

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

# A Service for All Souls



*'The eternal God is your refuge,  
and underneath are the everlasting arms.'*

Deuteronomy 33.27

## Christ Church, Sunday 6 November 2022, 4pm

Welcome to our annual service for All Souls.

The service offers an opportunity to remember those whom we love but see no longer. As we treasure their memories and give thanks for all they have meant to us, we also entrust them to God, the One in whom the bond of love is never broken.

*Silence is kept before the service begins.*

## Choir Introit

### Within our darkest night (Taizé chant)

Within our darkest night  
you kindle the fire  
that never dies away,  
that never dies away.

## Welcome

In the name of Christ, who died and was raised by the glory of the Father, we welcome you; grace, mercy and peace be with you all.

We meet this day to remember our loved ones who have passed through the valley of the shadow of death; to renew our faith and trust in God, to comfort those who are grieving, and to receive help and strength as we continue together along the journey of life.

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said.*

## Hymn

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

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake  
To guide the future, as He has the past.  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;  
All now mysterious shall be clear 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 hast'ning on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord:  
When disappointment, grief and fear are gone,  
Sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored.  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

## Reading

### Lamentations 3.17-18, 20-26

My soul is bereft of peace;  
I have forgotten what happiness is;  
so I say, 'Gone is my glory,  
and all that I had hoped for from the Lord.'

My soul continually thinks of it  
and is bowed down within me.  
But this I call to mind,  
and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.  
'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,  
'therefore I will hope in him.'

The Lord is good to those who wait for him,  
to the soul that seeks him.  
It is good that one should wait quietly  
for the salvation of the Lord.

## Anthem

### Kyrie

*From 'The Armed Man - A Mass for Peace' by Karl Jenkins (b. 1944)*

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.*

## Reading

### Romans 8.35-39

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

## Anthem

### Agnus Dei

*From 'The Armed Man - A Mass for Peace' by Karl Jenkins (b. 1944)*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.*

# The Address

## Motet

### Give rest, O Christ

*From the Russian Orthodox Funeral Rite, translated by W J Birkbeck*

*Sung by the choir*

Give rest, O Christ,  
To thy servant with thy saints,  
Where sorrow and pain are no more;  
Neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Thou only art immortal,  
The Creator and Maker of man;  
And we are mortal, formed of the earth,  
And unto earth shall we return;  
For so thou didst ordain  
When thou createdst me, saying:  
'Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.'  
All we go down to the dust,  
And, weeping o'er the grave we make our song:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ,  
To thy servant with thy saints,  
Where sorrow and pain are no more;  
Neither sighing, but life everlasting.

## Act of Remembrance

Let us pray.

Father of all, by whose mercy and grace your children remain in everlasting light and peace; we remember with thanksgiving those whom we love but see no longer; including ...

*The names of those to be remembered are read aloud and then a short silence is kept.*

*The lights will be dimmed. You are invited to light your candle to commemorate those we remember today (perhaps as their name is read out). Please place the candle on the ledge of the pew in front of you, where it can remain lit until the end of the service. You are then most welcome to take the votive candle and glass holder home with you.*

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord:  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

## Anthem

### Epilogue

*From 'The Armed Man - A Mass for Peace' by Karl Jenkins (b. 1944)*

God shall wipe away all tears  
And there shall be no more death,  
Neither sorrow nor crying,  
Neither shall there be any more pain.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord.

*Revelation 21.4*

## Prayers

O God our Maker,  
we give you thanks for the gift of our earthly life  
and the blessings you gave to those we remember today.  
Thank you for the time we shared with them  
and the love we received from them.  
Sustain us with the faith and the trust  
that where they have gone we will follow,  
to that home you have prepared for all of us  
where there is no season and no separation  
and love can find completeness.

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of all consolation,  
you pursue us with untiring love  
and dispel the shadow of death  
with the bright dawn of life.

Look in mercy on those who mourn.  
Lead them gently in their grief.  
Give them patient faith in times of darkness,  
strength to meet the times to come  
and courage to leave their loved ones in your care,  
confident in your promise of eternal life and peace.

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion,  
you are tender towards your children  
and your mercy is over all your works.  
Heal any memories of hurt and failure,  
and give us the wisdom and grace to use aright  
the time that is left to us here on earth,  
to turn to Christ and follow in his steps,  
in the way that leads to everlasting life.

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

### The Lord's Prayer

We join our prayers together in the words of the Lord's Prayer.

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Hymn

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like thyself my guide and strength can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold now thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies!  
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

## The Blessing

May God be a bright flame before you,  
a guiding star to lighten your darkness.  
May God smooth the way for you  
and when it is hard to see, lead you with outstretched arm.  
May God shield you and surround you,  
hold your sorrows, wipe your tears,  
and when you are ready, lift your faces  
and walk with you into the light of a new day.

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you, now and always.

**Amen.**

## Closing Music

Adagio from Toccata, Adagio & Fugue in C, BWV 564

*J S Bach (1685-1750)*

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