

**A Service of Thanksgiving**

**for the life of**

**Clara Kate Burnside**



**born 15 October 1912 - died 18 March 1995**

**St Paul's Anglican Church - Ringwood  
Vicar: The Reverend Heather Marten  
Assistant Curate: The Reverend Maureen Beattie**

**22 March 1995**

## Order of Service

We come together today to mourn the death of Clare, mother, grandma, great-grandmother, relative, friend; to honour her memory; above all to give thanks to God for her life amongst us.

We remember her as a loving and loveable wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, gentle and full of fun;

we celebrate her faith, her compassion, her friendship and her love of family and friends.

We come here also to express our sympathy with those who will mourn her, conscious of their loss, especially Jeanette, Dorothy, Margaret and Heather and their families;

and to pray that they may find support and strength in days to come.

### Placing of Christian Symbols

#### *The Candle*

Light immortal,  
you brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.  
Grant that Clare, being raised with Christ,  
may know the light of your presence. Amen.

#### *Water*

In the waters of baptism Clare died with Christ,  
and began to walk in newness of life.  
Bring Clare, and all the baptised  
to the fulfilment of your eternal kingdom. Amen.

#### *The Scriptures*

In life Clare was nourished by the Word of God.  
May Christ greet her:  
Come, blessed of my Father! Amen.

#### *The cross*

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

## Sentence and Collect

I am certain that nothing can separate us from God's love; neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers nor height nor depth - there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8.38)

Let us pray

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Clare. We thank you for giving her to us, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Hymn: The king of love my shepherd is

The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me.

And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

### Family Tribute:

Reading: 1 Corinthians 13. by Dorothy Close

**Hymn: Amazing grace**

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.

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

T'was grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

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

**Ministers Address: The Reverend Maureen Beattie**

**The Lords 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 forever. Amen.**

**Prayers:**

God of grace, we thank you for Clare, for the many ways she shared her life with us and others, and in faith and hope we leave her in your keeping.

We thank you for the love she offered and received. We pray that nothing good in this woman's life will be lost, but will be of benefit to the world; that all that was important to her will be respected by those who follow, that everything in which she was great will continue to mean much to us.

We ask that she may go on living in her children and grandchildren; in their hearts and minds, in their courage and their consciences; that those who were close to her may now because of her death be even closer to each other, and that we may in peace and friendship always be deeply conscious of your promise to be faithful to us in death.

May God grant us courage and confidence in the new life of Christ.

We ask this in the name of the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Gracious God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
we thank you that you received Clare by baptism  
into the family of your church on earth,  
and grant her the gift of eternal life.  
She ate with us the bread of life  
and drank from the cup of salvation.  
Preserve among us the good of her example,  
and keep us in the way of truth,  
until we come to your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for those who mourn, especially Jeanette, Dorothy, Margaret and Heather and their families.  
Be close to them in their loss.  
Increase their faith in your undying love. **Amen.**

**THE FAREWELL**

*A time of silence may be kept.*

*The minister says*

Let us entrust our sister to the mercy of God.

**Heavenly Father,  
by your mighty power you gave us life,  
and in your love you have given us new life  
in Christ Jesus.**

**We entrust Clare 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.**

***Prayer of commendation***

Go forth, dear sister Clare, on your journey from this world,  
in the name of God the Father 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.

**THE COMMITTAL**

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Clare, and we commit her body to be cremated; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord make his face to shine upon her and be gracious to her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace. Amen.

*During the singing of the hymn the coffin will leave the church*

**Hymn: Now thank we all our God**

Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
hath blest us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and Holy Ghost,  
one Lord in highest heaven:  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

***Concluding Prayer and Blessing***

O Lord, healer of the broken-hearted and binder of their wounds; grant Your tender presence to all who mourn this death. Give them strength and courage in their grief, and restore to them gently and steadily a sense of life's goodness. Fill them with reverence and love for You, that they may serve You with a whole heart, and let them soon know peace again. Amen.

Dear Christ, our friend and our guide, pioneer through the shadow of death, passing through darkness to make it light, be our companion that we may fear no evil, and bring us to life and to glory. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be amongst you and all those you love, this day and always. Amen.

***Clare's family invite you to join them for light refreshments in the parish lounge.***

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