

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL



A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
FOR THE LIFE
OF
BERYL HEDGES

1927 – 2025

WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2025

11 AM



There is an induction loop in the Chapel
to assist users of hearing aids.

Please switch off all mobile telephones.

Photography and recording are not permitted in the Chapel.

For further information about other services:

www.stgeorges-windsor.org

Order of Service

¶ *All stand as the procession enters.*

Welcome & Opening Prayer

The Reverend Canon Dr Mark Powell

WE have come here today to remember Beryl before God; to give thanks for her life; to commend her to God our merciful redeemer and judge; and to comfort one another at a time of sadness.

¶ *All remain standing.*

Hymn

FIGHT the good fight with all thy might,
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes, and seek his face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, upon thy Guide
Lean, and his mercy will provide;
Lean, and the trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not nor fear, his arms are near,
He changeth not, and thou art dear;
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee.

Words J. S. B. Monsell (1811–75)

Music Henry Ley (1887–1962)

¶ *All sit.*

The Collect

MERCIFUL Father, hear our prayers and comfort us; renew our trust in your Son, whom you raised from the dead; strengthen our faith that all who have died in the love of Christ will share in his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

¶ All remain seated.

Psalm 23

THE Lord is my shepherd:
therefore can I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures:
and leads me beside still waters.
He shall refresh my soul:
and guide me in the paths of righteousness,
for his Name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the presence of those who
trouble me;
You have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

¶ All remain seated.

Prayer

O GOD, our sovereign and shepherd,
who brought again your Son Jesus Christ
from the valley of death,
comfort us with your protecting presence
and your angels of goodness and love,
that we also may come home
and dwell with him in your house for ever.

¶ All remain seated.

First Reading

John 14. 1-6

DO not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

¶ All remain seated.

The Address

The Reverend Canon Dr Mark Powell

The Eulogy

¶ All remain seated.

Second Reading

"Death is nothing at all"

by Henry Scott Holland

DEATH is nothing at all. I have only slipped away into the next room. I am I, and you are you. Whatever we were to each other that we still are. Call me by my old familiar name. Speak to me in the easy way, which you always used. Put no difference into your tone. Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without effort, without the trace of a shadow on it. Life means all that it ever meant, it is the same that it ever was, there is absolute unbroken continuity. Why should I be out of mind, because I am out of sight? I am waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well.

¶ All stand.

Hymn

NOW thank we all our God,
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices;
Who from our mother's arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in his grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore. Amen.

Words Germa, Martin Rinkart (1586–1649)
Music Melody in J. Cruger's *Praxis Pietatis Melica*

¶ All sit or kneel.

The Prayers

DAY by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray; to see thee more clearly, to love thee more dearly, to follow thee more nearly, day by day. **Amen.**

GOD our Father, we pray to thee for thy servant Beryl, with all those whom we love but see no longer: Grant them thy peace; let light perpetual shine on them; and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ALmighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: Your mighty power brings joy out of grief and life out of death. Look in mercy on all who mourn. Give them patient faith in times of darkness. Strengthen them with the knowledge of your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O HEAVENLY Father, who in thy Son Jesus Christ hast given us a true faith and a sure hope, help us, we pray thee, to live as those who believe and trust in the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting, and strengthen this faith and hope in us all the days of our life; through the love of thy Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

BRING us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity: in the habitations of thy majesty and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

¶ *Ending with*

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

¶ All sit.

Third Reading

"I'm free"

by Anne Lindgren Davison

DON'T grieve for me for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call,
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good friends, good times, my loved one's touch.

If my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart, rejoice with me,
God wanted me now, he set me free.

¶ All stand.

The Commendation and Farewell

Let us commend Beyrl to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

GO forth upon thy journey from this world,
O Christian soul;
In the name of God the Father Almighty who created thee;
In the name of Jesus Christ who suffered for thee;
In the name of the Holy Spirit who strengtheneth thee.
In communion with the blessèd saints,
and aided by Angels and Archangels,
and all the armies of the heavenly host,
may thy portion this day be in peace,
and thy dwelling in the heavenly Jerusalem.
Amen.

¶ All remain standing.

The Blessing

GO forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage; hold fast that which is good;
render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men;
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be amongst you and remain with you always.

Amen.

¶ All remain standing as the coffin is borne out of the
Nave to the North Door of the Chapel
during which the Voluntary, Nimrod by Edward Elgar (1857–1934), is played.

¶ The interment follows at Windsor Cemetery.

¶ The family thank you for your presence here today and for the many kind
messages we have received.

¶ Donations are welcome, as you leave the Chapel, to Thames Hospice or via the
QR code below.





