



WINDOW ON WESLEY'S



APRIL 2023

STAFF

Ministers: The Revd Canon Dr Jennifer H Smith BA PhD
M.Phil (Superintendent)
The Revd Steven Cooper BTh MA(Cantab)
MA(Winton)

Associate Ministers: The Revd John Cooke MA (Supernumerary)
The Revd Paul Hulme BA (Supernumerary)
The Revd Dr John Lampard BA M.Th
(Supernumerary)
The Revd Stephen Penrose (Supernumerary)
The Revd Ian Yates (Supernumerary)

Lay workers: Mr Thomas Smith (Leysian Missioner)
Mr Erick Hunter (Global Mission Fellow)

Museum: Mr Christian Dettlaff MA (Curator)
Miss Gemma Smith BA (Hons) MA (Learning &
Community Engagement Officer)

Administration: Mrs Ling Arzeian (Finance Officer)
Miss Beatrice Omane (Administration Assistant)
Mrs Tracey Smith (Administration Manager)

Choir: Mrs Mikyung Kim

Church Office: 49 City Road
London EC1Y 1AU
020 7253 2262
administration@wesleyschapel.org.uk

Our Minister, the Revd Steven Cooper writes:

Grace and peace be with you, in the name of Jesus Christ! This month of April sees the high point of the Christian year, and what a joy and a privilege it is to share it with all of you here at Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission.

We begin with **Holy Week**, and I eagerly invite you to join in the journey of the spirit that this week of worship and reflection offers us.

We begin on **Palm Sunday, 2nd April**, setting out from the back of the Chapel at **10.45am** with our **donkey procession** remembering Jesus's final, triumphant entry into Jerusalem. In the evening of Palm Sunday, at **7pm**, we gather (as every month on the first Sunday) for a beautiful and musical time of **meditative prayer in the style of the Taizé Community**.

On the **Wednesday evening** of Holy Week, **5th April**, we are invited to join with our ecumencial partner congregations in a service of light and darkness, or '**tenebrae**', at **St Giles' Cripplegate Church** (Barbican Centre) at **8.30pm**.

On **Maundy Thursday, at 6pm**, recalling the Last Supper we celebrate **Holy Communion** here at Wesley's, in a service led by our Holy Club (young adults' group), including the washing of feet. This service also concludes our Lenten series of services reflecting on the Seven Virtues, focusing on the virtue of Charity.

On **Good Friday**, we join in worship at **10am** here: a quiet and reflective service, solemnly remembering Jesus's death on the cross.

Then on the night of **Holy Saturday, 8th April**, I invite you to join us at Wesley's at **8.30pm** for the immense solemnity and splendour of **The Easter Vigil**: by candlelight, with fire and with the water of baptism, we recall God's mighty works of salvation through history, and proclaim Christ's victory over the grave.

Our celebration continues in force the next morning on **Easter Day, 9th April**, with an especially festive service of **Holy Communion at 11am**, including a double baptism, the welcoming of new members to the church here, and the joy of celebrating Easter together.

And throughout Holy Week—as we do every day, Monday to Saturday—we share in daily Morning Prayer at 10am, via our livestream online.

Looking ahead later in the month: on **Tuesday 18th April at 2pm**, join us if you can here at Wesley's for a delightful ecumenical gathering, when we shall be welcoming to the Chapel the **Bishop of London**, the Rt Revd & Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally. All are welcome!

On 22nd April our nation marks the **30th anniversary of the murder of Stephen Lawrence**. This will be a significant moment for the Church, as for society as a whole, and underlines for us our calling to be a justice-seeking Church, including our witness to anti-racism: we know all too well that God's demand for justice is yet to be fully realised in our world, and God calls us to live lives that promote racial justice, that cast our racism, and rejoice in the whole human family which reflects in its very diversity the image of God.

Our guest preacher on **Sunday 23rd April**, visiting us from Boston, USA, will be the **Revd Dr Sara Garrard**: an outstanding preacher and wonderful friend, and a fierce advocate for antiracism and for justice.

As the month concludes, we will be looking forward to the King's **Coronation** on 6th May, for which we will have a celebration after church here on Sunday 7th May.

And just before that, we are all invited to one further friendly ecumenical gathering on **Thursday 4th May at the Charterhouse** (near Farringdon)—where John Wesley went to school—for

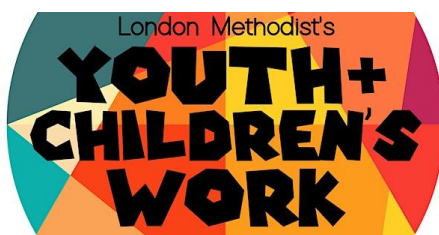
evensong at 5.30pm, commemorating the Cathusian martyrs.
All are welcome!

I wish you all a most blessed Holy Week and a very Happy Easter. If there is anything you would like to discuss, remember I am here for you—please never hesitate to give me a call, or to find me at the Chapel. It is a joy and a privilege to share with you together in all that life brings.

God bless you.
Steven

[The Ministry of Toddler Groups | Monday 24 April | 7pm - 9pm](#)

Discover the rewarding and exciting ministry of toddler groups at this online session with Bron Coveney. The session will cover



topics such as 'Sharing Jesus in a Toddler Group', 'Caring for the Carers and 'What makes a successful toddler group'. Find out more and [register here](#). Please note that registration closes on Friday 21 April.

**‘In the Garden’
Prayer Thoughts for Easter**

(All Biblical references are from the NRSVA, Harper Collins 2018)

Friday 17th March was the seventh anniversary of my wife Christine’s death, and Sunday was Mother’s Day.

On Friday morning Dan, my daughter, and I visited Christine’s brightly planted memorial tree in the Crematorium and put a vase of daffodils in the Memorial Chapel. We spent a short while in silence and quietly played some of Christine’s favourite music.

We shared memories and I said a silent prayer. It was lovely. We then drove down to Bracklesham on the coast near Chichester to stay for two nights. I did my teacher training in Chichester from 1970-73. It was a pleasure to visit the places

which had such happy memories for Christine and me, and to share them with Dan.

Dan and I visited the Cathedral where, as a member of the College Chapel Choir back in the 1970s I had sung in the annual Christmas Service of Nine Lesson and Carols. In the Summer Term of 1971, we were privileged to be invited to lead a Choral Evensong.

They are very precious memories.

On this trip, Dan and I attended Choral Evensong on Saturday Evening, it was beautiful!

Leaving the Cathedral, we walked around the southern and western walls of the city, which enclosed the Bishop's Palace Garden. It was so calm and peaceful and lovely in the late afternoon sunshine.



The Bishop's Palace Garden, Chichester, West Sussex

As it was Lent, it reminded me of the gardens that played a significant role in the Easter story. Prayer was important to Jesus throughout his Ministry. When he was tired or troubled, he would go on his own or with the disciples to quiet places away from the 'hustle and bustle' of life - the mountain top, the lake, the garden. There to pray to his Abba, Father and seek rest, recuperation, talk (pray) to explore the Abba Father's will and to explain it to those close to him.

There are two specific and detailed references to gardens in the Easter Story.

1: Following the momentous events of 'The Last Supper, Jesus prays,

'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me, may be in them, and I in them.'

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. (John 17:25 – 18:1)

Gethsemane was a garden on the Mount of Olives. Here Jesus came to pray to his Abba, Father and express his concerns and doubts about his role in God's plan to bring salvation and redemption to the world by his death on the cross and his resurrection.

Accounts of the visit to Gethsemane can be found in Matthew 26:36-56, Mark 14:32-51, Luke 22:39-53, John 18:1-10. Each of the accounts are similar in content but different in recording details and emphasis.

All are agreed that Jesus came to the Garden to pray (talk) to his Abba Father and share his deepest thoughts.

For me, it is the human Jesus who speaks to his Abba, Father of his concerns about his mission of bringing salvation and redemption to his people. He expresses his doubts about his role in the amazing, sacrificial act of love he is called to undertake. Although Jesus struggles, his final words are put simply by Luke. (Luke 22:42)

'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.'

In his 'human' response to his task Jesus places his future into God's hands taking the step of faith we all need to take. Jesus goes back to the disciples and, according to Luke, found them sleeping, exhausted by grief, and says to them,

“Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.” (Luke 22:46)

They awake, and get up, and go to meet that ‘time of trial’ which, for them it is the arrest and mock trial of Jesus. Then leading to the humiliation, Crucifixion, and death of Jesus.

Jesus goes from Gethsemane to Golgotha without complaint, and in love gives his life on the cross for all, including you and me.

‘Amazing Grace! How can it be? That you, my God, should die for me? (Charles Wesley)

2: As we know the story does not end there and we come to the second garden featured in the story. At the end of that horrendous day when after all the abuse, violence, mockery, and eventual death of Jesus has passed the events are recorded as-

When it was evening a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.

(Mt 27:57: Mk 15:42: Lk 23:50, John 19:38-41)

It is John who specifically mentions the garden. But, as we know, it didn’t end there either.

Again, the four Gospel writers record the events with their own emphasise and their accounts are recorded in *Matthew 28:1-10, Mk 16:1-8, Lk 24:1-12, John 20:1-18.*

We are told that after Jesus was laid in the tomb some of the women - Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, Salome and perhaps some others came to check on Jesus’s body and a huge stone was rolled across the entrance. They went away to prepare the spices used to embalm a body. In the early morning of the day after the Sabbath, they returned, but found the stone had been rolled away and the tomb was empty!

Jesus was not there, and, in various ways, they were informed he had risen as promised! They were instructed to tell the disciples that Jesus had arisen! Peter and John raced to the tomb and saw that it was empty. They could only confirm what they had been told and they returned to their homes, bemused, confused and afraid. They met together to share what they had heard and tried to understand.

Through his prayers in the garden, Jesus accepted the difficult task before him, and God's love and power went with him to the amazing, triumphant end!



Caves in the rock face – Bridgenorth, Shropshire

Over the years there have been times when I, and I suspect many of you, have faced situations causing worry and concern in everyday life and then at other times decisions to make; how we should respond to God's call to serve. As Jesus has shown, we have access through prayer, to God - Abba, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to the love and power sufficient to achieve what God has called us to do or say. We also have the promise of Jesus, given to us by Matthew.

'I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age.' (Matthew 28:20b *The Message*)

You may know these two songs; they speak of God's love for me and you and our access to God through prayer.

*Whisper a prayer in the morning, whisper a prayer at noon,
whisper a prayer in the evening,
To keep our hearts in tune*

*God answers prayer in the morning, God, answers prayer at
noon, God answers prayer in the evening, to keep our hearts in
tune.*

*Prayer changes things in the morning, prayer changes things at
noon, Prayer changes things in the evening and keeps our hearts
in tune. (The Salvation Army Chorus Book)*

*I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses,
and the voice I hear, falling on my ear the Son of God discloses,
and he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am
his own; and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has
ever known. (C Austin Miles)*

I pray God will richly bless you this Easter and your prayer times
as you share the joy of prayerfully walking and talking in the
garden of life, with our, 'Risen Lord'! Amen.

Graham Warr – Heritage Steward

Reflections for Holy Week 2023

Join the Revd Graham Thompson, President of the conference
and Anthony Boateng, Vic-President of the Conference, in a short
video reflection released each day at 9.00am from Palm Sunday
(2 April) to Easter Day (9 April)

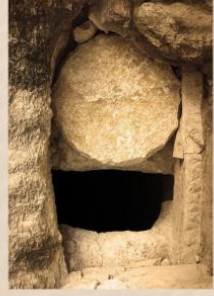
**You can watch each video reflection on the Methodist
Church social media channels every day at 9am, or on [their
website](#)**

HOLY WEEK

@ Wesley's Chapel

SERVICE SCHEDULE APRIL 2023

2nd	Palm Sunday Meditative Taizé Prayer	10.45am 7.00pm
5th	Holy Communion	12.45pm
6th	Holy Communion with Foot Washing	6.00pm
7th	Good Friday Service	10.00am
8th	The Easter Vigil	8.30pm
9th	Easter Day Holy Communion Service	11.00am



John Wesley
Wesley's Chapel
& Leysian Mission

New Easter Workshop

Since the New Year, I have been working on the development of a new Easter workshop for schools to be held here at Wesley's Chapel. On Thursdays 23rd and 30th March we held our first sessions with Year 4 from Moreland Primary, a local Islington school. The students were reporters for the morning, and had to gather information about Holy Week from different sources. Then, in the afternoon, we worked as a group to put all the events in order on a big timeline and thought about Easter symbols and what they mean. Students also had to think about what part of the Easter story might

be most inspirational for Christians and why. Feedback from the students showed that this was their favourite part as they got to pin the symbols on the timeline!

We hope to offer this workshop to local schools every Easter in the years to come as it is a fantastic opportunity to engage local children with our great site.

Gemma Smith - Learning and Community Engagement Officer

You can do this at home, leading up to Easter!

Why not put a small cross in your front window as Lent draws to a close, and Easter Week approaches? You can use a Palm cross or a wooden one. A cross is a visible reminder of the death of Jesus, and the Christian meaning of Easter and Resurrection.



1 April - All Fools' Day

In years gone by, the rules surrounding April Fool were this: between midnight and noon on 1st April, everyone is 'fair game' to be made a fool of. It is the morning of the practical joke. But the aim is not just to discomfort the victim: he must be tricked into taking action himself, sent on a 'fool's errand'.

And so children would be sent to the dairy for a pint of dove's milk, or to the bookseller for *The Life of Eve's Mother*. Practical jokes on a bigger scale were played: in 1860 a vast number of people received an official looking invitation to the Tower of London that read: 'Admit the Bearer and Friends to view the Annual Ceremony of Washing the White Lions.' Precisely the same trick had been played in 1698.

Then, on the stroke of noon, tradition decrees, April Fools is finished. If anyone attempts devilry thereafter, even while the clock is still striking, it recoils on his own head. A child would then race through the sing-song formula: 'April-Fool-Day's-past-and-gone-you're-the-fool-and-I-am-none!'

And finally.....

Palm Sunday visit

It was Palm Sunday, but because of a sore throat, five-year-old Bobby was kept home from church with his grannie. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds and Bobby asked them what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as He walked by," his father explained.

Bobby was aghast. "I don't believe it! The one Sunday I don't go, and He shows up!"

April Lunchtime Music Recitals



4th Siyu Sun

Piano

11th Aeneas Ensemble

Strings/ Piano

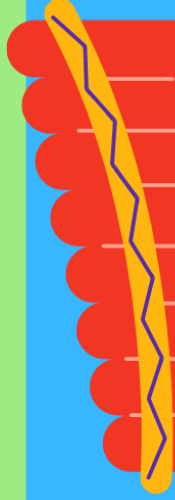
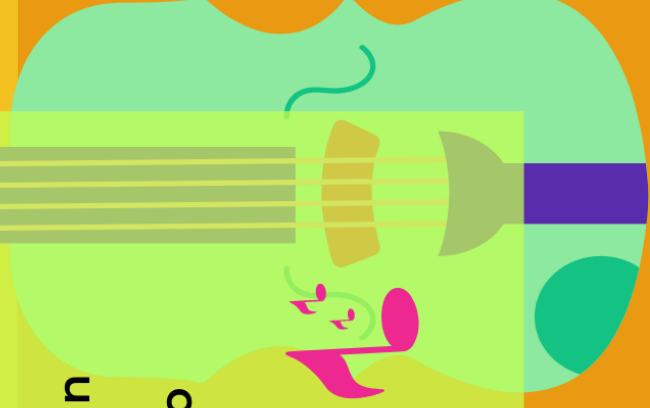
18th Joonas Pekonen

Violin

25th Grzegorz Mania &
Karolina Gawarzewska

Piano

@1.05pm Free entry



WESLEY'S CHAPEL &
LEYSIAN MISSION

“

한국어예배

KOREAN LANGUAGE WOSHIP
매 달 첫째, 셋째 주 (1ST, 3RD SUNDAY)

예배안내

주일예배 오후 1시 30분

대예배실

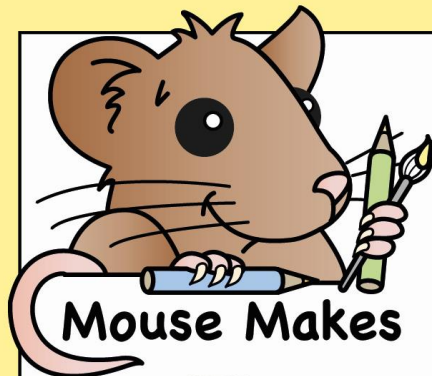
COME & JOIN US

(KOREAN CULTURE EXPERIENCE
& KOREAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL FREE)

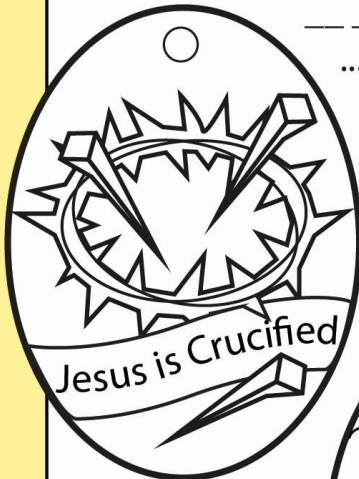
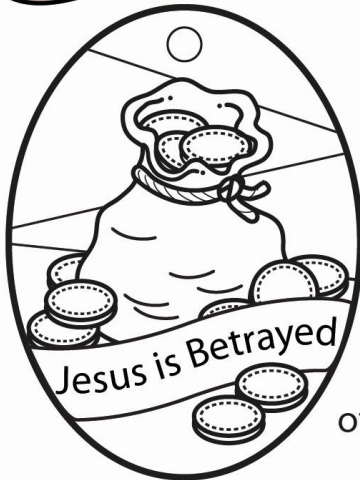
”

웨슬리채플 & 레이시안미션
박중섭목사 +44 7903 247462

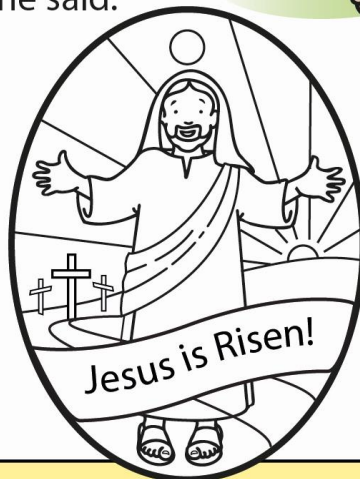
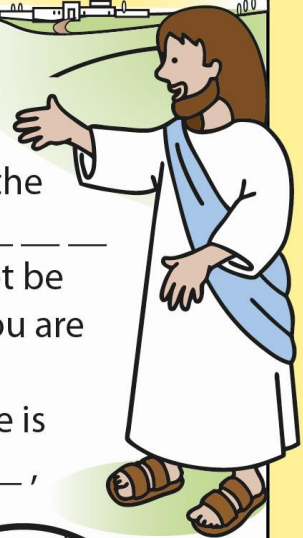
CHILDRENS PAGE



HE IS RISEN!
Read the story of
The Resurrection in
Matthew 28:1-20



An _____
of the Lord came down from
_____ and going to the
_____ rolled back the _____
... the _____ said, "Do not be
_____, for I know you are
looking for Jesus who was
_____, He is
not here; he has _____,
just as he said."



Glue this page onto
card. Cut out the
ovals then colour in.
Punch a hole at the
top and hang up
for Easter

Worship at Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission

Monday – Saturday

10.00am Morning Prayer from the Methodist Worship Book

Wednesday

12.45pm Service of Holy Communion

Sunday

9.45am Service of Holy Communion (except first Sunday of the month)

11.00am Morning Worship

1.30pm Korean Language Worship Service (first & third Sunday of the month)

7.00pm Service in the style of Taize (first Sunday of the month)

All services except the Wednesday Lunchtime Communion Service are also live streamed

(www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/livestreaming) and remain viewable afterwards at: www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/previous-services

We also have a dedicated email address for prayer requests which will be received directly by our ministers Jen and Steven, and will be prayed during the course of the Daily Morning Prayer service. Please send all prayer requests to:

prayer@wesleyschapel.org.uk

**If you would like to submit an article, poem, prayer or item of interest for this magazine please email it to:
manager@wesleyschapel.org.uk**