

PARISH OF ESHER  
Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

*Her Late Majesty*  
**QUEEN ELIZABETH II**



A Service of Prayer & Reflection on the Eve of  
The Funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

## Opening Voluntary

Andante from Sonata no. 6  
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*Please remain seated for the choir introit.*

## Choir Introit

### **Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts**

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;  
Shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers;  
But spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty.  
O holy and most merciful Saviour,  
Thou most worthy Judge eternal,  
Suffer us not, at our last hour,  
For any pains of death to fall from Thee.

*Henry Purcell (1659-1695)*

*(from Music for the Funeral of Queen Mary, first performed at  
Queen Mary II's funeral in March 1695, and then at Purcell's own funeral)*

## Sentences of Scripture

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.

*John 11.25,26*

I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Romans 8.38,39*

*The president says:*

In the name of Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father, grace, mercy and peace be with you.

*The president may introduce the service with these or other words:*

We meet this evening to remember before God our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that together we may be one in him, through whom we offer our prayers and praises to the Father.

*Then the president says*

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls: you uphold us in life and sustain us in death: to you be glory and praise for ever! For the darkness of this age is passing away as Christ the bright and morning star brings to his saints the light of life. As you give light to those in darkness, who walk in the shadow of death, so remember in your kingdom your faithful servant, Elizabeth, that death may be for her the gate to life and to unending fellowship with you; where with your saints you live and reign, one in the perfect union of love, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever.**

**Amen.**

Hymn

**The Lord's my shepherd**

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;  
he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear none ill;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnishèd  
in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me;  
and in God's house forevermore  
my dwelling place shall be.

Words: Psalm 23

Music: James Leith Macbeth Bain (1840-1925)

Tune: BROTHER JAMES'S AIR

## Psalm 103.1-5, 11-23

*Please be seated.*

*This psalm is to be read antiphonally by all, south side to north side.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul:  
*And all that is within, bless his holy name!*

Bless the Lord, O my soul:  
*And forget not all his benefits.*

He forgives all your iniquity:  
*And heals all your diseases.*

He redeems your life from the Pit:  
*And crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.*

He satisfies you with good as long as you live:  
*So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

For as the heavens are high above the earth:  
*So great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.*  
As far as the east is from the west:  
*So far does he remove our transgressions from us.*  
As a father pities his children:  
*So the Lord pities those who fear him.*  
For he knows our frame:  
*He remembers that we are dust.*

As for man, his days are like grass:  
*He flourishes like a flower of the field.*  
For the wind passes over it and it is gone:  
*And its place knows it no more.*  
But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting  
upon those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children;  
*To those who keep his covenant, and remember to do his  
commandments.*

## Reading

### **Revelation 21.1-7: The New Heaven and the New Earth**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Anthem

### **Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace**

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.

*Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)  
(performed at the entrance of the Royal Party into St Giles' Cathedral  
at the Queen's memorial service in Edinburgh on 12 September 2022)*

## The Sermon

*Given by the Reverend Jonathan Andrew*

## Reflective music

*Annabelle Doolan (harp)*

## The Prayers

*Please sit or kneel.*

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**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.**

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,

**and there shall no torment touch them.**

You, Lord, have delivered my soul from death,

**my eyes from tears and my feet from falling.**

I will walk before the Lord

**in the land of the living.**

*Taizé chant to be sung by all, with choir leading*

**Bless the Lord, my soul,**

**and bless God's holy name;**

**Bless the Lord, my soul,**

**who leads me into life.**

Merciful Father and Lord of all life, we praise you that we are made in your image and reflect your truth and light. We thank you for the life of our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, for the love she received from you and showed among us. Above all, we rejoice at your gracious promise to all your servants, living and departed, that we shall rise again at the coming of Christ. And we ask that in due time we may share with your servant Elizabeth that clearer vision promised to us in the same Christ our Lord.

**Bless the Lord, my soul,  
and bless God's holy name;  
Bless the Lord, my soul,  
who leads me into life.**

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer, grant us, with your servant Queen Elizabeth and all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection: that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Bless the Lord, my soul,  
and bless God's holy name;  
Bless the Lord, my soul,  
who leads me into life.**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn, the members of the Royal Family, this Nation and all the Nations of the Commonwealth, that casting all our care on you, we may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Bless the Lord, my soul.  
and bless God's holy name;  
Bless the Lord, my soul,  
who leads me into life.**



## Commendation

Into your hands, O Father and Lord, we commend your servant, our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth. Enlighten her with your holy grace and suffer her never to be separated from you, O Lord in Trinity, God everlasting.

May God in his mercy grant us, with all the faithful departed, rest and peace.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

### **O God, our help in ages past**

O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home;

Under the shadow of your throne  
thy saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is thine arm alone,  
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,  
or earth received her frame,  
from everlasting thou art God,  
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight  
are like an evening gone,  
short as the watch that ends the night  
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all its sons away;  
thy fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
be thou our guard while troubles last,  
and our eternal home.

*Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

*Music: William Croft (1678-1727)*

*Tune: ST ANNE*

*Please remain standing.*

## Concluding Prayer

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lord King Charles and all who are in authority under him; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name, and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## The Blessing

May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church, living and departed, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## The National Anthem

God save our gracious King,  
long live our noble King,  
God save the King.  
Send him victorious,  
happy and glorious,  
long to reign over us:  
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store  
on him be pleased to pour,  
long may he reign.  
May he defend our laws,  
and ever give us cause,  
to sing with heart and voice,  
God save the King.

## Organ Music

*Please be seated as music is played until shortly before 8pm.*

## Single Bell Toll

*Marking the nationwide one minute silence for the  
life of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.*

## Taizé Chant

**Confitemini Domino, quoniam bonus;  
Confitemini Domino, alleluia.**

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
Give thanks to the Lord, alleluia.*

## Closing Voluntary

Vesper Voluntary in D  
Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

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Service of Reflection for Queen Elizabeth II Order of Service 18 September 2022