

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

Comforting Words (part one)

If you've ever had anything to do with producing a church newsletter, you'll know how risky it is to predict just when the next issue is likely to appear. The one you are holding is scheduled to hit the pews more or less at the beginning of Lent. But Lent is still a good way off as I write. In fact it is yet another damp evening in the middle of a rain-soaked and rather dispiriting February. Unseasonably, however, and in spite of the drizzle, it's already with a mild but unmistakable sense of excitement that I'm looking forward beyond Lent to Holy Week and Easter.

Heath Street's Eastertide looks like another busy one. Under the benevolent guidance of our children's worker Wilf, a community Passion Play will again take shape in an atmosphere (dare I say) of creative chaos. As that takes shape over the course of Holy Week, mezzo-soprano Ascelina Klee will perform at our lunchtime recital. Holy Saturday will feature a concert of Bolivian baroque music written for Passiontide.

And our brothers and sisters from Christ Church will join us on the morning of Good Friday. At that service the passion narrative for this year (Matthew's) will be chanted, something which to my knowledge has not been tried here before.

However, the event I'm anticipating with the most unalloyed pleasure is the Kloster concert which will take place on the evening of Good Friday (time tbc). The pleasure is unalloyed in this case principally because my own role in this concert will be minimal. In fact I hope to sit in the audience and enjoy Kloster's music, which I love.

Kloster is the pen-name of Mikael R. Andreasen, a Danish singer, songwriter and producer, not to mention counsellor, hymnbook editor, amateur footballer, beer connoisseur and retired rapper. Of Mikael's half-dozen albums, the one that means most to me is mostly made up of settings of texts by Julian of Norwich, and is called *The Waves and Wind Still Know His Voice*.

Julian, as I may have mentioned in this newsletter before, is the first female writer in our language to have come down to us. She was on her deathbed when Jesus appeared to her, sharing a remarkable vision of his passion and bringing "comforting words" about his love for Julian herself and for the world in general. Over the course of the next twenty years or so (spoiler alert: Julian didn't die), Julian had time to write up her "showings" into two prose accounts whose subtle Trinitarian theology Denys Turner has recently discussed to wonderful effect. A handful of excerpts from Julian's two books—those Mikael selected for his songs—are included in this newsletter.

By my reckoning, this will be the fourth time we have hosted a Kloster performance at the church. Regular readers with particularly long memories may even recall Mikael's first visit in 2013. At that point, concerts—especially of pop music—were something of a novelty at Heath Street. Numbers at that first concert were memorably low. Undeterred,

Mikael has returned to London, perhaps encouraged by the fact that everyone who came in off the street for that first concert has been incorporated into the life of the church community in a way no-one could have predicted or anticipated. Mikael's participation in a Maundy Thursday concert/communion stands out in the memory, as does the magical way Mikael shared the good news of the resurrection of the Good Shepherd with one Easter's unruly crop of egg-hunting children. Over the years Mikael has become a beloved regular guest in the manse and on occasion a kind host in Copenhagen. The first Easter of the new decade falls on the second Sunday of April, so Kloster will be performing on the evening of the tenth—see the church website for more details soon. Now off to prepare for Lent—where does one get locusts and wild honey in NW3?

With love,
Ewan

ewan_king@mac.com

I will make all things well / I shall make all things well / I may make all things well /
And I can make all things well

He is to us all things that are good / And comforting to our help / He is our clothing which for love / Wraps and surrounds us / Helps us and enables us / And hangs about us for tender love / That he may never

leave us / God, for your goodness / Give me yourself / For you are enough for me / And I may ask nothing that is less / That may be fully worthy to you / And if I ask anything that is less / I am ever wanting / But only in you I have all.

See, I am God. / See, I am in all things. / See, I do all things. / See, I never lift my hands off my work, / Nor never shall / Without end. / See, I lead all things to the end / That I ordained them to / From without beginning, / by the same power, wisdom, and love / That I made them with

/ How should then anything be amiss?

Lo, how I loved you / Are you well paid / That I suffered for you? / If you are paid / I am paid / It is a joy, a bliss / And an endless liking to me / That I ever suffered the passion for you / And if I might suffer more / I would suffer more.

Suddenly you shall be taken / From all your pain / From all your sickness / All your illness / From all your woe / And you shall come up above / And you shall have me to your pay and reward / You shall be filled with joy and with bliss / You shall never more have any manner of pain / Neither any manner of sickness / Nor manner of misliking / Nor any wanting of will / But ever in joy and bliss / Without end / What should it then grieve you to suffer a while / Since it is my will and my worship.

**YOU'RE
ALRIGHT
YOU!**

Rowan Williams: Luminaries: Twenty lives that illuminate the Christian way

Rowan Williams assembled in this book a series of reflections on people's stories and writings. He writes in the introduction that these are people who often lived in critical or unusual situations and whose lives can open up perspectives and horizons that could help us to make sense of our world and of God. The majority of chapters are sermons, addresses or excerpts of lectures given by him, often to celebrate an anniversary related to the birth or death of this person. Therefore, it is not a book that has to be read from the beginning to the end. You could choose a chapter every day, according to which name in the table of contents piques your interest. To be honest, I did not know all twenty luminaries before reading this book, and because the chapters are rather short, I sometimes followed up online, driven by the wish not to part so quickly and to get to know them better. Some of those listed have already become 'beacons of illumination' in my life, and I usually do not miss an opportunity to learn more about them. I was especially curious about

the selection, wondering about how Charles Dickens ended up in it, together with names like Meister Eckhart, St. Paul and St. Teresa of Avila.

If you are curious as well and would like to give your circling thoughts about your own life a break, I recommend taking the time to read this book. I think Rowan Williams is right in saying that we could see stories of luminaries as good news in this world and referring to Jesus who tells stories so as to change people's world.

-Birgit Leuppert

- نام خداوند را بستا
- هر چه جان دارد
خداوند را بستاید
- پس اینگونه بگوییم!!!
- ۱- خداوند صخره من است
 - ۲- شریعت خداوند کامل است
 - ۳- خداوند شبان من است
 - ۴- شاه جلال
 - ۵- خداوند نور و نجات من است
 - ۶- خداوند نیرو و سپر من است
 - ۷- خدا سرسپردگان خود را ترک نخواهد کرد
 - ۸- خداوند یاور و رهاننده من است
 - ۹- خداوند پناه من است
 - ۱۰- خداوند پناه و قوت ماست
 - ۱۱- خداوند پادشاه تمامی جهان است
 - ۱۲- خداوند ، خود داور است
 - ۱۳- خداست یاور من
 - ۱۴- ای خدای نجات ما
 - ۱۵- خدا قوت قلب من است
 - ۱۶- خدا به انصاف داوری خواهد کرد
 - ۱۷- خدا بینوایان و یتیمان را دادرسی می کند
 - ۱۸- خداوند محبت تو به من عظیم است
 - ۱۹- خداوند از ازل تا به ابد تو خدایی
 - ۲۰- خداوند پادشاهی میکند
 - ۲۱- خداوند قوم خود را وا نخواهد گذاشت
- ۲۲- بپوه خدای ما قدوس است
 - ۲۳- خداوند نیکوست
 - ۲۴- ای خداوند، تو چه عظیمی
 - ۲۵- خداوند را سپاس گوئید زیرا که نیکوست
 - ۲۶- خداوند را دوست می دارم
 - ۲۷- وفاداری خداوند جاودانه است
 - ۲۸- یاری من از جانب خداوند است
 - ۲۹- یاری ما در نام خداوند است
 - ۳۰- آرامی ما توکل بر خداوند است
 - ۳۱- خداوند تو چه نیکو و چه دلپسند هستی
 - ۳۲- خداوند، نام تو جاودانه است
 - ۳۳- محبت خداوند جاودانه است
 - ۳۴- خداوند تو پناهگاه من هستی
 - ۳۵- خداوند صخره و قلعه من است
 - ۳۶- خداوند بزرگ است
 - ۳۷- خداوند فیاض و رحیم است
 - ۳۸- خداوند دیر خشم و آکنده از محبت
 - ۳۹- خداوند برای همگان نیکوست
 - ۴۰- خداوند دلشکستگان را التیام می بخشد

LENT STORYTELLING

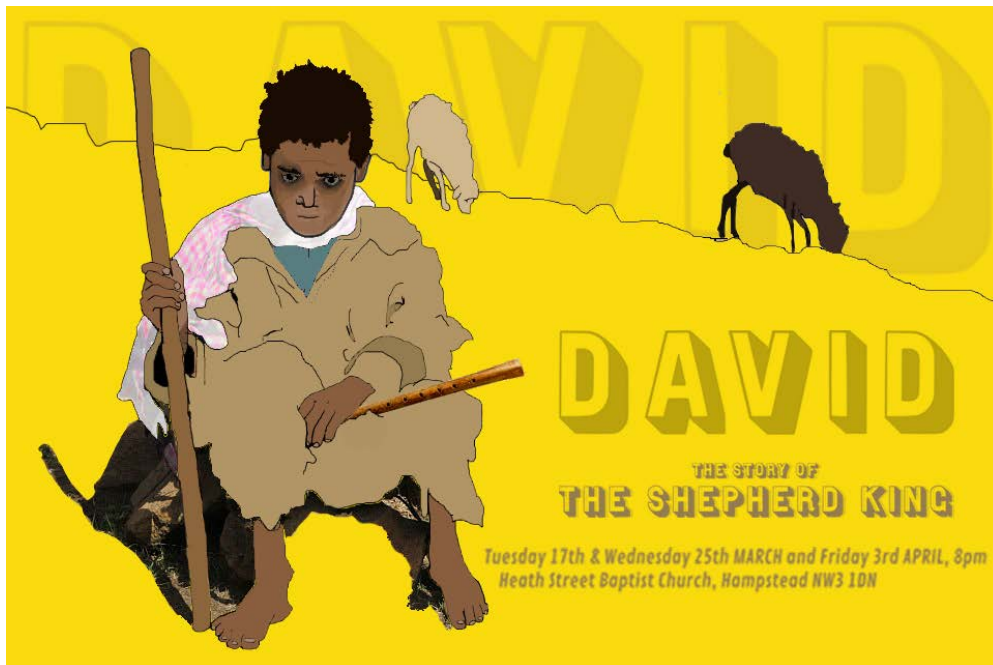
Storyteller Wilf Merttens' new storytelling show DAVID: The Story of the Shepherd King retells the legendary centrepiece of the books of Samuel for the 3rd millennium, and finds out it is just as full of shock, longing and ambiguity as it was in the beginning. This Lent, three exclusive performances only: 8pm on Tuesday 17 March, Wednesday 25 March and Friday 3 April @ Heath St Baptist Church.

The epic of David is a story of the thorny, addictive, dangerous idea of kingship. The prophet Samuel is reluctant to let the 'time of the judges' end, but his misgivings are up against the people's hope that monarchy will bring them victory against their more organised enemies. Is God's apparent

support of the institution just a concession to the Israelites? Or is a king somehow an indispensable part of the divine plan?

When a shepherd-child, who knows nothing more than watching the flock and playing the pipe, is marked out as King of all Israel by Samuel, the twelve tribes are soon plunged into civil war. Will David keep his head when all about him lose theirs? David has the heart to be a poet and the bravery to be a warrior, but does he lack the acumen of an effective leader? And is politics any place at all for his intensely felt faith in the living God?

Wilf Merttens is a writer and storyteller, and children's worker at Heath St.



Friends of Bolivia is proud to present

Yyaî Jesuchristo

Bolivian

Passiontide Early Music Concert

**Saturday 11 April 2020
7pm**

**Heath Street Baptist Church
Hampstead · London · NW3 1DN**

'El Parnaso Hispano'

Kate Smith · Soprano

Verónica Chacón · Mezzo soprano

Rafael Montero · Tenor

John Sloboda · Bass

Katarzyna Kowalik · Harpsichord & Organ

Robert Gutierrez · Quena (Andean flute)

Tickets £12 | Concession £10*

Book online

www.FriendsOfBolivia.org.uk

or on the door

Doors open at 6.30pm

Refreshments before and after the concert

***over 60, full time students, low wage**

CONCERTS AT HEATH STREET

Please note: All Tuesday lunchtime concerts now start at 1.15pm.

- 10 March 1:15 Daccapo (Italian harpsichord duo)
Couperin – IV Ordre – L'imperiale
J.C. Bach – Sonata per due clavicembali in Sol maggiore
J.S. Bach – Concerto per due clavicembali in C major
BWV 1061a Enrico Bissolo and Luigi Accardo – Clavicembalo
- 17 March 1:15 Istante Collective
Beethoven Septet
One of Beethoven's most iconic chamber works, first performed in 1800 and published in 1802. This performance will be on historical instruments.
- 24 March 1:15 Corran Quartet
Beethoven – Op 18 no 5 and Op 59 no 1.
- 31 March 1:15 John Crockatt
Solo violin recital – Bach, Biber and Weiss

ALL AGES
& ABILITIES
W E L C O M E

HEATH
STREET
CHOIR

For more information
Please contact
emily@heathstreetchoir.com

Rehearsals weekly
Thursdays 19:30 – 21:00
Termly membership £50

Heath Street Baptist Church
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Hampstead
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heathstreet.org

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES



For requests regarding church membership, Baptism or opportunities for Christian ministry in the church please contact the minister.

For questions regarding space use and room hire please contact the minister.

Copy for the next newsletter should reach Eleanor Patterson (eleanorlaise@gmail.com) not later than Wednesday 25th March.

Sundays	11am-12 noon	Divine Worship (inc Sunday Club for children)
	7:30-9:30 pm	Contact Club
Tuesdays	9:30 am	Oldtime Nursery
	1:15-2 pm	Lunchtime recital
2nd Tuesdays	7:30-9:30 pm	Sacred Harp hymn singing
Wednesdays	4:30 pm	Storymakers Club
	7 pm	Swing Patrol: beginners class (Swing dancing)
	8:10 pm	Swing Patrol: improvers class (level 1.5)
Thursdays	10:30 am	Oldtime Nursery
	7:30-9 pm	Heath Street Choir

Full information about all our weekly activities is available on our church website.

www.heathstreet.org

HEATH STREET BAPTIST



Minister Ewan King

Heath St Baptist Church

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