

**ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR
HACKINGTON • CANTERBURY**



**A Service of
Remembrance
and Thanksgiving
for those who have died**



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in our Church. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to 'T'



Large print orders of service are available from the sidespersons. Please ask.



Toilet facilities are available in the Church Hall. Please ask a Sidesperson for directions.



This service is being live-streamed for those who are unable to join us in church; By attending this service, you are giving permission and acknowledging that you may briefly appear on this stream. If you have any queries or concerns about this, please speak to a churchwarden or member of the clergy before the service begins.

Welcome to this special service. We hope you will find the comfort of God's Love through the words and stillness.

Welcome

We remain SEATED for the Welcome after which, if you are able, please STAND to sing the hymn

CWM RHONDDA 87 87 47

John Hughes (1873–1932)



GUIDE me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.

- 2 Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
 Bid my anxious fears subside;
 Death of death, and hell's Destruction
 Land me safe on Canaan's side:
 Songs of praises
 I will ever sing to thee.

Welsh, WILLIAM WILLIAMS (1717–91)
Tr PETER WILLIAMS (1727–96)
and others

Minister Jesus said: 'Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father... So do not be afraid. You are of more value than many sparrows'.

We look not to the things that are seen
but to things that are unseen;
for the things that are seen are transient
but the things that are unseen are eternal.
Today we come together to remember
our loved ones before God,
to give thanks for their lives
and to comfort one another in our grief.

Father in heaven,
we thank you because you made us
in your own image
and gave us gifts in body, mind and spirit.
We thank you now for those we love
but see no longer
and for all they meant to us.
As we honour their memory,
make us more aware that you are the one
from whom comes every perfect gift,
including the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

All **Amen**

Confession

Minister God has shone in our hearts the light of his glory in Jesus Christ, but we are only too aware that we hold this treasure in lives that are fragile.

As we acknowledge our human frailty, we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission, and confess them before God our heavenly Father.

We SIT or KNEEL while a short silence is kept

All **Father eternal,
giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past,
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Followed by the words of Absolution.

The Collect

Minister Heavenly Father,
in your Son Jesus Christ
you have given us a true faith and a sure hope.
Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our days,
that we may live as those who believe
in the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
and the resurrection to eternal life;
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

Please SIT as the choir sings the Psalm

Psalm 116.1-9

- I AM well pleased : that the Lord hath heard the voice of my prayer;
- 2 That he hath inclined his ear unto me :
therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.
- 3 The snares of death compassed me round about :
and the pains of hell gat hold upon me.
- 4 I shall find trouble and heaviness, and I will call upon the Name of the
Lord :
O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.
- 5 Gracious is the Lord, and righteous :
yea, our God is merciful.
- 6 The Lord preserveth the simple :
I was in misery, and he helped me.
- 7 Turn again then unto thy rest, O my soul :
for the Lord hath rewarded thee.
- 8 And why? thou hast delivered my soul from death :
mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.
- 9 I will walk before the Lord :
in the land of the living.

We STAND for the Gloria

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Please stand for The Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 26.6-13

Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, 'Why this waste? For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given

to the poor.’ But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, ‘Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Address

At the end of the address, we remain SEATED to sing the hymn

BE STILL irregular

David J. Evans (b. 1957)

The image shows four staves of musical notation for the hymn 'BE STILL'. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and an irregular time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and dotted notes. The first staff begins with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4, then a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4. The second staff continues with a quarter rest, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, a dotted quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4. The third staff features a quarter rest, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, a dotted quarter note C5, a quarter rest, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, a dotted quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, and a half note A4. The fourth staff starts with a quarter rest, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F#4, and a half rest.

BE still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.
Come bow before him, now with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on Holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

- 2 Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire, with splendour He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

- 3 Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him, in faith receive from Him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

DAVID EVANS (b. 1957)
based on Exodus 3: 1-6

The Commemoration

Please sit or kneel for The Commemoration:

Minister You Christ are the King of glory,
All **the eternal Son of the Father.**

Minister You overcame the sting of death
All **and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers**

Minister You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
All **We believe that you will come to be our judge.**

Minister Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your
own blood;
All **and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.**

Minister Hear us, O merciful Father,
As we remember in love...

After each group of names, the minister says:

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord.
All **And may your light shine on them forever.**

When all the names have been read out, the minister says:

Lord God, creator of all,
you have made us creatures of this earth,
but have also promised us a share in life eternal
According to your promises,
may all who have died in the peace of Christ
share with your saints in the joy of heaven
where there is neither sorrow nor pain,
but life everlasting.

All **Amen.**

There is a time for reflection, during which you are invited to light a candle in memory of the departed, and the choir will sing

The Contakion

Keiv melody

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.

Tr. W. J. BIRKBECK (1869–1916)

The Prayers

We SIT or KNEEL for a period of prayer, which end with these prayers.

All

**Lord of all, we praise you
for all who have entered into their eternal rest
and reached the promised land
where you are seen face to face.
give us grace to follow in their footsteps
as they followed in the way of your Son.
Thank you for the memory,
of those you have called to yourself:
by each memory, turn our hearts
from things seen to things unseen,
and lead us till we come to the eternal rest
you prepared for all your people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**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.**

We STAND to sing the hymn



LORD, for the years your love has kept and guided,
 Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
 Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
 Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

- 2 Lord, for that Word, the Word of life which fires us,
 Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze;
 Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us;
 Lord of the Word, receive your people's praise.
- 3 Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
 Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
 For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
 Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.
- 4 Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
 Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
 Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him;
 Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.
- 5 Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us -
 Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
 Past put behind us, for the future take us,
 Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

TIMOTHY DUDLEY-SMITH (1926–2024)

The Blessing

After the Service has ended you are warmly invited to stay a while, moving to the Church Hall for some tea and cake and an opportunity to talk with one another.

Members of the Pastoral Care Team will also be available if you would like to have a private word.

WE HOPE YOU FOUND THIS SERVICE HELPFUL.

If at any time, you feel it would be helpful to talk about your loss, do please feel able to contact us. You can find contact details on our website - ststephenscanterbury.net, or phone the parish telephone 07857 942860

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