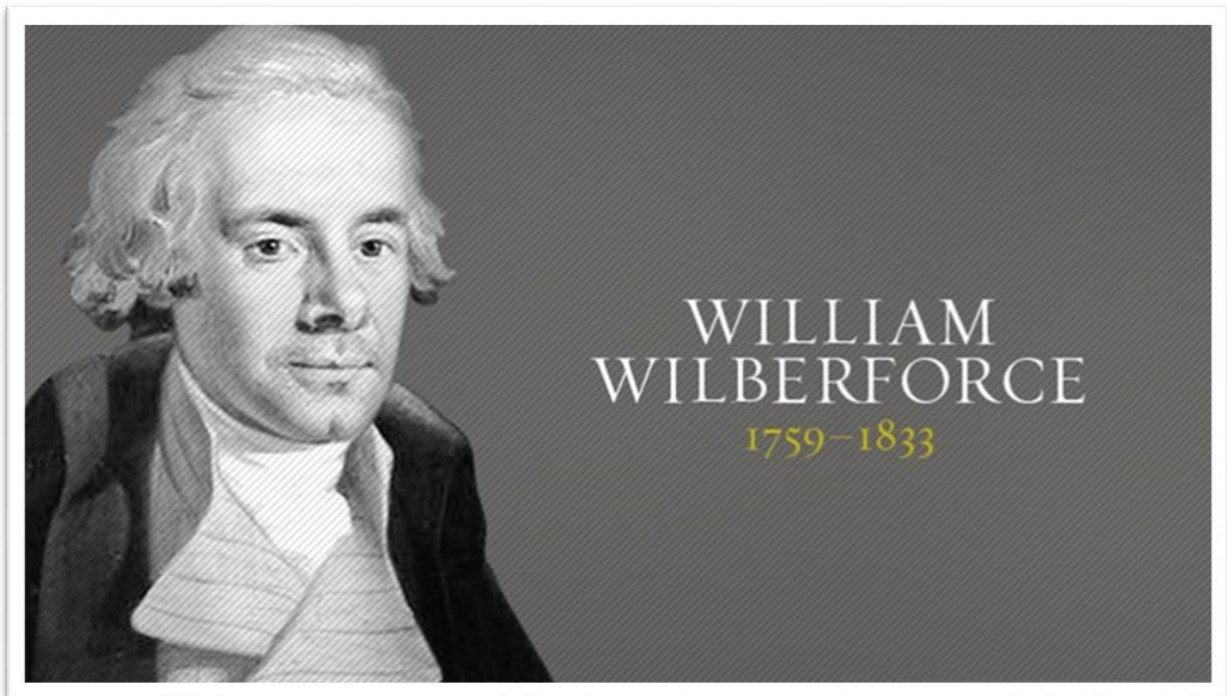


Online Worship at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Sunday, August 1



Pentecost 10, 2021

William Wilberforce and the Abolition of Slavery

William Wilberforce and Slavery – A very short history

1562	First English slaving expedition by Sir John Hawkins
1672	Royal Africa Company granted charter to carry Africans to the Americas
1759	Wilberforce is Born
1772	Ruling that no slave could be forcibly removed from Britain. (Slavery itself was still permitted).
1778	Slavery made illegal in Scotland.
1780	Wilberforce Enters British Parliament
1783	US gains independence from Britain
1786	Wilberforce's Conversion experience
1789	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1791	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1792	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1793	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1794	France abolishes slavery in all its territories.
1797	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1798	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1799	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1804	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1805	Introduced antislavery bill – Defeated
1807	Slave trade made illegal in the British Empire
1833	Emancipation Bill makes Slavery illegal throughout the British Empire
1833	Wilberforce Dies
1847	Benjamin Boyd begins trade in Islanders for use in agricultural industries in Australia ("blackbirding").
1850	<i>Fugitive Slave Act</i> Passes in the US
1852	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> published
1861-65	US Civil War
1865	Slavery abolished in the US
1897	<i>Aboriginal Protection and Restriction of the Sale of Opium Act</i> (QLD) gives power to invest Aboriginal wages in a trust fund, which was rarely paid out.
1901	Under the <i>White Australia Policy</i> , Islanders, already traumatised by blackbirding, are deported
1918	<i>The Aboriginals Ordinance</i> allows forced recruitment of Indigenous workers in NT and legalises the non-payment of wages.
1967	Referendum passed to include Aboriginal Australians in our census.
2021	Bundaberg Mayor Jack Dempsey offers first official apology for blackbirding.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

P: Welcome

P: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

P: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

LA: We acknowledge the custodians of the land where we gather today - the Yuggera and Ugarapul people. We celebrate their culture, thank them for their care of the land and pay respects to their elders: past, present and emerging.

LA: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Isaiah 55.2

LA: [Let us pray.]
**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

P: Living God,
whose Son Jesus fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us with your true and living bread,
Jesus Christ our Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Let us pray that God's justice and righteousness
will break forth in our time.

Awaken our hearts and deepen our commitment
to work for a world where all people are free
and able to live with dignity.

We ask for conversion of heart for traffickers

For strong laws to protect victims

And for just compensation for survivors and their descendants.

Give us wisdom and courage to find ways

to ensure Your freedom is a gift for all people.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from <https://freedomundayglobal.files.wordpress.com/2018/04/prayer-resource.pdf>

1st Reading

2 Samuel 11.26-12.13a

²⁶ When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. ²⁷ When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. ¹ and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, 'There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had very many flocks and herds; ³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴ Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.' ⁵ Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, 'As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; ⁶ he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.' ⁷ Nathan said to David, 'You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; ⁸ I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. ⁹ Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰ Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. ¹¹ Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you

from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun.

¹² For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.'

¹³ David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord .' Nathan said to David, 'Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.'

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51.1-12

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, in your enduring goodness:
according to the fulness of your compassion
blot out my offences.

² **Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness:
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³ For I acknowledge my rebellion:
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ **Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your eyes:
so you will be just in your sentence
and blameless in your judging.**

⁵ Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth:
and in sin my mother conceived me.

⁶ **You that desire truth in the inward parts:
O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart.**

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ **Make me hear of joy and gladness:
let the bones which you have broken rejoice.**

⁹ Hide your face from my sins:
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ **Create in me a clean heart, O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹ Do not cast me out from your presence:
do not take your holy spirit from me.

¹² **O give me the gladness of your help again:
and support me with a willing spirit.**

Ephesians 4.1-16

¹ I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,

⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

⁸ Therefore it is said,

'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.'

⁹ (When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth?)

¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)

¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,

¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.

¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

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¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 6 beginning at verse 6
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 6.24-35

²⁴ So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. ²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' ²⁶ Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' ²⁸ Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' ²⁹ Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' ³⁰ So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?' ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ' ³² Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' ³⁴ They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' ³⁵ Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

For the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

LA: Nicene Creed

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

LA: THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

We pray for people who are trafficked;
May they find freedom from fear and harm
And courage to live in hope.
Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy **Christ have mercy**

We pray for indigenous Australians
Who bear the legacy of generations of slavery.
May they find freedom from inequality and injustice,
And courage to live in truth.
Let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence is kept)

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for people who traffick others;
May they find freedom from greed and violence
And courage to live with justice.
Let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence is kept)

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for people who work to prevent trafficking;
May they find freedom from threats and webs of untruth

And courage to live in peace
Let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence is kept)

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We thank you for the faithfulness and tenacity of Wilberforce;
May we follow his example as we work for justice in our time;
May we seek and find freedom from systemic evil,
And courage to live in respect for all people.
Let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence is kept)

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

God of compassion and mercy,
who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of
slavery to freedom in the promised land: free us from the tyranny of sin and death
and, by the leading of your Spirit,
bring us to our promised land;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Adapted from <https://freedomundayglobal.files.wordpress.com/2018/04/prayer-resource.pdf>

LA: Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

LA: We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.

Let us then run our race, laying aside every weight and bringing our sins to
the Lord in penitence and faith.

**Almighty God
Saviour, Liberator and Lover of all people,
We confess that we have not loved you
with our whole hearts
Or reflected your self-sacrificing love**

that has won our freedom.
We hear of modern slavery
And the slavery in Australia's past,
But we prefer not to look too closely
At what is difficult to face and painful to think about.
We have chosen to keep our eyes shut
Rather than ask difficult questions.
Yet we remember how you came into our darkness And always walk
beside us,
And never look away from us.
We are truly sorry – please forgive us and make us more like you.

P: Almighty God – Saviour, Liberator
and Lover of all people,
Who sought you out and paid your ransom,
Pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
Stir up in you a passion for the freedom of all,
to challenge injustice and work to fill our world
With God's transforming love, and life-giving freedom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from http://www.thesanctuarycentre.org/resources/written_prayers_responding_to_human_trafficking_and_modern_slavery.pdf

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

P: We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**
The peace and liberty of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Announcements

P: May the peace and freedom of God's presence
Be your guiding light through the world's darkness
Until the bright day of God's kingdom,
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

LA: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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