

A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of
Beryl Rhoda Morris *ALCM*

22 November 1925 ~ 6 April 2024



*Clothed with strength and dignity...
She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.*

Proverbs 31: 25a, 26



For the congregation

Human beings have sensed the mystery of death,
and the pain of grief, since time immemorial.
Every society has developed rites to mark the passage
from life through death, and to commemorate the dead.
Today we do this through the thanksgiving service,
and the rites by which we lay a person's body to rest.

The wounds of grief need time and care to heal.
The thanksgiving service may help this process, by enabling us to
acknowledge our loss, give thanks for the life of the person who has died,
make our last farewell, and begin to take up life once more.

Christians believe in God, the source and giver of life.
God's good news proclaims Jesus Christ to be our living Lord,
who laid down his life for us. He knew death, yet triumphed over it,
drawing its sting, and was raised by God to new life.
Christians affirm the presence of the Spirit of Christ,
who helps us in our weakness.

Yet we, with all mortals, still face death.
Those who put their trust in Christ share the sufferings of their Lord,
even in the midst of God's love and care.

A Christian thanksgiving service proclaims
the Christian hope in the face of death – Jesus Christ,
whose resurrection is the promise of our own.

The Nielsen Funeral Chapel, Warragul
Friday 12 April 2024 ~ 11 am

Order of Service

Opening Hymn: "Be Still For The Presence Of The Lord"

Introductory Words and Greeting: Rev'd Sue Jacka

Sentences of Scripture:

'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*

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

- *Psalm 130:1*

I will lay down and sleep in peace
For you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

- *Psalm 4:8*

Prayer: *Let us pray together*

All: *Loving God, you alone are the source of life.
May your life-giving Spirit flow through us,
and fill us with compassion for each other.
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.*

Hymn: "To God Be The Glory"

To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life in atonement for sin
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Refrain: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory! great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God!
and every offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

Frances Jane van Alstyne 1820-1915 alt.

Eulogy: Christine Morris (daughter)

Tributes: Anne Kemp (Bairnsdale Uniting Church)

Caitlin and Tim Irwin (grandchildren)

Paul Morris and Kylie Sinclair (son and daughter-in-law)

Photo Tribute and Reflection Music:

“The Robin’s Return” by L Fisher

(Beryl used to play this)

Bible Readings:

Psalm 121 Read by Kylie Sinclair (daughter-in-law)

- 1 I look up to the mountains -
does my help come from there?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord,
who made the heavens and the earth!
- 3 The Lord will not let you stumble and fall;
the one who watches over you will not sleep.
- 4 Indeed, the one who watches over Israel
never tires and never sleeps.
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you!
The Lord stands beside you as your protective shade.
- 6 The sun will not hurt you by day,
nor the moon at night.
- 7 The Lord keeps you from all evil
and preserves your life.
- 8 The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go,
both now and forever.

John 14:1-3, 27 Read by Ro Verspaandonk (friend)

A Reading from the Gospel of John.

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....

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

Address: Rev'd Sue Jacka

Reflective Prayers, concluding with **The Lord's Prayer.**

All: ***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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

Hymn: "The Lord Is My Shepherd"

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.

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.

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.

My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

The Farewell Prayer:

Let us entrust our sister Beryl to the mercy of God.

Go now, Beryl, on your journey from this world
In the love of God the life giver, who created you,
And surrounded by friends and family.
May you rest this day in peace.

Committal Prayer:

***All: 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 sister Beryl
to be cremated, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust
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. Amen.***

The Blessing:

May the Lord bless and protect you;
May the Lord's face radiate with joy because of you;
May God be gracious to you,
Show you favour and give you peace.

Recessional Hymn:

“Jesus Loves Me Medley”

*The Morris family sincerely thanks you for
your caring support, love and attendance today.*

*They extend a welcome to all for a time of meeting and remembering
in the Chapel Function Room following the Service.*

