

NAU MAI, HAERE MAI - WELCOME

3 NOVEMBER 2019

7PM

All Souls' Memorial Service



Welcome and introduction

Priest: I runga i te Ingoa o te Atua, te Matua, te Tama me te Wairua Tapu. Āmine. (In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.) Saint Paul said, 'I am convinced that there is nothing in death or life, in the realm, of spirits or super human powers, in the world as it is or the world as it shall be, in the forces of the universe, in the heights or depths – nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

2. Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

3. Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee. Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Priest We meet this evening to remember those who are separated from us by death —those whom we love but see no longer. We ask God to deepen our faith and hope that death is not the end, but rather a gateway to more; to life transformed. I have set the Lord always before me:

All **God is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.**

Priest Show us your mercy, O Lord:

All **and grant us your salvation**

Priest and in your light shall we see light

Priest God of all life, and of what comes beyond the life we know, we come to you tonight to remember before you those whom we love and see no longer. We come that we may comfort one another in our times of grief. We come with memories of the good times we shared and acknowledge the not so good times, all part of the rich tapestry of life. We come to honour and give thanks for the lives of the departed. Some of us come with loose ends that we have not been able to tie up. Some of us come with burdens and hurts that need a work of forgiveness to be done – maybe of ourselves; maybe of others. We may not know why it is that we have come or why you have led us here, but you have promised never to turn us away. Let us pray together:

All **Father of all, we pray to you for those we love but see no longer. Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in your loving mercy and almighty power work in them the good purpose of your perfect will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The First Scripture Reading

Reader A Reading from St Paul's Letter to the Romans, Chapter 8
I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For 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.

Hymn: The King of love my shepherd is.

**1. The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.**

**2. Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.**

**3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.**

**5. Thou spread'st a table in my sight, thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**6. And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.**

Reader A reading from the Gospel of **John, Chapter 6: 37-40**

Jesus said "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

A reflection by Acting Dean Trevor Harrison

The lighting of the Paschal Candle

Priest This candle we lit on Easter Day as we celebrated the fact that Jesus Christ triumphed over death in order to bring us God's new life. It is a sign of the life and love of God. The light of Christ shines into our darkness and the darkness will not overcome it. We believe that our loved ones have passed from darkness to light, and are now in God's nearer presence. Let us remember them.

The reading of the names of those to be remembered. And then we remember either aloud or silently others who we hold in our hearts who have died. You are now invited to come forward to light a candle in remembrance.

During this time the Cathedral Choir will sing Psalm 116:11-26 (Joseph Barnby)

Priest Surround them and us with your love; enfold us in your arms of mercy, and help us to use well the time that is left to us on earth.

Strengthen us to follow in the steps of our Lord Jesus in the way that leads to eternal life. (Silence) Hear us, risen Lord.

All **Our resurrection and our life.**

Priest Lord Jesus, dying you destroyed our death, and by rising again, you restored our life. Therefore we are confident to pray:

All **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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

- 1. The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended, The darkness falls at thy behest;
To thee our morning hymns ascended, Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.**
- 2. We thank thee that thy Church unsleeping, While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping, And rests not now by day or night.**
- 3. As o'er each continent and island, The dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent, Nor dies the strain of praise away.**
- 4. The sun that bids us rest is waking, Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
And hour-by-hour fresh lips are making, Thy wondrous doings heard on high.**
- 5. So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never, Like earth's proud empires, pass away;
Thy Kingdom stands, and grows for ever, Till all thy creatures own thy sway.**

Then follows the Blessing/ Te Manaakitanga

Priest The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do his will; and the blessing...

The service ends quietly as the Cathedral Choir sings Go forth into the world in peace (John Rutter)

