



A Service of Thanksgiving
for the life of



John Alexander Dearden

Born 18th April 1936

Died 17th April 2021

St Paul's Anglican Church Roma

Friday 23rd April 2021

2.00pm



SONG: *The day Thou gavest, Lord has ended*

WELCOME

Good afternoon and welcome.

I am the Reverend Heather Dearden of the Roma Anglican Parish and it is my honour today to conduct this service of thanks-giving for the life of John Dearden. Before we commence please check that your mobile phone is turned off or on silent.

I invite you to join in the parts in dark type in your service booklets.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Grace and peace from the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

We have come together to thank God for the life of **John Alexander Dearden** to mourn and honour him, to lay to rest his mortal body, and to support one another in grief. Christians believe that those who die in Christ share eternal life with him. Therefore in faith and hope we turn to God, who created and sustains us all.

Let us pray

Loving God, you alone are the source of life.

May your life-giving Spirit flow through us, and fill us with compassion, one for another. In our sorrow give us the calm of your peace. Kindle our hope, and let our grief give way to joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

Amazing Grace

**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.**

**As grace first taught my heart to fear,
so grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear**

**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, hallelujah,
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.
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
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:
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise with us the God of grace!**

*The family invites you to share in refreshments at
The Explorer's where they will join you following a
private interment.*



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THE FAREWELL (*please stand*)

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave new birth to our brother John by water and the Spirit. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way, to live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages
Amen.

Let us entrust our brother John to the mercy of God

**Holy and loving Father, by your mighty power you gave us life, and in your love you have given us new life in Christ Jesus. We entrust John to your merciful keeping:
In the faith of Jesus Christ, who died and rose again to save us, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in glory for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Praise My Soul*

**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, hallelujah,
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, hallelujah,
glorious in his faithfulness!**

**the hour I first believed!
Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
God's 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.**

John Newton 1845

EULOGY *read by Family Members*

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READINGS

PSALM 121 *read by Ann Martin*

I lift up my eyes to the hills:
but where shall I find help?
My help comes from the Lord:
who has made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer your foot to stumble:
and he who watches over you will not sleep.
Be sure he who has charge of Israel:
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord himself is your keeper:
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand;
The sun shall not strike you by day:
nor shall the moon by night.
The Lord will defend you from all evil:
it is he who will guard your life.
The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:
from this time forward for evermore.

ECCLESIASTES 3.1-7 *read by Jenny Durack*

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

MICAH 6.8 *read by Rev'd Heather*

He has shown you, O man, what *is* good;
And what does the LORD require of you
But to do justly,
To love mercy,
And to walk humbly with your God?

HOMILY *The Reverend Heather Dearden*

HYMN *Now thank we all our God*

**Now thank we all our God,
With heart, and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms,
Hath blest 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 Holy Ghost,
One Lord in highest heaven;
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.**

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray with confidence to God our Father, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead for the salvation of all.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that 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.**