

A Service of Thanksgiving to Celebrate the Life of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Friday 16th September 2022

The following words were spoken by HRH The Princess Elizabeth in a radio broadcast from Cape Town on the occasion of her 21st Birthday in 1947.

"I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service... But I shall not have the strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in with me, as I now invite you to do. I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it."

ORDER OF SERVICE

Introit

The Funeral March for Queen Mary

Played by the College Wind Ensemble Conducted by Mr Jones

Hymn In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song; This Cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease! My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain: Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave He rose again! And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me, For I am His and He is mine Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me; From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand; Till He returns or calls me home Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

The Bidding Prayer

With thanksgiving, we gather here today to mourn the death of our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth the Second. We remember her long life spent in the service of this country and of her Commonwealth realms around the world. We give thanks for a life of devotion to God, her Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, and of devotion to all her people. As we call to mind the promise made at her Coronation that all her judgements should be guided by Law, Justice and Mercy, we rejoice in her steady acceptance of this vocation. We celebrate her love for her family, her commitment to duty, and her calling to create unity and concord at the heart of the Commonwealth.

We pray for the Royal Family, as they mourn their loss. We pray too for His Majesty The King, that placing all his trust in God, he too may rule over us in peace with justice and compassion.

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, you hold all souls in life; send forth, we pray, upon your servant, Elizabeth, and upon your whole Church in earth and heaven the brightness of your light and peace; and grant that we, following the good example of those who have faithfully served you here and are now at rest, may at the last enter with them into the fullness of eternal joy in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Music

Homeward Bound By Marta Keen Sung by Max Marson-Day (Year 9)

The First Reading Isaiah 61.1 – 3 Read by Samuel Edwards Joint Head of College

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. To comfort all who mourn, to provide for those who mourn in Zion. To give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Hymn I vow to Thee

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above, Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love; The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test, That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best; The love that never falters, the love that pays the price, The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago, Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know; We may not count her armies, we may not see her King; Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering; And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase, And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

Please sit

The Second Reading Romans 14. 7 – 12 Read by Phoebe Kay Joint Head of College

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Address

The Revd Chris Briggs Chaplain

A Time of Reflection A photograph from each year of the Queen's life



The Prayers

Led by Pupils from across the College

Eternal God, our heavenly Father, we bless your holy name for all that you have given us in and through the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth.

We give thanks for her love of family and her gift of friendship.

We give thanks for her devotion to this nation and the nations of the Commonwealth.

We give thanks for her grace, dignity and courtesy.

We give thanks for her generosity and love of life.

We praise God for the courage she showed in testing times, the depth of her Christian faith, and the witness she bore to it in word and deed.

Father of all mercies and God of all consolation, you pursue us with untiring love and dispel the shadow of death with the bright dawn of life. Give courage to the Royal Family in their loss and sorrow.

Be their refuge and strength, reassure them of your continuing love, and lift them from the depth of grief into the light and peace of your presence.

Lord God, you provide for your people by your power, and rule over them in love. Grant to your servant, King Charles III the spirit of wisdom and discernment, that being devoted to you with his whole heart, he may so wisely govern, that in his time we may live in safety and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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

Music

The Lord is my Shepherd

Arranged by Howard Goodall Sung by Camerata Conducted by Mrs Rapple Moore

Poem

In Loving Memory of HM Queen Elizabeth II Written by the College Poet Laureate, Matthew Perry

Last Thursday Was A Very Sad Day, Queen Elizabeth II Passed Away, She Reigned For Over 70 Years, Most Of The Nation Was Reduced To Tears.

She Has Been An Amazing Queen, An Extraordinary Service We Have Seen, Over 70 Years On The Throne, What A Great Example She Has Shown.

She Was Crowned After The 2nd World War With Everybody She Met She Had A Good Rapport, She Even Had Tea With Paddington Bear, A Marmalade Sandwich In Her Handbag To Share.

Of The Commonwealth She Was The Head, 56 Nations She Has Led, To Many Countries She Has Been, Countless People She Has Seen.

She Presided With Dignity And Grace, She Promoted Equality Of Gender And Race, She Served God And Her People Until The End, She Was A Personal Inspiration On Whom We Could Depend.

> Of British Monarchs She Was The 12th, Continuing To Serve Even In Poor Health Her Body Will Lie In State For All To See, At Westminster Abbey The Funeral Will Be.

Her Son Prince Charles Will Take The Throne, As King Charles III He Will Be Known, From Now On We Will Sing, God Save The King!

May She Rest In Peace.

Hymn Praise my Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, To His feet thy tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Who like me His praise should sing? Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for His grace and favour To our fathers in distress; Praise him, still the same for ever, Slow to chide and swift to bless; Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us, Well our feeble frame He knows; In His hands he gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes: Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Widely as His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him; Ye behold Him face to face; Sun and moon, bow down before Him, Dwellers all in time and space. Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise with us the God of grace.

Please remain standing

Words of Commendation

Written by John Donne Read by the Headmaster

Bring her, O Lord God, at her 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 glory and dominion, world without end. Amen.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

The Blessing

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth, and all people, peace and concord; and to us his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.

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. Special thanks to those who have taken part in this service

The Director of Music – Mr Curran

CAMERATA - directed by Mrs Rapple Moore

Sopranos: Jess Pallett, Esme Young, Charlotte Garnett, Izzy Young, Mrs Green.

Altos: Phoebe Kay, Emma O'Shea, Ms Jones.

Tenors: Elliot Jones, Seb Crehan-Mills, Mr Brown, Mr Jones.

Basses: Noah Scotchbrook, Richard Wang, Henry Johnston, Mr Ralph.

COLLEGE WIND ENSEMBLE - directed by Mr Jones

Elliot Jones, Gregor Jones, Max Marson-Day, Seb Crehan-Mills Maurice Li, Olivier Wrobel, Leo Slowikowski, Sebastian Lee Toby Vivian, George Dallas.

SOLOIST - Max Marson-Day

Also Mr Elliott and Mrs Green for their technical support.

THOSE LEADING THE PRAYERS

Lewis O'Donoghue, James Weeks, Ava Timms, Kit Marsh, Zac Fisher, Georgia Bradbury, Will Griffith, Olivia Alexopoulos, Harrison Harper (Head Chapel Warden) Charlotte Garnett (Deputy Head Chapel Warden)

Shiplake College CCLI 599587