

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH, SIGHTHILL
SUNDAY SERVICE
11 SEPTEMBER 2022

"The faith, service and dedication of Her Majesty the Queen have been the hallmark of her long reign. She has been the steady constant in the life of our nation for over seven decades and most of us will have grown up knowing only her as our monarch"

Rt Rev Dr Iain Greenshields, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

**A prayer on
the occasion
of the death
of Her
Majesty,
Queen
Elizabeth**



Almighty and
everlasting
God,

in you there is neither beginning nor end; you are from everlasting to everlasting, ever good and ever true. You are our hope in life and in death, and in your word of promise we place our trust.

Today we give thanks for the life of your servant, our Queen Elizabeth, whom now you have taken to be with you. Long has she reigned over us, offering support and courage, a steadying hand in difficult days, and a kindly presence in times of peace and prosperity.

We praise you for her life, so rich in years and in service, for her unwavering commitment to country, commonwealth, and every generation. And for her trust in Jesus Christ, her devotion to the church, and her respect for other faiths, receive our thanks today.

May she rest in peace and let light shine upon her. In their loss, comfort her family, especially our King as he assumes his new responsibilities; assure them of your unending love, grant them the consolation of cherished memories, and the hope of your promised kingdom. These prayers we offer in the name of Jesus Christ, AMEN.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling place shall be

CCLI Song # 23608

Bible Reading:

Romans 8: 31-39 - God's Love in Christ Jesus

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want

1. 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
2. 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
3. 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
4. My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes
My head Thou dost with oil anoint
And my cup overflows



When life seems hard, the
courageous do not lie down and
accept defeat; instead, they are all
the more determined to struggle for
a better future.

— Queen Elizabeth II —

AZ QUOTES

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.

A prayer to use with children

God, Our Father, all through our country, we are sad at this time, because our Queen is no longer with us. She will be missed by so very many, but we know that you are looking after her. Bless those close to her. May they know they are remembered by us. And bless our country at this time of change. May we all work together as one family, and be ready to serve others, as our Queen served us. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

REFLECTION

SONG/ OFFERING: Brothers Sister let me Serve you

1. Brother let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I might have the grace to
Let you be my servant too
2. We are pilgrims on a journey
We are brothers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load
3. Brother sister let me serve you
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too

CCLI Song # 72673, Richard Gillard

Prayer

Lord God Almighty, we give thanks for Queen Elizabeth and her exceptional reign, for her deep affection for her people, for her lifelong desire to serve the common good, and for her humility and grace, hard work and dedication.

Be with the King and members of the Royal Family as they mourn the loss of a mother and grandmother as well as a friend and monarch – **in the royal palaces, crown them with Your loving-kindness.**

Be with our national leaders – the First Minister and the Prime Minister at this time of uncertainty and change – **in the corridors of power, crown them with Your heavenly wisdom.**

Be with her people in nation and Commonwealth as they mourn a monarch and peace-maker and rejoice

in the cultural diversity celebrated under her reign – **in the four corners of her realm, crown us with peace and goodwill.**

Be with the hidden folk throughout the world who are struggling to make peace, longing for healing, grieving the loss of someone they love – **in pain and grief, crown the nations of the earth with the light of Your love.**

In silence, we remember with thanksgiving the life of Elizabeth, Your servant and our Queen, that she may rest from her labours and rejoice in the One whom she worshipped as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Almighty God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, was crowned not with gold but with thorns and whose blood was shed to give life to the world – crown us with Your love that we may serve one another with humility and joy and Your Kingdom come with peace on earth, through the same Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit ever One God, now and for evermore – Amen.

(The above prayers were contributed by the Revd David Scott.)

Hymn: Oh God our help in ages past

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKP_XxCBZDY

Final prayer and blessing

In time of light, in time of darkness,
We gather in this place.
Seeking the solace of faith,
And to be found by the mercy of the living God.

With tears and with laughter,
With the memories of the long years,
On this day we share that which is good
And that which brings us comfort and hope.

And may the grace....