

WESLEY DAY COMMEMORATION & PILGRIMAGE



281st Anniversary, Friday 24th May 2019

'Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord...'
Psalm 130.1

Accompanied by:

The Revd Michaela Youngson, President of Conference
Bala Gnanapragasam, Vice President of Conference
The Revd Nigel Cowgill, London District Chair
The Revd Canon Dr Jennifer Smith, Superintendent Minister
The Revd Choong Sun Min, Kwanglim Church Intern
The Revd Dr Keith Riglin, Authorised Presbyter
Katherine Baxter, Local Preacher and Illustrator (map insert)

With kind support from:

The Revd Canon James Milne, Precentor of St Paul's Cathedral and Canon in Residence

The Susanna Wesley Mission Auxiliary Choir

Alison Gowman, Aldersgate Memorial Committee

Marcia Tull, Student Presbyter

Sopha Touch (Tony), Global Mission Fellow

Christian Detlaff, Curator and author of spoken text

Charles Burnett, Organist

Friends from many churches and the local community, along with members of Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission

Office at the North Steps of St Paul's Cathedral

Led by Jennifer Smith Introduction

HYMN

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honours of thy name.

Jesus - the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease, 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin, he sets the prisoner free; his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.

A Reading from John Wesley's Journal, May 24 1738

Read by Keith Riglin

I continued thus to seek a personal experience of a true and living faith in Christ, (though with strange indifference, dullness, and coldness, and unusually frequent relapses into sin,) till Wednesday, May 24. I think it was about five this morning, that I opened my Testament on those words: "There are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, even that ye should be partakers of the divine nature." Just as I went out, I opened it again on those words, "Thou art not far from the Kingdom of God." In the afternoon I was asked to go to St. Paul's. The anthem was, "Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice... ...with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his sins."

Psalm 130, Led by James Milne

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now: and shall be forever. Amen.

Prayer, followed by the laying of a wreath

HYMN

He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ; ye blind, behold your saviour come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.

In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven;

anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.

Office at the Flame Monument by the Museum of London, marking the site of John Wesley's Conversion

Led by Nigel Cowgill

Introduction

HYMN

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Saviour's blood? Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies! Who can explore his strange design? In vain the first-born seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine. 'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds enquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above — so free, so infinite his grace — emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me!

Excerpt from John Wesley's Journal for May 24th, 1738

Read by Katherine Baxter

In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate-Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation: And an assurance was given me, that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

Prayer, followed by the laying of a wreath HYMN

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night; thine eye diffused a quickening ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; my chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

We will pass above St Giles Cripplegate where Samuel Annesley, Susanna's father, was Rector until 1662 when he was ejected at the Act of Uniformity. The Wesleys were acutely aware of the needs of this local area when they opened their 'Foundery' centre in 1739.

Today the needs are different, but we still work against poverty and discrimination of all kinds, and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Pray for this community, as we walk.

Banksy (2017) inspired by Jean-Michael Basquiat



Office near the grave of Susanna Wesley in Bunhill Fields

Led by Michaela Youngson, accompanied by the SuWMA choir.

Introduction

HYMN

This, this is the God we adore. Our faithful, unchangeable friend, Whose love is as great as his power, And neither knows measure nor end.

'Tis Jesus the first and the last, Whose spirit shall guide us safe home, We'll praise him for all that is past, And trust him for all that's to come.

Extract from John's journal, Sunday 1 August 1742, after his mother's funeral

Read by Bala Gnanapragasam

Almost an innumerable company of people being gathered together, about five in the afternoon, I committed to the earth the body of my mother to sleep with her fathers. The portion of scripture from which I afterwards spoke was...'...I saw the dead small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.' It was one of the most solemn assemblies I ever saw, or expect to see this side of eternity.

Prayer followed by laying of wreath by Susanna's grave.

We may enter the restricted area in turn, before returning to Wesley's Chapel for refreshments.

A Service of Commemoration and Pilgrimage 'Walking with John Wesley, and Beyond' 7.30 pm, Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission

Led by Jennifer Smith

HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n to earth come down:
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest: take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; End of faith, as its Beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be: let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, 'til in heav'n we take our place,

'til we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Reading

John 21.1-17

HYMN

Captain of Israel's host, and guide of all who seek the land above, beneath your shadow we abide, the cloud of your protecting love; our strength, your grace; our rule, your word: our end, the glory of the Lord.

By your unerring Spirit led, we shall not in the desert stray; we shall not full direction need, nor miss our providential way; as far from danger as from fear while love, almighty love, is near.

Sermon

Vice President Bala Gnanapragasam

Silence

Song/Testimony

Global Mission Partner Sopha Touch (Tony)

Prayers for the World

Michaela Youngson

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Kwanglim Intern Choong Sun Min, in Korean

We move to John Wesley's tomb for our final office.

HYMN

I'll praise my Maker while I've breath; and when my voice is lost in death, praise shall employ my nobler powers. My days of praise shall ne'er be past, while life, and thought, and being last, or immortality endures.

Happy are they whose hopes rely on Israel's God, who made the sky and earth and seas, with all their train; whose truth for ever stands secure, who saves th'oppressed and feeds the poor, for none shall find God's promise vain.

Prayer The Collect for Wesley Day Marcia Tull

HYMN

The Lord pours eyesight on the blind; the Lord supports the fainting mind and sends the labouring conscience peace. God helps the stranger in distress, the widow and the fatherless, and grants the prisoner sweet release.

I'll praise my God who lends me breath; and when my voice is lost in death, praise shall employ my nobler powers. My days of praise shall ne'er be past, while life, and thought, and being last, or immortality endures.

Reading

About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation: And an assurance was given me, that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

Silence, followed by the laying of a wreath

Blessing Michaela Youngson

You Say

I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up Am I more than just the sum of every high and every low? Remind me once again just who I am, because I need to know (ooh)

Chorus

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing You say I am strong when I think I am weak You say I am held when I am falling short When I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours And I believe, oh I believe What You say of me I believe

The only thing that matters now is everything You think of me
In You I find my worth, in You I find my identity, (ooh)

Chorus

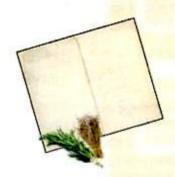
Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet You have every failure God, and You'll have every victory, (ooh)

Chorus

Oh I believe, yes I believe What You say of me Oh I believe

Songwriters: Paul Mabury / Lauren Ashley Daigle / Jason Ingram © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC

Events at John Wesley's House & The Museum of Methodism



Physic Garden Celebration

Sat 8 June, llam - 3pm

This year we planted a new Physic Garden Trail that features plants from John Wesley's Primitive Physic. Join us to celebrate and have a go at the trail!

Jackie Power, a Herbal Pharmacist, will be on hand to explain more about the medicinal properties of some of the plants featured and there will be an opportunity to make paper plant pots to take home. The House will also be open for you to meet its Georgian residents.



Art Workshop - Object & Memory

Sat 6 July, 10.00am-L30pm

An experimental print workshop for ages 8-15 that explores the collection of Wesley's House and Museum coupled with personal articles. Free but booking is essential - please contact lso@wesleyschapel.org.uk to book a space.