

Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of  
**Simon Rowland John  
Robbins~van Rijn**

24<sup>th</sup> April 1944 – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022



St. Matthias' Church, Wellswood, Torquay

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

2.00pm

I am going to Heaven  
By the Holy Spirit who lives in me  
Who brings me to the Father  
And the Son for Eternity.  
*Simon*

# Order of Service

## Entry Music

In Paradisum, from Gabriel Fauré's Requiem

## Welcome and Introduction

## Psalm 121

Read by Scarlett, Simon's stepdaughter

I lift up my eyes to the hills –  
where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot slip –  
he who watches over you will not slumber;  
Be sure, he who watches over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.  
The Lord watches over you  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;  
The sun shall not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.  
The Lord will keep you from all harm –  
he will watch over your life;  
The Lord will watch over your  
going out and your coming in,  
both now and for evermore.

## Tributes

From Fiona, Simon's stepdaughter

From Marcus, Simon's brother

And a message from Christine, Simon's sister,  
read by Tara Cavanagh-Mainwaring

## 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, oh, 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 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

*Henry Francis Lyte / Will Henry Monk*

## **Bible Reading ~ Revelation 21:1-7**

Read by Milo Cavenagh-Thornhill, great nephew

Then I saw ‘a new heaven and a new earth,’ for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup>I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Look! God’s dwelling-place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup>“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death” or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’

<sup>5</sup>He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’ Then he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’

<sup>6</sup>He said to me: ‘It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup>Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.’

### **Tribute**

From close friend Revd Canon Nigel Walker

### **The Address**

Revd John Beckett

## Prayers

God our Father we thank you  
that you have made each of us  
in your own image,  
and have given us gifts and talents  
with which to serve you.  
We thank you for Simon,  
the years we shared with him,  
the good we saw in him  
and the love we received from him  
Now give us strength and courage,  
to leave him in your care,  
trusting in your promise of eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thanks be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have won for me,  
for all the pains and insults  
you have borne for me,  
O most merciful redeemer,  
friend and brother,  
may we know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly and  
follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

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

Onward Christian soldiers marching as to war  
With the cross of Jesus going on before  
Christ the royal Master leads against the foe  
Forward into battle see His banners go

*Onward Christian soldiers marching as to war  
With the cross of Jesus going on before*

Like a mighty army moves the church of God  
Brothers we are treading where the saints have trod  
We are not divided, all one body we  
One in hope and doctrine, one in charity

Crowns and thrones may perish, kingdoms rise and wane  
But the church of Jesus constant will remain  
Gates of hell can never 'gainst that church prevail  
We have Christ's own promise and that cannot fail

Onward then ye people, join our happy throng  
Blend with ours your voices in the triumph-song  
Glory laud and honour unto Christ the King  
This through countless ages men and angels sing

*Sabine Baring-Gould*

## The Commendation

Let us commend Simon to the mercy  
of God our Maker and Redeemer.

We keep a time of silent thanksgiving and remembrance

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour,  
we commend your servant Simon.  
Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold,  
a lamb of your own flock,  
a sinner of your own redeeming.  
Enfold him in the arms of your mercy,  
in the blessed rest of everlasting peace  
and in the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

## Blessing Prayer

## Final Music

A Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter

Simon's family would like to thank you all for your kind words of support and sympathy at this difficult time.



All donations in Simon's memory are for The Motor Neurone Disease Association and Rowcroft Hospice At Home which you can give by retiring collection, on-line at [www.kjlackfuneralservice.co.uk](http://www.kjlackfuneralservice.co.uk) or send to  
KJ Lack Family Funeral Service,  
153 St Marychurch Road,  
Plainmoor, Torquay  
TQ1 3HW.  
Thank you