

St Margaret's Church  
Westminster Abbey



A Service of Thanksgiving  
for the Life and Work of  
**THE LORD DAHRENDORF,**  
**OF CLARE MARKET KBE FBA**  
1 May 1929 – 17 June 2009

Tuesday 3 November 2009  
Noon



# ORDER OF SERVICE

*All stand as the Choir and Clergy enter.*

*All remain standing. The Choir sings*

## THE INTROIT

I WOULD be true, for there are those that trust me.  
I would be pure, for there are those that care.  
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer.  
I would be brave, for there is much to dare.

I would be friend of all, the foe, the friendless.  
I would be giving, and forget the gift,  
I would be humble, for I know my weakness,  
I would look up, laugh, love, and live.

*The Londonderry Air  
traditional Ulster Melody  
arranged by Andrew Reid (b 1971)*

*Howard Arnold Walter (1883-1918)*

*All remain standing. Canon Wright says*

## THE BIDDING

WE have gathered together today to give thanks for the life and work of Ralf Gustav Dahrendorf. Passionately committed to democracy, Lord Dahrendorf of Clare Market had a remarkable life as an academic as Director of the London School of Economics, and later as Warden of St Antony's College, Oxford. Equally remarkable was his career as a politician. Firstly in Germany, elected as a member of the Bundestag he became a member of Willy Brandt's Government and then a European Commissioner, and later in Britain he was an active member of the House of Lords. One of the foremost sociologists of his generation, Ralf Dahrendorf's experience as a young man in war-time and post war-time Germany was the driving force of his life-long commitment to civil rights. Indeed, Ralf's imprisonment in a Nazi concentration camp led to his passionately held belief in *tätige Freiheit*, the freedom of the individual to act upon, or to say, whatever they believe. His enthusiasm was infectious, his commitment total, and his intellect fearsome, but Ralf was in many ways modest and self-effacing. A great communicator, he enjoyed life, was revered by his students, and was loved by his family who all admired him for his brilliance and his humour.

Speaking of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said:

*It is our duty to ensure that these rights are a living reality—that they are known, understood, and enjoyed by everyone, everywhere.*

*All sing*

#### THE HYMN

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 mother's arms  
hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours to-day.

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.

*Nun danket 413 NEH*  
*from Johann Crüger's*  
*Praxis Pietatis Melica c1647*

*German, Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)*  
*translated by*  
*Catherine Winckworth (1827-78)*

*All sit. Professor Margaret MacMillan, Warden of St Antony's College, Oxford, reads*

MATTHEW 5: 3-11

**J**ESUS taught his disciples, saying, 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.'

*All remain seated. The Choir sings*

PSALM 121

**I** WILL lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help.  
My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.

Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;

so that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in: from this time forth for evermore.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end.  
Amen.

*Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)*

*All remain seated. The Lord Giddens, former Director of the London School of Economics, reads*

*from LSE: A HISTORY OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE 1895–1995*

WHY should a European Commissioner, destined (perhaps) to go back to a political career in Germany, leave both his country and his Brussels position to be Director of LSE? Because, my friends said when I consulted them during the next few days in Brussels, in Hamburg, and again in London, it would enable me to combine my academic and my public interests, my feelings for London and my internationalism, for the benefit of an institution of which I had been fond ever since I first set foot in it in September 1952. Suddenly, to say yes became the obvious answer to the invitation... The School embodies and by its very existence resolves one of the great dilemmas of the life of the mind, the dilemma of the ascetic and the worldly, of detachment and involvement... the ever-present tension between the desire to know the causes of things and the other desire to change them, or even to make a deliberate effort to keep them as they used to be.

*Lord Dahrendorf, of Clare Market KBE FBA*

*All remain seated for*

## A TRIBUTE

*by*

Professor Timothy Garton Ash

*All stand to sing*

## THE HYMN

ALL people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,  
come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk, he doth us feed,  
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good:  
his mercy is for ever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom heaven and earth adore,  
from men and from the angel-host  
be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

*Old Hundredth 334 NEH*  
*Genevan Psalter 1551*

*William Kethe (d 1594)*  
*after Psalm 100*

*All sit for*

## A TRIBUTE

*by*

Sir Patrick Cormack MP

*All remain seated. Julian Empett sings:*

**T**HE people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

*George Frideric Handel*  
*from Messiah*

*Isaiah 9: 2*

*All kneel or remain seated. The Reverend Michael Macey, Minor Canon of Westminster, leads*

## THE PRAYERS

Let us remember before God his servant Ralf and give thanks for his life, achievements, and example; and let us pray for those who mourn him.

**M**ERCIFUL God, hear us as we remember Ralf with love. We praise thee for his many gifts, and thank thee for the benefits we have received from his life. We pray thee, help us look beyond our grief, let us live with faith renewed, and deepen our trust in thy generous love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We give thanks for Ralf's zeal for democracy: for his time spent in public office serving the peoples of Germany in the Bundestag; for his time as European Commissioner; and for his service to this nation as Peer of the Realm. So let us pray for all who, like Ralf, strive for freedom and democracy for all people.

**A**LMIGHTY God, by whom alone kings reign, and princes decree justice; and from whom alone cometh all counsel, wisdom, and understanding; we, thine unworthy servants, do most humbly beseech thee to send down thy heavenly wisdom from above, to direct and guide all who sit in the Parliament of this Kingdom; and grant that they having thy fear always before their eyes, and laying aside all private interests, prejudices, and partial affections, the result of all their counsels may be to the glory of thy blessed name, the maintenance of true religion and justice, the safety, honour, and happiness of The Queen, the publick wealth, peace, and tranquillity of the Realm, and the uniting and knitting together of the hearts of all persons and estates within the same, in true Christian love and charity one towards another; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. **Amen.**

*after The Parliamentary Prayer*

We give thanks for Ralf's phenomenal intellectual capacity: for his ability to connect and communicate with his students; for the elegance of his writings; for his exacting standards; and for his wit and sense of fun.

**H**EAVENLY Father, with whom are hid the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, and who hast permitted men and women of our day to learn the things kept secret since the foundation of the world: we give thee most hearty thanks for all the gifts and blessings of mind thou didst give to thy servant Ralf, and for the way in which he inspired others in the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom; we beseech thee, in thy mercy, to save thy children from misusing these thy gifts for selfish and destructive ends; and grant them grace to use them only for thy glory and the good of all humanity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Following Ralf's commitment to peace and unity within Europe, let us pray for the European community: for its well-being, and for peace between its people and nations.

**A**LMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, guide we beseech thee, the nations of the European Union into the ways of justice and truth. Establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness; and grant that in every land thy kingdom may come and thy will be done; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All these prayers we offer to the Father in the words our Saviour Christ has taught us:

**O**UR 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.**

*All remain seated. Nicola Dahrendorf reads*

*from THE DRY SALVAGES*

*from FOUR QUARTETS*

*Thomas Stearns Eliot OM  
(1888-1965)*

*All stand to sing*

### THE HYMN

**T**HINE 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.  
*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:

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;  
life is nought 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:

*Maccabaeus 120 NEH*  
*George Frideric Handel*

*French, Edmond Louis Budry (1854-1932)*  
*translated by Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)*

*All remain standing for*

### THE BLESSING

**G**O forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no-one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*All remain standing as the Clergy depart.*

*Music after the service:*

*Pipe Major Jim Motherwell MBE plays:*

The Flowers of the Forest *traditional Scottish melody*

*The Organist plays:*

Fantasia super *Johann Sebastian Bach*  
Komm, heiliger Geist BWV 651

**Members of the Congregation are requested to remain in their  
places until directed to move by the Stewards.**

*The bells of St Margaret's Church are rung at 12.55 pm by the St  
Margaret's Society of Change Ringers.*

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