

A Service of Thanksgiving

For the life of

Devon George Astle

10th January 1922 – 15th February 2010

18th February 2010

St Paul's Anglican Church, Ringwood

Vicar: The Reverend Michael Lazarus

Order of Service

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.
Those who believe in me, though they die, will live.

Grace and peace from the Lord be with you
And also with you

Four symbols of Devon's life in Christ are brought forward.

The Candle

Light immortal,
you brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.
May we, with Devon and all the baptised,
know the full light of your risen presence. **Amen.**

Water

In the waters of baptism we died with Christ,
and began to walk in newness of life.
May we, with Devon and all the baptised,
be brought to the fulfilment of your eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

The Scriptures

In life Devon was nourished by the word of God.
May Christ greet us, with Devon, saying:
Come, blessed of my Father! **Amen.**

The cross

Lord Jesus Christ, you bore our sins on the cross.
May this cross be a sign to us of your love for
and the forgiveness of his sins. **Amen.**

Hymn: Abide with me (TIS 586)

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 stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, 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 1793-1847 alt used with permission

[Let us pray]

**Loving God, you alone are the source of life.
May your life-giving Spirit flow through us.
Grant us your 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.**

Eulogy

Hymn: The Lord's 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 furnishèd
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 forever more
My dwelling place shall be.

Scottish Psalter 1650 Used with permission

Bible reading: John 14: 1-6

"Don't be troubled. Believe in God, and believe in me.
² My Father's house has many rooms. If that were not true, would I have told you that I'm going to prepare a place for you? ³ If I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again. Then I will bring you into my presence so that you will be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you're going. So how can we know the way?"
⁶ Jesus answered him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one goes to the Father except through me."

Address: The Reverend Michael Lazarus

Prayers:

**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.**

Prayers of Farewell

Holy and loving Father, by your creative power you gave us life,
and in your love you have given us new life in Christ Jesus.
Rejoicing in your gift of eternal life
and confident in the love you have for all,
we commend Devon to your merciful keeping.
May he know the light and peace of your presence.
This day and always, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Go forth, good Christian on your journey from this world.
in the name of God who created you;
in the name of Jesus Christ who suffered for you;
in the name of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you;
in communion with the blessed saints,
and aided by angels and archangels and all the heavenly
host.

**May your portion this day be in peace,
and your dwelling in the heavenly Jerusalem. Amen.**

We have entrusted Devon to the tender hands of God.
We now commit his body to be cremated,
Ashes to ashes, dust to dust;
Trusting in the infinite mercy of God
And to the victory over death of Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Blessing

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,

Hymn: Amazing Grace TIS 129

Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

As grace first taught my heart to fear
so grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
God's grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

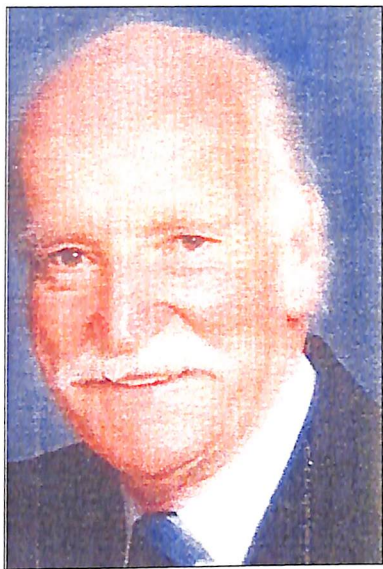
The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

John Newton 1725-1807 alt. Used with permission



*The family would like to thank you for your
presence here today
and for your love, prayers and support.
Refreshments will be in the hall at the
conclusion of the service.*

*SINCERE
THANKS*



Devon George Astle

The things we feel so deeply,
are the hardest things to say,
But Dad will always be
remembered, in a very special way.

We would like to thank you most sincerely for
your kind thoughts during our time of sadness.

Your sincerity and support during our time of
sorrow is deeply appreciated.

*Thankyou to the Historical Society
Members for your kind wishes.*

*Jill Kate Anne
and Margaret.*

2003



LOVE NEVER ENDS

Compliments of
WILLIAM MATTHEWS
FUNERALS
9739 6868

Dear Richard,

I am sorry I didn't
get a chance to
speak to you at
Dad's funeral, but
thank you again for
your wishes

regards

Kate Tilton