



York Circuit welcomes you to



Together

York Barbican, 10th July 2016

11.00 Main session 1:

Auditorium: Worship & Speakers

Cliffords Bar: Youth (11+)

Exhibition hall: Children (5-11s)

Lendal room: Creche (under 5s)

12.15 Lunch

Main foyer, Balcony foyer, Fishergate bar
(There is some seating in the Fishergate bar)

1.30 Main session 2:

Auditorium: Worship & Speakers

Cliffords Bar: Youth

Exhibition hall: Children

Lendal room: Creche

2.10 All age worship in the auditorium

2.30 End of event

Parents/ carers: please sign your children in for the activities for under 18's at the rooms listed above. Please supervise your children over lunch.

A huge welcome to “Together.”

Long in the dreaming and planning, we’ve finally reached the day! We very much hope that this day will encourage us all to have renewed confidence in our faith, in God’s faithfulness and in our Church. Coming together to celebrate God’s goodness can in itself be inspiring and transforming as we unite in worship and fellowship.

A special welcome if you’ve come to ‘taste and see’ what we’re all about having been invited by a church member. We hope you will feel immediately welcome and ‘at home.’

The Apostle Paul reminds us in Romans 12 that ‘though we are many, we are one body.’ I hope that you will sense that unity today – and delight in our diversity through which we represent Christ’s ministry to our communities and the wider world.

Thank you so much to all who have worked hard to make this all possible. To members of the planning team (Bev and Tim Duffy, Sally Gall, Elizabeth Griffiths, Christine Stephenson, William Swires, Lois Cross) and to all who have helped galvanise support as Ambassadors for this day.

So let’s celebrate, giving thanks for our life together in worship, mission and discipleship.

Rev Leslie Newton, Superintendent Minister

Our collection today is for **All We Can** (the Methodist relief and development charity) that helps people to find solutions to poverty and become all that they can, by investing in partnerships that improve quality of life and create positive, long-term change in the world’s poorest communities.



The Past Year

We had another wonderful start to the year as we gathered at Central Methodist Church to worship together, to welcome Revd. David Priestnall and Deacon Cedric May to new ministries at Clifton and Trinity, to commission the Circuit Stewards for 2015/16 and to hear about the work the new interns of micro YPS planned for their year. Long Service Certificates were presented to a number of Local Preachers and we said farewell to Paul Parker as he left us to train for Presbyteral ministry.

The vision for the Circuit unveiled at the AGM last year is being taken forward by a new group and their work is now coming to fruition as they present the Circuit with ideas for taking the vision forward.

The Circuit Stewards submitted a profile for a Probationer Presbyter and that being accepted we had a visit from John Schofield and his wife Ruth who are to be stationed in the Circuit from September.

We sold the Manse in The Avenue and replaced it with a property in Rawcliffe in readiness for John and his family. To keep our manses up to date we have started the process of selling the manse in Easingwold and purchasing a more modern, easier to keep manse there.

We note that Melbourne Terrace Church has decided to close and approval is being sought from the District to cease worship. Ways are being sought to provide a continuing Christian presence in that community and more work on that will be done in the coming year. Also sadly we were given the news that Deacon Ian Cartwright has had to retire due to ill health and we will gather to say farewell to Ian next month.

On a happier note the building projects in a number of our churches are beginning to come together and fundraising is well underway to enable them to proceed.

So much work goes on in the Circuit, often unseen and there are many unsung heroes to whom we offer a very sincere thank you. The churches where Ministers have been away on Sabbatical have coped well and we thank those preachers who have supported them by taking extra services.

On a personal note I thank you all for your support in this my year as senior steward, for your welcome when I have visited your churches, be it for meetings or to worship and in particular the other stewards, Tim, Peter, Carol, Martyn, Rosemary and Sue who have worked alongside me and helped me in everything I have done.

Today is the fulfilment of a dream to have an AGM that celebrates the life of the whole Circuit by finding a venue large enough for everyone to worship together. Let's make it a gathering the like of which has not been seen before, which will show York that Methodism in the York Circuit is alive and strong.

Christine Stephenson,
Senior Circuit Steward 2015-16

The Coming Year

We look forward to welcoming Revd John Schofield, his wife Ruth and their children Andrew and Kathryn who will be moving into the new manse at Headley Close at the beginning of August. John is a probationer presbyter and will have pastoral oversight of both Trinity and Clifton churches. We are also pleased that Corinne Brown (probationer deacon without appointment) will be working with us in and around the circuit for 1 year. A welcome service for John and Corinne will be held at Clifton Methodist Church on 4 September at 4pm.

I must thank Christine for her diligent stewardship over the last 4 years especially as senior steward for the last 12 months. We now

welcome John Middleton and Heather Revett who will be joining Martyn, Carol, Peter, Sue, Rosemary and I as we serve as circuit stewards.

The circuit council have approved 2 new appointments:

- A Circuit Resources Manager whose brief is to enable staff and local congregations to focus on the priorities of Worship, Learning & Caring, Service and Evangelism by relieving as many of the governance and building management burdens as possible.
- Circuit Youth Ministry Leader. The necessity to focus on youth - our future and an important part of our vision - has been recognised and resourced.

These are strategic appointments as we work towards a changing future where undoubtedly the focus will be on lay and ordained staff taking the church forward in the 21st Century.

I must thank Leslie for his exciting leadership, all the staff and stewards who work tirelessly. We have another busy year ahead with staff changes on the horizon and building projects approved for many of our churches. We thank God for his many blessings and pray for his continued guidance. We ask you all to pray for the work in our circuit, that we all find our place in the vision as **together** we face a new and ever changing future.

Tim Duffy,
Senior Circuit Steward 2016/2017

We are delighted to have **OneSound** joining us to lead our sung worship. Formerly the MAYC orchestra and singers, **OneSound** are the UK's leading Christian youth music ensemble and choir. **OneSound** aims to provide opportunity for like-minded talented young Christians to come together, perform and lead worship at a top



level in great venues, enabling talented young musicians to use their God-given gifts to strengthen their own faith and inspire the wider church and community.

We welcome you to join with OneSound in the following congregational songs.

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God.
Born of His Spirit, lost in his love.

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long!
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long!*

(Men) Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
(Women) Angels descending bring from above,
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

This is my story,

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in his love.

This is my story,

*Frances Jane van Alstyne (Fanny Crosby),
Singing the Faith 548. CCL Licence 143533*

Verses from Psalm 136 (please join in the words in **bold**).

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who alone does mighty miracles.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who made the heavens so skilfully.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who placed the earth among the waters.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who made the heavenly lights—

His faithful love endures forever.

the sun to rule the day,

His faithful love endures forever.

and the moon and stars to rule the night.

His faithful love endures forever.

He remembered us in our weakness.

His faithful love endures forever.

He saved us from our enemies.

His faithful love endures forever.

He gives food to every living thing.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven.

His faithful love endures forever.

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in my 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!

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.

*Charles Wesley, Singing the Faith 345.
CCL Licence 143533*

Bless the Lord oh my soul, Oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.

The sun comes up, It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again,
Whatever may pass And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing When the evening comes.

Bless the Lord oh my soul, etc

You're rich in love And You're slow to anger
Your name is great And Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons For my heart to find!

Bless the Lord oh my soul, etc

And on that day When my strength is failing
The end draws near And my time has come
Still my soul will Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years And then forevermore!

Bless the Lord oh my soul etc

*Matt Redman.
CCL Licence 143533*

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
To receive the food of your holy word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us
All your purposes, for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your Church is built
And the earth is filled with your glory.

*Keith Getty & Stuart Townend,
Singing the Faith 161. CCL Licence 143533*

Go forth and tell! O church of God awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take.
Proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord, and King,
That all the world his worthy praise may sing.

Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;
He will in grace respond to all who call.
How shall they call if they have never heard
The gracious invitation of his word?

Go forth and tell! Some still in darkness lie:
In wealth or want, in sin they live and die.
Give us, O Lord concern of heart and mind,
A love like yours which cares for all mankind.

Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:
Share God's good gifts with people long denied.
Live out your life as Christ, your Lord, shall choose,
Your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.

*J.E. Seddon, Hymns & Psalms 770.
CCL Licence 143533*

***Let everything that, Everything that,
Everything that Has breath praise the Lord
Let everything that, Everything that
Everything that Has breath praise the Lord***

Praise You in the morning, Praise You in the evening
Praise You when I'm young And when I'm old
Praise You when I'm laughing, Praise You when I'm grieving
Praise You every Season of the soul

If we could see How much You're worth
Your power, Your might, Your endless love
Then surely we would Never cease to praise!

Praise You in the heavens Joining with the angels
Praising You forever and a day
Praise You on the earth now, Joining with creation
Calling all the nations to Your praise

If they could see How much You're worth
Your power, Your might, Your endless love
Then surely they would Never cease to praise!

Let everything that, Everything that, etc

Matt Redman CCL Licence 143533

Inspired by love and anger, disturbed by need and pain,
Informed of God's own bias we ask him once again:
"How long must some folk suffer? How long can few folk
mind?
How long dare vain self interest turn prayer and pity blind?"

From those forever victims of heartless human greed,
Their cruel plight composes a litany of need:
"Where are the fruits of justice? Where are the signs of
peace?
When is the day when prisoners and dreams find their re-
lease?"

From those forever shackled to what their wealth can buy,
The fear of lost advantage provokes the bitter cry,

“Don’t query our position! Don’t criticise our wealth!
Don’t mention those exploited by politics and stealth!”

To God, who through the prophets proclaimed a different age,
We offer earth’s indifference, its agony and rage:

“When will the wronged be righted? When will the kingdom
come?

When will the world be generous to all instead of some?”

God asks, “Who will go for me? Who will extend my reach?

And who, when few will listen, will prophesy and preach?

And who, when few bid welcome, will offer all they know?

And who, when few dare follow, will walk the road I show?”

Amused in someone’s kitchen, asleep in someone’s boat,

Attuned to what the ancients exposed, proclaimed and wrote,

A Saviour without safety, a tradesman without tools

Has come to tip the balance with fishermen and fools

John Bell & Graham Maule

CCL Licence 143533

Hear the call of the kingdom, lift your eyes to the King;
let his song rise within you as a fragrant offering
of how God, rich in mercy, came in Christ to redeem
all who trust in his unfailing grace.

Hear the call of the kingdom to be children of light
with the mercy of heaven, the humility of Christ;
walking justly before him, loving all that is right,
that the life of Christ may shine through us.

*King of heaven, we will answer the call.
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name.*

Hear the call of the kingdom to reach out to the lost
with the Father's compassion in the wonder of the cross,
bringing peace and forgiveness, and a hope yet to come:
let the nations put their trust in him.

King of heaven, we will answer the call

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend.

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My God is a good God, yes he is;
My God is a good God, yes he is.
Well he picks me up and he turns me around,
He sets my feet on solid ground.
My God is a good God, yes he is.

*Author unknown
CCL Licence 143533*

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the works thy hand hath made;
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:

Then sings my soul,

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin:

Then sings my soul,

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home- what joy shall fill my heart;
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And then proclaim: "my God, how great thou art!"

Then sings my soul,

Stuart K. Hine, based on O store Gud by Carl Gustaf Boberg.

CCL Licence 143533.

Thank you for coming to Together!

We hope you have enjoyed the day and have a safe journey
home.

If you have parked in the Qpark car park across the road you
can receive a discount on your parking fee at the Barbican
booking office.

From the Methodist Conference...



As a result of the referendum on 23 June 2016, the United Kingdom has voted to leave the European Union. In this time of very significant change and uncertainty there is a need for leadership which seeks the common good and encourages people to work together, to respect one another and to uphold the dignity of all.

The Methodist Conference believes that the British Isles are enriched by diversity and celebrates the contribution made by those who have come from other parts of the world.

The Christian tradition calls for respect, tolerance, love of neighbour and hospitality to the stranger. All bear the responsibility of speaking and acting for healing, reconciliation, and mutual respect.

The Methodist Conference abhors and deeply regrets those actions and words which incite hatred and lead to the victimisation of groups within society and notes with concern that such actions and words have been normalised in recent public discourse.

Believing that racism is a denial of the gospel and that to stay silent when others are abused is to collude with those who seek to promote hatred and division, the Methodist Conference calls:

- on the Methodist people to challenge racism and discrimination.
- for a political debate which neither demonises any nor leaves the vulnerable (the foreigner, the immigrant and refugee) in danger of victimisation.
- on political leaders to work together for the good of the whole community putting the needs of the nation before party politics.
- on all those in positions of power and authority to hear the voices of those who have been marginalised and alienated and to respond to them in ways which offer real hope for the future.

The Conference encourages the Methodist people to join the campaign to wear an empty safety pin as a badge symbolising solidarity against racism.