## Westminster Abbey



# A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AND REMEMBRANCE for

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE PRINCESS MARGARET,
COUNTESS OF SNOWDON CI GCVO
1930 – 2002



Friday 19 April 2002 Noon Death is the future for everyone. It is the Last Post of this life and the Reveille of the next. Death is the end of our present life, it is the parting from loved ones; it is the setting out into the unknown. We overcome death by accepting it as the will of a loving God, by finding Him in it. Death, like birth, is only a transformation, another birth. When we die we shall change our state, that is all. And in faith in God, it is as easy and natural as going to sleep here and waking up there.

Journal of a Soul Pope John XXIII (1881-1963)

We thank Thee, Lord, who by Thy Spirit doth our faith restore. When we with worldly things commune and prayerless close our door; We lose our precious gift divine to worship and adore; Then Thou, O Saviour, fill our hearts to love Thee evermore. Amen.

May Christ give to you at this time
His Peace in your Soul
His Presence in your Heart
His Power in your Life.

Lord,

Help me to live this day quietly, easily; to lean on Thy great strength trustfully, respectfully; to await the unfolding of Thy will patiently, serenely; to meet others peacefully, joyously; to face tomorrow confidently, courageously.

The service is set around the Requiem by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) in accordance with the wishes of Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon.

Also at her request the service is sung by:

The Choir of Westminster Abbey

Organist and Master of the Choristers - Mr James O'Donnell

The Choir of King's College, Cambridge Director of Music - Mr Stephen Cleobury

The Choir of St George's Chapel, Windsor

Organist and Master of the Choristers - Mr Jonathan Rees-Williams

Organist - Mr Andrew Reid, Sub-Organist of Westminster Abbey.

Academy of St Martin in the Fields *Leader - Mr Harvey de Souza* 

The soloists are:

Dame Felicity Lott DBE

and

Mr Bryn Terfel

Music before the service:

The Orchestra plays:

The 'Awakening' pas de deux *from* Sleeping Beauty

Pyotr Illyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

The Sub-Organist plays:

Prelude and fugue in A major (BWV 536)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Sonata No.6 in G major (BWV 530)

Johann Sebastian Bach

### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

All stand as the Procession of Visiting Clergy and dignitaries, followed by members of the Collegiate Body, moves to the Sacrarium via the South Quire Aisle.

The Choirs sing

#### INTROIT AND KYRIE

REQUIEM aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion, et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem. Exaudi orationem meam; ad te omnis caro veniet.

Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them. To thee praise is due, O God, in Zion, and to thee vows are recited in Jerusalem. Hear my prayer; unto thee all flesh shall come.

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr Wesley Carr, Dean of Westminster, says

#### THE BIDDING

N behalf of all those who knew her and all whom her life has touched, we are united in thanking God for the life of Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon. We shall thank God for her support to Her Majesty The Queen and for her commitment to others; for her service to the Nation and for her devotion to the arts; and we shall thank God for her loyalty to her friends and her love for her family. We commend her to God whom she worshipped in this life and with whom she now rests.

All sit. The Choirs sing

#### **SANCTUS**

SANCTUS, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.

All remain seated for

#### THE LESSON

from I Corinthians 15

read by

Viscount Linley

from the Great Lectern

BEHOLD, I shew you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### All stand to sing

#### THE 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.

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son, endless is the victory 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:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son, endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

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:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son, endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Maccabaeus 120 NEH French original, E L Budry (1854-1932) George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

All sit. The Dean says:

Let us in silence each recall The Princess Margaret and commend her to God, source of all love and life.

A brief silence is kept.

All remain seated. Dame Felicity Lott DBE sings

#### PIE JESU

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem, requiem sempiternam.

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them rest, rest everlasting.

All remain seated for

#### THE READING

The Union of Friends

from Some Fruits of Solitude

by William Penn

read by

Felicity Kendal CBE

from the Great Lectern

THEY that love beyond the world, cannot be separated by it. Death cannot kill what never dies. Nor can spirits ever be divided that love and live in the same Divine Principle; the Root and Record of their Friendship. If absence be not death, neither is theirs. Death is but crossing the world, as friends do the Seas. They live in one another still; for they must needs be present, that love and live in that which is Omnipresent. For in this Divine Glass they see face to face; and their converse is free, as well as pure. This is the comfort of friends; that though they may be said to die, yet their friendship and society are ever present, because immortal.

All remain seated. The Choirs, with Bryn Terfel, sing

#### LIBERA ME

LIBERA me, Domine, de morte aeterna, in die illa tremenda quando coeli movendi sunt et terra, dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem. Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo dum discussio venerit, atque ventura ira. Dies illa, dies irae, calamitatis et miseriae, dies magna et amara valde. Requiem aeternam, dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death, on that fearful day when the heavens are moved and the earth, when thou shalt come to judge the world through fire. I am made to tremble, and I fear when the desolation shall come, and also the coming wrath; that day, the day of wrath, calamity, and misery, that terrible and exceedingly bitter day. Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them.

All kneel or sit for

#### THE PRAYERS

The Reverend Chris Chivers, Minor Canon of Westminster Abbey, says:

Let us remember before God, his servant, Margaret.

OST Gracious God, we praise thee for creating us in thine image, and calling each of us to love and serve thee. We thank thee for our sister, Margaret, and for all we treasure and remember with gratitude about her. As memories fill our minds, forgive us things said or done which we regret; things we longed to do, but never did, longed to say, but never said. We pray that nothing that was good in her life will be lost, but will continue to enrich the world; that all that was important to her will be respected by those who follow. May she continue to live in the hearts and minds of her family and friends, and may those who were close to her in life, now, through her death, be even closer to each other. Give us the strength and courage to leave our departed sister in thy keeping, trusting in thine everlasting goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Let us pray for the charities and organisations with which The Princess was associated.

O thou, most generous Father, who knowest so much and lovest so many, we thank thee for thy grace through which so many have given so much; especially do we thank thee for the selfless and devoted service of those who have committed themselves to good works and charities, guided by Princess Margaret and inspired by thy Son, Jesus Christ. We offer this prayer in the name of him who laid down his life for the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

All sit. The Choirs sing

#### **IN PARADISUM**

In paradisum deducant te angeli, in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.

May the angels lead thee into paradise, may the martyrs receive thee in thy coming and guide thee into the holy city, Jerusalem. May the chorus of angels receive thee and with Lazarus, once poor, mayest thou have eternal rest.

All sit or kneel. The Reverend Dominic Fenton, Precentor of Westminster Abbey, continues:

LORD, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done; then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest and peace at the last through Jesus Christ, our Lord; **Amen**.

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of Heaven; to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence but one equal music; no fears nor hopes but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity; in the habitations of thy glory and dominion, world without end. **Amen.** 

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

OUR Father, which 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 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.

#### All stand to sing

#### THE HYMN

YE holy angels bright, who wait at God's right hand, or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command, assist our song, for else the theme too high doth seem for mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest, who ran this earthly race, and now, from sin released, behold the Saviour's face, his praises sound, as in his light with sweet delight ye do abound.

Ye saints who toil below, adore your heavenly King, and onward as ye go some joyful anthem sing; take what he gives and praise him still, through good and ill, who ever lives.

My soul, bear thou thy part, triumph in God above, and with a well-tuned heart sing thou the songs of love. Let all thy days till life shall end whate'er he send, be filled with praise.

Darwall's 148th (475 NEH) John Darwall (1731-1789) Descant by Alan Gray (1855-1935) Richard Baxter (1615-1691)

#### All kneel or sit. The Dean pronounces

#### THE BLESSING

OD grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, The Queen and Commonwealth and all mankind, peace and concord, and to us sinners, life eternal: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

All remain standing as the Processions return to the West End of the Church, via the North Quire Aisle.

Music after the service:

Sinfonia *from* Cantata 29 Final *from* Symphonie I in D major Johann Sebastian Bach Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

The Bells of the Abbey Church are rung.

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

Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it to thee. Jesus said unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

St John 11: 21-27

God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in mine eyes, and in my looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking; God be at mine end; and at my departing.

If there be righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in each nation, there will be peace in the world.

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