

METHODIST CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER



PRAYERS AT THE
SIGNING OF

THE
ANGLICAN-METHODIST
COVENANT
FOR ENGLAND

SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2003

11 AM

The whole of the church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

Members of the congregation are kindly requested to ensure that mobile phones, pagers and other electronic devices are switched off, and to refrain from using private cameras, video or sound recording equipment.

*The Choir of Methodist Central Hall, Westminster is conducted by Mark Stringer.
The organist is Alistair Lilley.*

Music before the service:

Adagio in E	Frank Bridge (1879-1941)
Choral in A minor	César Franck (1822-90)

A Procession of Methodist and Church of England representatives is conducted to places in the Great Hall. All remain seated.

The Revd Prebendary Dr Paul Avis,

General Secretary, Council for Christian Unity of the Church of England

The Revd Peter Sulston,

Co-ordinating Secretary for Unity in Mission, The Methodist Church

Mr William Fittall,

Secretary General of the General Synod and of the Archbishops' Council

The Revd David Deeks,

General Secretary of the Methodist Church and Secretary of the Methodist Conference

The Right Revd Ian Cundy, *Bishop of Peterborough*

Anglican Co-Chairman of the Joint Implementation Commission

Professor Peter Howdle,

Methodist Co-Chairman of the Joint Implementation Commission

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Jan Prendergast is received at the Main Doors of the Methodist Central Hall by the Superintendent Minister and is conducted to her seat in the Great Hall. All stand and then sit.

Her Majesty The Queen is received at the Main Doors of the Methodist Central Hall by the Superintendent Minister and the Stewards of the London Mission (Westminster) Circuit.

*An organ fanfare is sounded.
All stand.*

The Superintendent Minister, the Stewards of the London Mission (Westminster) Circuit, together with Her Majesty The Queen, move to their places in the Great Hall.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All remain standing as the Choir sings:

GIVE us the wings of faith to rise within the veil,
and see the saints above,
how great their joys,
how bright their glories be.
We ask them whence their victory came;
They, with one united breath,
ascribe the conquest to the Lamb,
their triumph to his death.
They mark'd the footsteps that he trod,
his zeal inspir'd their breast;
and, following their incarnate God,
they reach'd the promised rest.

Ernest Bullock (1890-1979)

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

As the Choir sings, young representatives of the Church of England and the Methodist Church, carrying the copies of the Covenant, escort the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York, the President and the Vice-President of the Methodist Conference into the Great Hall.

The Archbishops and the President and the Vice-President proceed to their places. The young people place the copies of the Covenant on the table and move to their places. The congregation remains standing.

The Reverend Martin Turner, Superintendent Minister of the Methodist Central Hall, offers a welcome.

All remain standing.

THE GREETING

The President of the Methodist Conference the Reverend Dr Neil Richardson says:

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

See, how good and joyful it is:

To live together in unity.

All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN

COME, let us join our friends above
That have obtained the prize,
And on the eagle wings of love
To joys celestial rise.

Let all the saints terrestrial sing
With those to glory gone;
For all the servants of our King,
In earth and heaven, are one.

One family we dwell in him,
One church, above, beneath;
Though now divided by the stream,
The narrow stream of death.

Jesu, be thou our constant Guide;
Then, when the word is given,
Bid Jordan's narrow stream divide,
And bring us safe to heaven.

*Dundee, Hymns and Psalms 649
Scottish Psalter, Edinburgh, 1615*

Charles Wesley (1707-88) and others

All sit.

THE PRAYERS OF PREPARATION

The Reverend David Deeks, Secretary of the Methodist Conference, says:

Let us pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful people,
and kindle in us the fire of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

ACT OF PENITENCE

When we have brought discredit on the gospel
Lord, forgive.
Christ, have mercy.

When we have broken the unity of the Church
Lord, forgive.
Christ, have mercy.

When we have failed in our love for others
Lord, forgive.
Christ, have mercy.

May God who is both power and love,
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ. **Amen**

A COLLECT

Gracious God,
send your Holy Spirit
upon your church and people,
that they may build each other up in holiness and peace;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

from John Wesley's A Collection of Forms of Prayer, 1733

*William Fittall, Secretary General of the General Synod and the
Archbishops' Council, reads*

JOHN 17: 22-24

JESUS said: Father, the glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AN ADDRESS

by

The Most Reverend and Right
Honourable Dr Rowan Williams
The Archbishop of Canterbury

THE SIGNING OF THE ANGLICAN-METHODIST COVENANT

Two copies of the Covenant are signed by

*The Archbishops of Canterbury and York
The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference
The Secretary General of the General Synod and the Archbishops' Council
The Secretary of the Methodist Conference.*

During the signing of the Covenant organ music is played.

THE PREAMBLE

We, the Methodist Church of Great Britain and the Church of England, on the basis of our shared history, our full agreement in the apostolic faith, our shared theological understandings of the nature and mission of the Church and of its ministry and oversight, and our agreement on the goal of full visible unity, as set out in the previous sections of our Common Statement, hereby make the following Covenant in the form of interdependent Affirmations and Commitments. We do so both in a spirit of penitence for all that human sinfulness and narrowness of vision have contributed to our past divisions, believing that we have been impoverished through our separation and that our witness to the gospel has been weakened accordingly, and in a spirit of thanksgiving and joy for the convergence in faith and collaboration in mission that we have experienced in recent years.

THE AFFIRMATIONS

1. We affirm one another's churches as true churches belonging to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ and as truly participating in the apostolic mission of the whole people of God.
2. We affirm that in both our churches the word of God is authentically preached, and the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist are duly administered and celebrated.
3. We affirm that both our churches confess in word and life the apostolic faith revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the ecumenical Creeds.
4. We affirm that one another's ordained and lay ministries are given by God as instruments of God's grace, to build up the people of God in faith, hope and love, for the ministry of word, sacrament and pastoral care and to share in God's mission in the world.

5. We affirm that one another's ordained ministries possess both the inward call of the Holy Spirit and Christ's commission given through the Church.
6. We affirm that both our churches embody the conciliar, connexional nature of the Church and that communal, collegial and personal oversight (*episkope*) is exercised within them in various forms.
7. We affirm that there already exists a basis for agreement on the principles of episcopal oversight as a visible sign and instrument of the communion of the Church in time and space.

THE COMMITMENTS

1. We commit ourselves, as a priority, to work to overcome the remaining obstacles to the organic unity of our two churches, on the way to the full visible unity of Christ's Church. In particular, we look forward to the time when the fuller visible unity of our churches makes possible a united, interchangeable ministry.
2. We commit ourselves to realise more deeply our common life and mission and to share the distinctive contributions of our traditions, taking steps to bring about closer collaboration in all areas of witness and service in our needy world.
3. We commit ourselves to continue to welcome each other's baptised members to participate in the fellowship, worship and mission of our churches.
4. We commit ourselves to encourage forms of eucharistic sharing, including eucharistic hospitality, in accordance with the rules of our respective churches.
5. We commit ourselves to listen to each other and to take account of each other's concerns, especially in areas that affect our relationship as churches.
6. We commit ourselves to continue to develop structures of joint or shared communal, collegial and personal oversight, including shared consultation and decision-making, on the way to a fully united ministry of oversight.

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

CAPTAIN of Israel's host, and guide
Of all who seek the land above,
Beneath thy shadow we abide,
The cloud of thy protecting love;
Our strength, thy grace; our rule, thy word;
Our end, the glory of the Lord.

By thine 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.

Marienlyst, Hymns and Psalms 62
John W David (1837-1902)

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

During this hymn the young representatives of the Church of England and the Methodist Church receive from the President of the Conference and from the Archbishop of Canterbury the signed copies of the Covenant and return to their places.

The President of the Methodist Conference says:

Let us proceed in peace:
In the name of Christ.

All remain standing as the Processions move to Westminster Abbey.

Music after the service:

Finale from Symphony No 6

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Members of the Congregation are requested to remain in their places until directed to move to the Abbey by the Stewards and to take this order of service with them.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY



SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
AND DEDICATION

TO MARK

THE
ANGLICAN-METHODIST
COVENANT
FOR ENGLAND

SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2003

11.45 AM

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The Choir of Westminster Abbey is conducted by James O'Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The organ is played by Daniel Cook, Assistant Organist.

The following music is played by Richard Hills, Organ Scholar, as the congregation moves into the Abbey from Methodist Central Hall:

Prelude and Fugue in G BWV 541	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Holsworthy Church Bells	Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-76) arranged by Harry Wall
Choral Prelude on Nun Danket alle Gott BWV 657	Johann Sebastian Bach

A Procession of Methodist and Church of England representatives is conducted to places in the Sacrarium. All remain seated.

The Lord Mayor of Westminster is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and is conducted to her Stall in the Quire. All stand and then sit.

Her Majesty The Queen is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

All stand.

The Collegiate Procession, together with Her Majesty The Queen, moves to places in the Quire and Sacrarium.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All remain standing.

Young representatives of the Church of England and the Methodist Church, carrying the signed copies of the Covenant, escort the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York, the President and the Vice-President of the Methodist Conference to the Sacrarium.

During this Procession the Choir sings:

HOW beautiful are the feet of them that
preach the gospel of peace, and bring
glad tidings of good things.

*George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)
from Messiah*

Romans 10: 15

Handel's Messiah was a favourite work of both John and Charles Wesley.

When they reach the Sacrarium, the Archbishop of York and the Vice-President of the Methodist Conference proceed to their places. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the President of The Methodist Conference kneel at the top of the Sacrarium steps. The young people escorting them place the signed copies of the Covenant on the table and return to flank the Archbishop of Canterbury and the President.

The congregation remains standing.

A period of silent prayer is kept.

The Very Reverend Dr Wesley Carr, Dean of Westminster, greets the Archbishop of Canterbury and the President, and says

THE WELCOME

Neil and Rowan, brothers in the faith, welcome.

YOU are here celebrating on behalf of your churches a further step on the road to full unity. And there can be nowhere more suitable to be than in this Collegiate Church of St Peter at Westminster, a symbol of the engagement between the nation and faith, religion and politics, and the monarchy and our civil and military life.

The Dean and Chapter welcomes you on this auspicious day.

This is the day that the Lord has made:

Let us be glad and rejoice in it.

All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN

HOW shall I sing that majesty
which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie;
sing, sing ye heavenly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around
thy throne, O God most high;
ten thousand times ten thousand sound
thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,
whilst I thy footsteps trace;
a sound of God comes to my ears,
but they behold thy face.
They sing because thou art their Sun;
Lord, send a beam on me;
for where heaven is but once begun
there alleluias be.

How great a being, Lord, is thine,
which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore,
a sun without a sphere;
thy time is now and evermore,
thy place is everywhere.

Soll's Sein, Hymns and Psalms 8
D G Corner Geistliche Nachtigal 1649

John Mason (c1645–1694)

All sit.

Mrs Judy Jarvis, the Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, reads

MATTHEW 28: 16-20

NOW the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

All remain seated for

THE ADDRESS

by

The Reverend Dr Neil Richardson
The President of the Methodist Conference

All kneel or remain seated for

AN ACT OF THANKSGIVING

The Reverend Chris Chivers, Minor Canon and Precentor of Westminster, says:

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr David Hope, KCVO, Lord Archbishop of York, Primate of England and Metropolitan, continues:

EVER-LIVING God,
you are the hope of the world
and the joy of the nations.
In wisdom and love
you have brought forth the wonders of creation
and fashioned us in your own image.
Blessèd be God for ever.

Ever-living God,
you have caused the light of your glory
to shine forth in the face of Jesus Christ
and through the preaching of the gospel
you have called into being
one holy, catholic and apostolic Church
throughout the world.
Blessèd be God for ever.

Ever-living God,
you have blessed our nation
through the ministry and witness of the Church of England,
and by its saints, its divines and its parish life.
You have renewed the life of the nation
by raising up your servants John and Charles Wesley
and through the ministry and witness of the people called
Methodist.
Blessèd be God for ever.

Therefore with the Church of all the ages,
with apostles, evangelists and martyrs
and with all the angels in heaven
we give you thanks and praise.
Blessèd be God for ever.

The Precentor concludes:

Ever-living God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

All remain standing for

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

The Organist plays a flourish during which the President of the Methodist Conference, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Dean move to stand at the top of the Sacrament steps.

The President of the Conference says:

All who belong to the Methodist Church, I invite you to say with me:

OUR brothers and sisters
of the Church of England
we thank God for you.

**In the name of Christ,
we your sisters and brothers of the Methodist Church
dedicate ourselves
to share our life with you.**

**Guided by the Holy Spirit,
we look forward to the years ahead
in a common life of worship and mission,
and of ministry and service.**

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr Rowan Williams, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan, says:

All who belong to the Church of England, I invite you to say with me:

OUR brothers and sisters
of the Methodist Church
we thank God for you.

In the name of Christ,
we your sisters and brothers of the Church of England
dedicate ourselves
to share our life with you.

Guided by the Holy Spirit,
we look forward to the years ahead
in a common life of worship and mission,
and of ministry and service.

The Dean says:

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

OUR Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

All sit. The Choir sings

THE ANTHEM

THOU wilt keep him in perfect peace: whose mind is stayed on thee.
The darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day:
the darkness and the light to thee are both alike.
God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.
O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for evermore.
Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace: whose mind is stayed on thee.

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Isaiah 26: 3;

Psalm 139: 11; 1 John 1: 5;

Psalm 119: 175; Matthew 6: 13

All stand for

THE PEACE

The Dean says:

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you:
and also with you.

The Dean, The Archbishop of Canterbury, and The President of the Methodist Conference exchange a sign of peace with Her Majesty The Queen.

All exchange a sign of peace.

All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN

*during which the copies of the Covenant
are placed on the High Altar*

O THOU who camest from above,
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return
In humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work, and speak, and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make my sacrifice complete.

*Hereford, New English Hymnal 431
Samuel Sebastian Wesley*

*Charles Wesley (1707-88)
after Leviticus 6: 13*

All remain standing. The Dean says

THE BLESSING

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the word and works of God; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

All remain standing to sing

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

GOD save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save The Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save The Queen.

Not on this land alone,
But be God's mercies known,
From shore to shore.
Lord, make the nations see
That we in unity,
Should form one family
The wide world o'er.

from Thesaurus Musicus c1743

*Anonymous
and W E Hickson (1803-70)*

All remain standing as the Processions move to the West End of the Church.

Music after the service:

Choral Song and Fugue in C

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

The bells of the Abbey are rung.

*Members of the Congregation are requested to remain in their places
until directed to move by the Stewards.*

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