

In Loving Memory of

Thomas Weston

15th January 1928 – 16th November 2023



St Gabriel's Church, Hanley Swan

**Monday 11th December 2023
at 1.30pm**



'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

John 11: 25, 26

Welcome *Rev Sue Adeney*

Hymn

Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease:
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
the sun forbear to shine;
but God, who called me here below,
will be forever mine.

John Newton (1779)

Reading *David Weston (grandson)*

Psalm 16

Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge.
I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing."
I say of the holy people who are in the land, "They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight."
Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.
I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips.

Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure.
The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.
I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me.
I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay.
You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Hymn

Refrain

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours,
and made their tiny wings.

Refrain

The purple headed mountains,
the rivers running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky.

Refrain

The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one.

Refrain

He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is the Almighty
who has made all things well.

Refrain

Cecil Frances Alexander (1848)

Tributes

Richard Weston (son)
Peter Jones (former pupil)
Anna Allan (daughter)

Hymn

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

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

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

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.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

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

Henry Williams Baker (1868)

Reading

Sheila Crawley-Moore (niece)

Luke 23:32-43

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”^[a] And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”

The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”

There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.^[b]"

Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Address *David Webster*

Prayers *Catherine Weston (daughter-in-law) and Matthew Weston (grandson)*

Hymn

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain:

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the Church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.

Refrain

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Refrain

Edmond Budry (1884), trans. Richard Hoyle

We will now exit the church to the graveside for the committal and prayers before the burial accompanied by:

Test match special (Booker T. & The MG's - Soul Limbo)

***The family wishes to thank everyone for their support and for joining us today.
Please join us for refreshments at The Swan after the service (at 3.00pm).***

***Please also sign the memorial book on display. We would appreciate knowing how
you knew Mum as well as Dad and what memories you have of them both.***

***Gifts in memory of Tom will be offered to Open Doors, an organisation serving the
persecuted church. Please make cheques payable to 'Open Doors' or give online at
<https://thomas-weston-1928.muchloved.com>***

***The family wishes to thank especially Sue Adeney for leading the service today and
for her faithful visiting of Dad in his latter years and David Webster for preaching
today and with his wife Rosemary for being good friends to Dad for more than 30
years.***

