and the warring forces. They are often the last to receive humanitarian aid and some are forced to join militias on either side of the conflict.

But amidst such devastation, the church speaks. Pastor Tariq\* is a senior church leader who seeks to come alongside Christians struggling under the burdens of war.

*“We cannot just sit idle and do nothing because of the war,” he says. “Wherever we go and wherever we are, we are ready to share the Word of God.”*

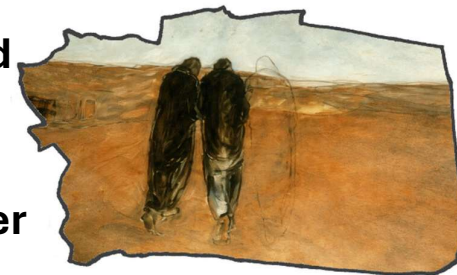
Many in the camps are believers, often from Muslim backgrounds, in desperate need of encouragement and discipleship. “I am trying to work with some of the refugees where I live now,” Tariq says. “We visit these churches or homes and share the Word of God with them. With the little resources we have, sometimes we organise some kind of training for the younger generation, like the youth and the children. We try just to be with them and to encourage them. I try to help with whatever I have, because people need us. God has brought us here to help people. This is why we have committed ourselves.”

### Please pray

- For an end to the conflict and that humanitarian aid would reach those in need
- That church leaders would have the means and wisdom to serve those around them, finding rest in God’s sustaining grace.

*\*Names changed for security reasons. For more information go to <https://www.opendoorsuk.org>*

## Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet 19 April Third Sunday of Easter



### Psalm 116: Thanksgiving for Recovery from Illness

I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

**Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

**I kept my faith, even when I said, ‘I am greatly afflicted’;**

I said in my consternation, ‘Everyone is a liar.’

**What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?**

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,  
**I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.**

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

**O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant,  
the child of your serving-maid. You have loosed my bonds.**

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
and call on the name of the Lord.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was  
in the beginning, is now and for evermore, Amen**

### The Collect for this Sunday

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Please pray for...**

Tina Bradley, Clifford Hitchens, Jane Nichols, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Imogen Matthews, Pat Reid, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, Judy Watson, Kevin Whitfield, King Charles III, and for any others whom we name in the silence of our hearts.

We give thanks for those on the road to recovery.

We remember Penelope Rose Baldry, and the souls of all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we pray for those who mourn their

**Anniversaries...**

Wedding Anniversaries: Rowena and Tom Sutton (1 year)

Baptism Anniversaries: William Blades, Isabel Sherwin (1 year)

Funeral anniversaries: Barbara Durno (1 year); Nellie Machin (2 years)

**Readings for this Sunday**

**Acts 2.14a,36-41**  
**1 Peter 1.17-23**  
**Luke 24.13-35**



**The Prayer after Communion**

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**



**Safeguarding & Contact Information**

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**Services for the next 10 days  
in the Ringstone and Corby Glen combined Groups**

<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	9.00am	Holy Communion	Bassingthorpe
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>Morton</b>
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Swayfield
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Irnham
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Corby Glen
<b>Wednesday 22nd April</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Midweek Eucharist</b>	<b>Morton</b>
	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Corby Glen
<b>Sunday 26th April</b>	10.15am	Café Church	Swayfield Village Hall
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>Kirkby Underwood</b>
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Corby Glen
	11.00am	Hymns & Prayers	Irnham
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>	<b>Morton</b>
	6.00pm	Holy Communion	Bitchfield

**Did you know?.....**

If you find it difficult (or forget) to bring things to leave in the drop off bin at the back of Morton church, you can go to the Foodbank website, and purchase items which will then be available in the foodbank. **Go to <https://bournefoodbank.org.uk/how-to-help>**

**These are a few of the things that are running low. Can you help?**

- Shampoo
- Deodorant (M)
- Pasta Sauce
- Tinned Meat
- UHT Milk
- Washing Powder

