

Remembering Baby Jonathan Nathanael Adongo

Born on 14th September 2020

"He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."

Psalms 147: verse 3

"Hope, as it is presented to us in Scripture, is the anchor for the soul.

It is not primarily rooted in the events of the future - the promises
of God as they unfold - although of course it encapsulates that also.

Hope is rather anchored in the person who holds the future and, by

His word and power, upholds and guarantees it."

Dr Tanya Walker

Order of Service

Thursday 8th October 2020 12.00 pm Oxford Seventh-Day Adventist Church 1a Chester Street, Cowley, Oxford OX4 1SL

Processional Hymn
'All The Way'

WelcomeElder Nigel Nicholls

Cpening //ymn
Hymnal: 'Will Your Anchor Hold'

Opening Prayer
Elder Eugene James

Scripture Readings

Romans, Chapter 8: verses 35 and 38-39 read by Brenda Ogembo

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2 Corinthians, Chapter 4: verses 13-14 and 16-18 read by Brenda Ogembo on behalf of Kimberley Ogembo

"And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, 'I believed and therefore I spoke,' we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you...

Therefore, we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

2 Corinthians, Chapter 1: verses 3-5 read by Joyce Choto

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ."

James, Chapter 5: verse 11 read by Joyce Choto

"Indeed, we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord - that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful."

Tributes

Rose Ogembo (via video)
Ivan Adongo
Adongo family
Andrew Adongo
Daisy Ogembo-Adongo

Special Item of Music

Harp Instrumental by Eleanor Dunsdon: 'Be Still, My Soul'

Sermon

Pastor Rudi Puskas

Prayer for the Family

Elder Eugene James, Elder Nigel Nicholls and Pastor Rudi Puskas

Closing //ymn
'Under His Wings'

Closing Prayer
Pastor Rudi Puskas

Recessional Hymn

'In The Sweet By And By'

Baby Jonathan Nathanael Adongo



Our precious baby boy was born sleeping at seven months, on Monday 14th September, at 00:24, weighing 710 grams and 30 centimetres in height. His name is Jonathan ('Yahweh has given') Nathanael ('Gift of God') Adongo. Our son is much loved and was very wanted; we thank God for the seven months that we had with him. Seven is the biblical number of perfection and completion; Jonathan has completed his life's purpose perfectly. God had a purpose for the short life of our sweet boy; our immense sorrow and deep pain is not in vain. Thank you for praying for Jonathan and for having faith with us as we hoped for a better outcome. We believe that we shall be reunited with our son in the sweet by and by.

"So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy."

John, Chapter 16: verse 22

Hymns

Processional Hymn

All The Way

All the way my Saviour leads me;
What have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy,
Who through life has been my guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort,
Here by faith in Him to dwell,
For I know, what-e'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well,
For I know, what-e'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Saviour leads me,
Cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for every trial,
Feeds me with the living bread.
Though my weary steps may falter,
And my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me,
Lo! A spring of joy I see,
Gushing from the Rock before me,
Lo! A spring of joy I see.

All the way my Saviour leads me;
O, the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised
In my Father's house above.
When I wake to life immortal,
Wings my flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages:
Jesus led me all the way,
This my song through endless ages:
Jesus led me all the way.

Opening //ymn 'Will Your Anchor Hold'

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life, When the clouds unfold their wings of strife? When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain, Will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

Refrain:

We have an anchor that keeps the soul Steadfast and sure while the billows roll; Fastened to the Rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.

If 'tis safely moored, 'twill the storm withstand, For 'tis well secured by the Saviour's hand; And the cables passed from His heart to thine, Can defy the blast, through strength divine.

It will firmly hold in the straits of Fear,
When the breakers tell that the reef is near;
Though the tempest rave and the wild winds blow,
Not an angry wave shall our bark o'erflow.

It will surely hold in the floods of death,
When the waters cold chill our latest breath;
On the rising tide it can never fail,
While our hopes abide within the veil.

When our eyes behold in the dawning light Shining gates of pearl our harbour bright, We shall anchor fast to the heavenly shore, With the storms all past forevermore.

Special Item of Music

'Be Still, My Soul'

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order and provide;
In every change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: the best, thy heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on When we shall be forever with the Lord, When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Closing Hymn

'Under His Wings'

Under His wings I am safely abiding; Though the night deepens and tempests are wild, Still I can trust Him; I know He will keep me; He has redeemed me, and I am His child.

Refrain:

Under His wings, under His wings, Who from His love can sever? Under His wings my soul shall abide, Safely abide forever.

Under His wings, what a refuge in sorrow! How the heart yearningly turns to its rest! Often when earth has no balm for my healing, There I find comfort, and there I am blest.

Under His wings, O what precious enjoyment!
There will I hide till life's trials are o'er;
Sheltered, protected, no evil can harm me;
Resting in Jesus, I'm safe evermore.

Recessional Hymn

'In The Sweet By And By'

There's a land that is fairer than day,
And by faith we can see it afar;
For the Father waits over the way,
To prepare us, a dwelling place there.

We will sing on that beautiful shore, The melodious songs of the blessed; And our spirits will sorrow no more, Not a sigh, for the blessing of rest.

In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet, on that beautiful shore.

To our bountiful Father above, We will offer our tribute of praise; For the glorious gifts of His love, And the blessings, that hallow our days.

In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet, on that beautiful shore.

Committal Service

1.45 pm Wolvercote Cemetery 447 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 8EE

Arrival of Funeral Procession and Guests

Musical Interlude

Scripture Reading and Final Prayer
Pastor Rudi Puskas

Jonathan is Laid to Rest

Guests Depart

Gratitude

We thank our Heavenly Father for giving Jonathan to us for the brief time that we had with him. Despite the difficult journey that we have been on for the past eight months, the sorrowful ending, and the valley of grief that lies ahead of us, we would never choose to erase the seven months that we had with our sweet boy.

Our sons remain our greatest gifts from God.

We are immensely grateful to our parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins who prayed and hoped with us, and are now comforting us in our grief. We are eternally thankful for your love. While we mourn the fact that you never met Jonathan, we take comfort in knowing how much you love him too.

We are so privileged to have the most thoughtful, kind, and loving friends. Words are not enough to convey the full extent of our gratitude and love for our friends scattered all over the world - in Kenya, U.S.A, Oxford, Southampton, London, Cape Town, and Israel. Dear friends, you have prayed with us, loved us, fed us, and comforted us in every way. Through your love, we have truly felt the love of God in the midst of our darkness. We will be reaching out to each of you individually to personally thank you for all that you have done.

Our wonderful church family at Oxford SDA Church: thank you. You have been the perfect example of what a church family should be. Thank you for praying with us throughout this experience. Thank you Pastor Puskas, Elders and the East African Choir for offering up special prayers for little Jonathan in August and September.

Thank you, prayer team, for committing our needs to God in prayer every week.

Thank you, dear friends, for your calls and messages, offering words

of comfort and hope.

May God bless you all abundantly.

We were so blessed to have amazing doctors and nurses caring for Daisy and Jonathan for seven months. We express our gratitude to the wonderful GPs at Summertown Health Centre, our lovely and supportive community midwife Jade, and all the midwives and consultants that we saw at the John Radcliffe Hospital, especially Dr Ruth Curry who will always hold a special place in our hearts. We are eternally thankful for the incredible midwives who cared for Daisy as she laboured to deliver Jonathan: Holly and Bronwen. We will never forget Holly's calming presence and how they both turned a traumatic experience into a peaceful birth. To the Bereavement Team at Level 7 of the Hospital: we cannot thank you enough for the gentleness and kindness you showed following our loss. We are forever indebted to the remarkable midwife, Candice, who cared for little Jonathan after his birth, took wonderful pictures for us to keep, and made beautiful prints of Jonathan's feet (pictured above) and casts of his feet and little hand.

Finally, we are so grateful to Clare and Darren from Sandra Homewood Funerals. You have been unbelievably kind, walking us through every step of the process of planning for Jonathan's final rest. Thank you for supporting us in a way that went beyond the call of duty.

"Weeping God, if your tears weren't a waste, then neither are ours. We thank you for being a God of gratuitous sadness, even as you possessed all knowledge of the restoration to come. Help us to hold our own tears as sacred, never being too quick to wipe them away or hold them prisoner..."

-blackliturgies-





Sandra Homewood Funerals 14 Cherwell Drive, Marston OX3 0LY Telephone: 01865 570 000