THE PARISH OF WADDESDON

Waddesdon, Upper Winchendon, Westcott, Fleet Marston

Together with the congregations of the Schorne Team
and congregations of the Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit



300TH Anniversary



On 3rd October 1725 following his Ordination in Christ Church, Oxford
The Revd. John Wesley preached on Job 3:17
at Evensong here at St. Mary Magdalene, Upper Winchendon



A service of Celebration

Faithful in Trouble, Resting in Hope: A Wesleyan Legacy

Sunday 5th October 2025 3pm

at St Mary Magdalene, Upper Winchendon

Opening Responses

God of every age,
you raised up John Wesley
to be faithful in trouble and joyful in hope.
When storms came, they trusted you.
When doors closed, they sang your praise.
As we gather in their footsteps
renew us in your Spirit and set our hearts on fire with your love.

All:
Faithful in trouble, resting in hope
come, Holy Spirit, revive your Church. Amen

Opening hymn : O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Tune: Richmond

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.

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 loosen'd tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come,
And leap, ye lame, for joy!

See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain,
His soul was once an offering made
For every soul of man.

In Christ, our Head, you then shall know
Shall feel your sins forgiven,
Anticipate your heaven below.
And own that love is heaven

Welcome and Historical Framing
The Revd Caroline Wainman

Scripture Reading – *Job 3:11–19 (KJV)*

11 Why died I not from the womb?
why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?

12 Why did the knees prevent me?
or why the breasts that I should suck?

13 For now should I have lain still and been quiet,
I should have slept: then had I been at rest,

14 With kings and counsellors of the earth,
which built desolate places for themselves.

15 Or with princes that had gold,
who filled their houses with silver:

16 Or as an hidden untimely birth I had not been;
as infants which never saw light.

17 There the wicked cease from troubling;
and there the weary be at rest.

18 There the prisoners rest together;
they hear not the voice of the oppressor.

19 The small and great are there;
and the servant is free from his master.

A **dramatic reimagining** of Wesley's sermon delivered from the very pulpit where John Wesley stood - **David Heffer**

Hymn : Rejoice, the Lord is King
Tune: Gopsal

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
Mortals, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice! Again I say: Rejoice!

Jesus the Saviour reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains,
He took His seat above:

His kingdom cannot fail;
He rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:

He sits at God's right hand
Till all His foes submit,
And bow to His command,
And fall beneath His feet:

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus, the Judge, shall come,
And take His servants up
To their eternal home:

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
The trump of God shall sound: Rejoice!

Sermon – The Revd Richard Atkinson
A Wesleyan Legacy "*What Wesley might teach the contemporary church"*

Hymn : Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Tune: Blaenwern

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more 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,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Prayers - The Revd Noreen Daley-Lee

Wesleyan Litany: *Faithful in Trouble, Resting in Hope*
Lord, in our trouble,
Give us grace.

Lord, in our weariness,
Give us rest.

Lord, in our doubts,
Give us faith.

Lord, in our weakness,
Give us strength.

We thank you for John and Charles Wesley—
for their faith, their fire, their witness.
We praise you for a legacy of holy living and holy love.

We thank you for this church,
for its worship, its welcome, its witness through the years.
We praise you for those who have gone before us in faith.

As we gather today,
make us faithful in trouble and joyful in hope,
trusting not in ourselves, but in your promises.
Come, Holy Spirit—revive your Church. Amen

Dedication of Wesley 300 plaque by
The Revd Caroline Wainman

Final Hymn : And Can It Be
Tune: Sagina

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?

Refrain:
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 depth of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire 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.

Final prayers

The Methodist Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing,
put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you,
or laid aside for you,
exalted for you,
or brought low for you;
let me be full,
let me be empty,
let me have all things,
let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.

And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen

Blessing

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

May the God of grace who strengthened John Wesley
to preach holiness of heart and life,
fill your hearts with faith in trouble
and hope in all things.

May Christ, who walks with the weary,
go before you and beside you,
that you may serve with joy and rest in his love.

May the Holy Spirit, fire of the faithful,
set your hearts ablaze with love for God and neighbour.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Sending Out

Go in the spirit of Wesley: persevering in trouble,
resting in God's grace, and rejoicing in the hope of glory. **Amen**

Recessional music Postlude by J H Knecht (1752-1817)

Please stay to share in refreshments and enjoy the beauty of this place.

We look forward to welcoming you to our services on
Second and Fourth Sundays at 9:30am in Upper Winchendon HP18 0EP
Singing is with recorded music.

further information **www.waddesdonparish.org** **vicar@waddesdonparish.org**

If you are able, we would appreciate contributions towards the running and refurbishment costs of this beautiful ancient church. Please scan the QR code to donate via the Waddesdon Parish Giving page.
Your support is gratefully received.