

‘YOU HELD ME’

*This poem was written by the Most Reverend Stephen Cottrell,
Archbishop of York,
and is reproduced here with his kind permission.*

You offered me a broken piece of bread.
I said I wanted buttered toast instead;
I said that bread was useless, basic, poor.
You offered me the bread and nothing more.

You stooped to wash the tiredness from my feet.
I said I need a bath to be complete;
and not from You so menial a chore.
You stooped to wash my feet and nothing more.

You overthrew the tables in my heart.
I said I like them as they are, apart;
I said it politely, showing You the door.
You overturned my heart and nothing more.

You held me like an etching in a press,
You held me, held me, held me – nothing less.

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Archbishop Cottrell’s book, *Prayer: Where to Start and How to Keep Going*, formed the basis for the *Daily Service* on BBC Radio 4 for two weeks in April. You can listen to these again on BBC Sounds. The book was published in 2020 by Church House Publishing.

WPC
May 2021



Jesus said: I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.
The Holy Spirit will teach you everything,
and remind you of all that I have said to you.

(JOHN 14: 16-17, 26)

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SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

Sunday services *in church* have resumed.

**** From 2 May, we meet at 10 a.m.!!**

It is essential to put a mask on before entering the church building and to wear it until after you have left church. Social distancing (2 metres) must be observed both in church and outside in church grounds. Temperatures will be taken and hands must be sanitised before you enter the sanctuary.

Services are also being live-streamed at 10 a.m. and recorded so that you can view or review them during the week. You can find them on YouTube – search Windsor Presbyterian Church Belfast.



An interesting talk by Tom Hartley, former Lord Mayor of Belfast, entitled “Lost Presbyterian Meeting Houses”, can be found on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4NrRFPwr7o>. The talk was arranged by the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland and was posted on 9 March 2021. Tom, who has historical expertise on Irish Presbyterianism, speaks about 13 Presbyterian churches that once existed in the inner city area of Belfast. You will also find a link to the talk from the PHSI website: <https://www.presbyterianhistoryireland.com/2021/03/lost-presbyterian-meeting-houses/>

PRAYER MEETINGS, THURSDAYS, 7 p.m.

Please join the online prayer meeting by Zoom each Thursday, 7 p.m.
Contact Ivan or Fergus for the Zoom meeting ID and password.

Everyone is welcome, whether you wish to pray aloud or silently. No-one is ever under pressure at this relaxed friendly meeting. Please join us!

PRESBYTERIAN HERALD

Because of the pandemic, the Presbyterian Herald has gone online and is free to all: https://issuu.com/presbyterianireland/docs/presbyterian_herald_spring_2021

A prayer, using the words of an old hymn:

Jesus, keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain
Free to all—a healing stream – flows from Calvary’s mountain.
*In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever;
From the cross my ransomed soul nothing then shall sever.*

Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
There the Bright and Morning Star sheds its beams around me.

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day with its shadow o’er me.

Near the cross I’ll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
Till I see my Saviour’s face, leave His presence never. AMEN.

DONATE

FWO envelopes for 2021 can be collected from church. You can also continue to use any leftover envelopes from 2020, or use any envelope at all but please indicate your FWO number if you can. Your FWO number is the same each year.

Your Freewill Offerings and other donations to meet the expenses of Windsor’s ministry can be sent by cheque to the manse, 8 Cranmore Park, BT9 6JA, c/o Rev Ivan Steen. Cheques should be payable to ‘Windsor Presbyterian Church’.

Bank transfer can also be used for regular FWO contributions and for single gifts: Ulster Bank, account name ‘Windsor Presbyterian Church’; sort code 98-01-40; account number 15386083.

WPC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for NI: NIC104213. If you are a UK taxpayer, please speak to Anna Shariati (Hon. Treasurer) about Gift Aid.