

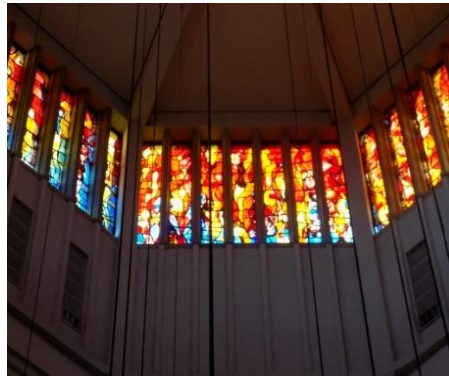
Wey Valley Circuit Prayer Diary – May 2024

Easter – Pentecost 2

Bible references are from the NRSVA unless otherwise stated – Hymns are from Singing the Faith - STF, Hymns and Psalms – HP, The Methodist Hymn Book – MHB, The Inclusive Bible -TIB, other sources are as noted.

The lantern windows above the central crossing that reflect the 'Tongues of Fire' at Pentecost. High above them at the top of the ceiling flies a stone Dove symbolising the Holy Spirit.

{Blackburn Cathedral}



'Spirit of God unseen as the wind, gentle as is the dove, teach us the truth and help us believe. Show us the Saviour's love'. We need your power, we need your strength, following Christ each day.

{Margaret Old Stf 394}

Wednesday 1st Feast Days of Phillip and James: Give thanks to God for their work in starting the spread of Christianity into other parts of the known world. Pray for Christians throughout the world, living and working in difficult times and conditions for '*Blessed are those who are gentle , those who hunger and thirst for justice, those who show mercy to others, those who work for peace. Those who are persecuted*'. (from the 'Beatitudes' Matthew 5:3-10)

Thursday 2nd Pray for a blessing on those known to you, who are poor in spirit and/or health, and those who are mourning. (Ibid)

Friday 3rd Pray for the ministry of Chaplaincy across the Circuit, in Hospitals, Care Homes, Schools, the University, other Colleges and locations. Pray for the Holy Spirit to empower and bless the Chaplains in their work.

Saturday 4th With all the citizens of earth, O Christ, I rejoice in in the glory of your divinity. With all the citizens of heaven, O Christ, I rejoice in the glory of your humanity. (*Ephrem the Syrian 306-373*)

Sunday 5th. Pray for the Worship, Ministry and Mission at Guildford St Mary's, Knaphill, Stoughton, Sheerwater, Cranleigh, West Horsley and Weybridge, and all who participate.

Monday 6th Hidden Treasures - As we find a pearl hidden in an oyster, may I find something of Christ in those who irritate me; as I find beautiful grain patterns revealed in a plank sawn from a tree, may I find something of Christ in those with a rough exterior. (*Dick Arnold, Local Preacher, Soth Petherton and Crewkerne Circuit from Methodist Prayer Handbook 2023/24 p 18*)

Tuesday 7th As I find a profusion of flowers from dull seeds hidden in the ground, may I find something of beauty in the most unprepossessing person (Ibid).

Wednesday 8th As I find a polished, shiny conker hidden in its spiky case, may I find something of Christ's light shining in even the most prickly character. Remembering always that the treasure of the light of Christ is found in earthen vessels. (2 Corinthians 4:7 KJV: Ibid)

Thursday 9th A Collect for Ascension Day – Almighty and everlasting Abba Father, you raised our Lord Jesus Christ to your right hand on high. As we rejoice in his exaltation fill us with his Spirit, that we may go into all the world and faithfully proclaim the gospel. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen {The Methodist Worship Book p544}

Friday 10th Pray for the 'Street Angels' in Guildford and Woking and any others you know – thank God for their safety, care and compassion to those in need, as they serve late at night.

Saturday 11th Pray for Ministry and Mission of the Christian Aid Plant Sale and Woking Repair Café
10.00am – 12 noon at Woking Trinity.

Sunday 12th Christian Aid Week begins – *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13)*
God, whose Spirit dwells in me, guide me to make plans which further your kingdom. Give me your vision and the courage to follow your path. Amen.

Pray for the Work, Ministry and Mission of Christian Aid. *(from 'Pushing Back against Poverty'- Christian Aid amended)*

Monday 13th *'And now faith, hope and love remain, and the greatest of these is love, (1 Corinthians 13.13')*

Jesus, you showed me what love is by laying down your life for me. Help me this week to reflect, that same sacrificial love through generous giving and courageous action for those in need. Amen. *(Ibid)*

Tuesday 14th Matthias Apostle – Give thanks for the example of Matthias who stood in the gap left by Judas.

Thank you, YHWH, for you are good! Your love is everlasting! (Psalm 136:1 TIB -The Inclusive Bible)

God, your love endures for ever, comfort me when the way is uncertain, guide and accompany me, through this week and beyond. Amen *(ibid)*

Wednesday 15th *Wait for God – stand tall and let your heart take courage! Yes, wait for YHWH! (Psalm 27:14 TIB)*

Jesus you were able to calm the storm and save your followers from disaster. Help me to weather the storms I face, to act against the climate crisis, and to respond to those in need. Amen. *(Ibid)*

Thursday 16th *Faith is the reality of all that is hoped for; for faith is the proof of all that is unseen. (Hebrews 1:1 TIB)*

Lord, your kingdom is one without end. Inspire me with the vision of justice and peace of life before death and of a brighter future. Amen *(Ibid)*

Friday 17th *'Learn to do good! Search for Justice and help the oppressed! Protect those who are orphaned and plead the case of those who are widowed, (Isaiah 1:17 TIB)* YHWH your voice is heard through so many humble people of faith, open my eyes to the realities of poverty around me, open my heart to those you love and help me to reach out and take action. Amen. *(ibid)*

Saturday 18th Christian Aid Week Ends: *'YHWH says - 'My children, your love must not be simply words or mere talk – it must be true love, which shows itself in action and truth, (1 John 3:18 TIB)* Lord, as Christian Aid Week draws to a close bless the efforts of individuals and churches, of politicians and ordinary people, that they make a difference, Amen .

Pray for the Ministry of Clothes4U at Knaphill 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Sunday 19th Pentecost – Pray - Breathe on me, Breath of God until I am wholly yours. *(from StF 370:3b)*

Pray for the Worship, Ministry and Mission at Cranleigh, West Horsley and Weybridge, and all who participate.

And for Pudding and Praise 4.00pm at Walton-on-Thames.

Monday 20th Pray – Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. *(Daniel Iverson StF 395)*

Tuesday 21st Charles Wesley's 'Pentecost Day'- Pray - My talents, gifts, and graces, Lord, into your blessed hands receive; and let me live to preach your word, *(in thoughts words and deeds)* and let me to your glory live; my every sacred moment spend in publishing the sinners' friend. Amen. *(Charles Wesley StF 661:3)*

Wednesday 22nd Pray -Send down your likeness from above, and let this my adorning be; clothe me with wisdom, patience, love, with lowliness and purity; than gold and pearls more precious far, and brighter than the morning star. *(O Jesu, susses Licht by Joachim Lange, translated by John Wesley StF 562 v4)*

Thursday 23rd Pray – ‘Lord, arm me with your Spirit’s might, since I am called by your great name; in you let all my thoughts unite, of all my works be you the name; your love attend me all my days, and my sole business be your praise’. (*ibid* v5)

Friday 24th Wesley Day -

Earlier that day John had heard the choir at St Pauls Cathedral singing psalm 130, where the Psalmist calls to God, ‘Out of the depths’ but he was still depressed when ...



John Wesley’s statue in St Paul’s churchyard

...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 alone, for Salvation; and an assurance was given me, that he had taken away my sins.

(from *John Wesley’s Journal*, Wednesday 24th May 1738)



John Wesley’s statue outside Wesley’s Chapel, City Road,

Pray – O how shall I the goodness tell, Father which you to me have showed? That I, should be called a child of God, should know, should feel, my sins forgiven, blest with this antepast of heaven; and worship our redeeming Lord!
(from *The Making of Methodism*, 2nd Edition, Barrie W. Tabraham 2010 p 50)

Saturday 25th Pray for the Ministry of the Coffee Morning at Knaphill 10.00am – 12 noon.

Sunday 26th Trinity Sunday – Praise the Lover of Creation, praise the Spirit, Friend of Friends, praise the true Beloved Son, our Saviour, praise the God who makes and mends, strong, surrendered, many-splendoured.

Three whose Oneness never ends. (*Brian Wren StF 773*)

Pray for the Worship, Ministry and Mission at Woking Trinity, Addlestone and Byfleet, and all who participate.

Monday 27th Give thanks for the ministry provided by our Minister’s, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Pastoral Visitors, Stewards, Administrators, Readers, Musicians, Flower Arrangers, Refreshment Providers, all Congregations, and any others who enable Worship and Mission to take place in the Circuit.

Tuesday 28th Telling others of God’s love -Pray for the other churches around your church, as you take steps together deeper into the gospel – and seek together justice, evangelism inclusion and spiritual growth.

(Adapted from methodist.org.uk/evangelism – *Methodist Handbook 2023/24 p7*)

Wednesday 29th Pray that the Holy Spirit will break through into the Church and ‘God’s so loved world’, and that your spiritual assurance will lead to honesty and courage in outreach and mission. (*Ibid*)

Thursday 30th God of love, God for all, your purposes are more beautiful than we can possibly imagine. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and help me to let go of all that holds me back – as did John and Charles Wesley. Open my life and church to new seasons of humility and faith, of change and growth. Shake me up with the good news of Jesus and show me the way ahead. Amen! (*Ibid*)

Friday 31st Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth: Join with Mary in her song of praise – ‘My Soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.’(Luke 1:46-47) ‘Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice. Amen.

God bless you all in your praying. Graham W