

A thanksgiving service celebrating the life of

David Allen Plumridge AM

1 September 1932 – 10 March 2024



The Church of St John the Evangelist
Halifax Street, Adelaide
19 March 2024

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 David Allen Plumridge,
to mourn and honour him,
to lay to rest his mortal body,
and to support one another in grief.
We face the certainty of our own death and judgement.
Yet 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.

We remain standing to sing v 3 of hymn 123 TiS

**Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then you shall better know his love, his heart,
who comes to soothe your sorrow, calm your fears.
Be still, my soul: for Jesus can restore
the trust and hope that strengthened you before.**

The priest says these sentences from the scriptures.

‘I am the resurrection and the life,’ says the Lord.
‘Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet will they live.’ John 11.25
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3.22–23
God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life. John 3.16

The people join with the priest in saying

**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.**

*Family and friends speak to us about David
and share a poem he chose for today*

Do not stand
by my grave, and weep.
I am not there,
I do not sleep—
I am the thousand winds that blow
I am the diamond glints in snow
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle, autumn rain.
As you awake with morning's hush,
I am the swift, up-flinging rush
of quiet birds in circling flight,
I am the day transcending night.

Do not stand
by my grave, and cry—
I am not there,
I did not die.

Clare Harner, published in *The Gypsy*, Dec 1934, p. 16

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

We say the Psalms in alternate verse halves with the reader

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd:
therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall make me lie down in green pastures:
and lead me beside still waters.
He shall refresh my soul:
and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil:
for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me:
you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
Surely your goodness and loving-kindness will follow me
all the days of my life:
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Psalm 121

I lift my eyes to the hills:

from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord:

the maker of heaven and earth.

The Lord will not allow your foot to slip:

your guardian will not sleep.

See, the one who watches over Israel:

shall neither slumber nor sleep.

It is the Lord who is your keeper:

the Lord is your shelter on your right hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by day:

neither shall the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil:

it is the Lord who shall guard your life.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:

both now and for evermore.

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: John 14.1-6

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.'

The homily

We stand to sing verses 1 and 2 of hymn 153 TiS

God is love, let heav'n adore him;

God is love, let earth rejoice;

let creation sing before him,

and exalt him with one voice.

God, who laid the earth's foundation,

he who spread the heavens above,

and who breathes through all creation,

God is love, eternal Love.

God is love, and gently enfolding

all the world in one embrace,

with unfailing grasp is holding

every child of every race.

And when human hearts are breaking

under sorrow's iron rod,

then they find that self-same aching

deep within the heart of God.

THE PRAYERS

The priest says

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

Thanksgiving

Thanks be to God for the gift of life.

You have made us in your image, and called us to reflect your truth and light.

We thank you for the life of David Allen Plumridge.

We give thanks for David's family life and his friendship;

his contribution to the community as a councillor, mayor, deputy mayor,
member and for two years president of the Local Government Association, and
as a Justice of the Peace;

his commitment to work as an architect and a mentor to younger colleagues;

his enjoyment of leisure activities like camping holidays, driving and walking
in the hills, photography, and visiting wineries to sample wines and cheeses;

his personal qualities as a person who could talk easily with anyone – who was
interested, humble, intelligent, compassionate, loyal, gifted in leadership and
managing people and situations, honest, committed and straightforward;

his strength in adversity – particularly where it came to standing up for
principles of transparency and justice in the face of strong opposition;

his faith, love and hope; qualities of David's that were a blessing to his family,
his friends and his colleagues;

his ministries in the Church as a boy chorister, a lay reader at St Augustine's,
Para Hills from 1957 until his and Gladys' move to Adelaide where he became
a lay priest here at St Johns, and also a most gifted chair of parish council, and
for the way he put his professional skills at the service of parishes and the
diocese of Adelaide.

Above all, we thank you for your gracious promise
to David and all your servants, living and departed,
that we shall be made one again in our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

For those who mourn

God of all mercy, giver of all comfort:

look graciously, we pray, on those who mourn especially Gladys, Deanne,
Wendy and Michael, David's grandchildren and great granddaughter, and his
many close friends.

Casting all their cares on you, may they know the consolation of your love;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE FAREWELL

We stand to sing verse 4 of hymn 123 TiS

**Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

The priest may say the following or other prayers.

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave new birth to our brother David,
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.**

The priest says

Let us entrust our brother David to the mercy of God.

Silence may be kept.

**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 David 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 COMMITTAL

Facing the coffin, the priest says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
you have given us a sure and certain hope
of the resurrection to eternal life.
In your keeping are all who have departed in Christ.
We here commit the body of our dear brother, David Allen to be cremated
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who died, and was buried, and rose again for us,
and who shall change our mortal body
that it may be like his glorious body.

The congregation may join with the priest

**Thanks be to God who gives us the victory
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The priest says

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.**

The minister says

Go in peace in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

As the body is carried out, we say together

**Lord now you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation:
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
a light to reveal you to the nations:
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Luke 2.29–32