

**A SPECIAL COMMEMORATION SERVICE
MARKING
THE DEATH OF HER LATE MAJESTY
QUEEN ELIZABETH II**



18th September 2022

**St Andrew's Church,
Bishop Auckland**

The following words were spoken by Queen Elizabeth (as HRH The Princess Elizabeth) in a radio broadcast to the whole of the then British Empire from Cape Town on the occasion of her 21st birthday in 1947:

I can make my solemn act of dedication with a whole Empire listening. I should like to make that dedication now. It is very simple.

I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great Imperial family to which we all belong, 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.



Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.

John 11.25,26

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.

Romans 8:38,39

HYMN: O God our help in ages past

**O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home;**

**Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.**

**O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.**

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

In the name of Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father, grace, mercy and peace be with you.

Rev'd Matt Keddily, Vicar of Bishop Auckland introduces the service, ending with these words

We meet this day to remember before God our late Sovereign Lady QUEEN ELIZABETH, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that together we may be one in him, through whom we offer our prayers and praises to the Father.

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls: you uphold us in life and sustain us in death: to you be glory and praise for ever! For the darkness of this age is passing away as Christ the bright and morning star brings to his saints the light of life. As you give light to those in darkness, who walk in the shadow of death, so remember in your kingdom your faithful servant, ELIZABETH, that death may

be for her the gate to life and to unending fellowship with you; where with your saints you live and reign, one in the perfect union of love, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Psalm 121 is read by the Mayor of Bishop Auckland, Councillor Michael Siddle.

I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Revelation 21.1-7 is read by Deputy Lord-Lieutenant for County Durham, Dr Robert McManners OBE.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.’

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN: Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

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, bread of heaven

feed me now and ever more,
feed me now and ever more

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

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, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

*William Williams (1717-1791) +
Peter Williams (1727-1796)*

*John 14:1-8 is read by Reader of the Parish of Bishop
Auckland, Mrs Catherine Taylor.*

[Jesus said] '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. If you know me, you will know^{me} my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

An address from Rt Rev'd Lord Bishop of Durham, Paul Butler

The Last Post marks the beginning of a minute's silence.

HYMN: Now thank we all our God

**Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has 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.**

*Martin Rinkar (1586-1649) +
Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

*Ministers and representatives of the churches of Bishop
Auckland lead the prayers*

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon 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.**

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
All **And there shall no torment touch them.**

You, Lord, have delivered my soul from death,
All **My eyes from tears and my feet from falling.**

I will walk before the Lord
All **In the land of the living.**

Merciful Father and Lord of all life, we praise you that we are made in your image and reflect your truth and light. We thank you for the life of our late Sovereign Lady QUEEN ELIZABETH, for the love she received from you and showed among us. Above all, we rejoice at your gracious promise to all your servants, living and departed, that we shall rise again at the coming of Christ. And we ask that in due time we may share with your servant Elizabeth that clearer vision promised to us in the same Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer, grant us, with your servant QUEEN ELIZABETH and all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection: that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: deal graciously, we pray, with all who

mourn, the members of the Royal Family, this Nation and all the Nations of the Commonwealth, that casting all our care on you, we may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

COMMENDATION

Into your hands, O Father and Lord, we commend your servant, our late Sovereign Lady QUEEN ELIZABETH. Enlighten her with your holy grace and suffer her never to be separated from you, O Lord in Trinity, God everlasting.

May God in his mercy grant us, with all the faithful departed, rest and peace.

All **Amen.**

Individuals are invited to light a candle in commemoration of Her Majesty, during which these hymns will be sung.

HYMN: The Lord's my shepherd

**The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.**

**My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.**

**My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.**

**Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling place shall be.**

Scottish Psalter, 1650

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?
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise the everlasting King.**

**Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same forever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia,
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:
Alleluia, alleluia,
widely as his mercy flows.**

**Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
blows the wind and it is gone;
but, while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on:
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise the high eternal One.**

**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:
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise with us the God of grace.**

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lord KING CHARLES and all who are in authority under him; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name, and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church, living and departed, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

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.**

**Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.**

Author Unknown (c.1745)

With thanks to:



BISHOP AUCKLAND
TOWN COUNCIL

SOUNDWAVES

Community Choir



8 RIFLES

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