John Gerard Garvin Ledingham

19th October 1929 – 13th June 2023



Thursday 6th July 2023 11.30am

St Michael's Church Cumnor











ORDER OF SERVICE

INTROIT

Ubi Caritas

Where charity and love meet, there also is God. The love of Christ has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice in Him and be glad. Let us fear and let us love the living God. And from a sincere heart let us love one another.

Maurice Duruflé

ENTRANCE OF THE COFFIN

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.

Henry Walford Davies

WELCOME

Canon Geoff Maughan

HYMN

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away. Change and decay in all around I see. O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour. What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power? Who like thyself my guide and strength can be? Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless, ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes.Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

TRIBUTE

Dr Joanna Ledingham

ANTHEM

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts. Shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers; but spare us, Lord most holy. O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, thou most worthy judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from thee. Amen.

> Henry Purcell Words from the Book of Common Prayer

READING Revelation 21 (1-7)

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Read by Catherine Marsh Lewis

ANTHEM

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 habitation of thy glory and dominion, world without end.

John Donne Music by William Harris

ADDRESS Canon Geoff Maughan

READING Gaelic Blessing

May the road rise to meet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face, May the rains fall soft upon your fields, And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Read by William Coupe and Sally Bowron

INTERCESSIONS

Lord's Prayer

Our 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.

HYMN

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like me his praises sing? Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour to his people in distress.Praise him, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.Alleluia, alleluia!Glorious in his faithfulness! Father-like he tends and spares us, well our feeble frame he knows. In his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.Alleluia, alleluia!Praise with us the God of grace!

THE COMMENDATION

Nunc Dimittis (in G)

Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word. For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of Thy people Israel.

Charles Villiers Stanford

THE BLESSING

In Paradisum

(During which the funeral party will leave)

May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs greet you at your arrival and lead you into the holy city of Jerusalem. May choirs of angels greet you and like Lazarus, once poor, may you have eternal rest.

Gabriel Fauré

Service led by Canon Geoff Maughan Choir directed by Dr Edward Higginbottom



The family thanks you for coming and invites you to join them after the service for refreshments across the road at the Vine Inn, Cumnor.

Donations in memory of John are being collected for the Oxford Medical Sciences Doctoral Student Hardship Fund and St Michael's Church, Cumnor, via **www.professorjohnledingham.muchloved.com.** Alternatively they can be sent to Greens Funeral Directors, 21 High St, Eynsham. OX29 4HE.