

DAVID YOUNG



Introduction

As a church and as the congregation of St James we are saddened by David's passing and we would have liked to pay our respect to him. We hope that this written service will be a comfort to all who are missing David and cannot say farewell in person.

The Service

Gathering/ Call

The grace and the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die.

We have come here in this sad hour to take our leave of David Young, to remember his life with sadness and with gratitude and to commend him to God's grace.

Not all who would like to pay their respect to David can be here today, but we know that all who knew David and loved him will be with us in their thoughts and prayers.

Prayer

Gracious God,

You have given us your word that you will comfort your people, that you will have compassion with those who mourn and dry our tears, and so we bring our loss and our grief before you in the trust that we are under your care.

And in this trust, we bring to you in gratitude David's life, we give you thanks for his gentle and quiet nature, for an active and useful life, for the love and affection he gave and received. We thank you for the memories we share, of simple pleasures and days in the sun, under Majorca's skies. May it be a comfort to all that David was content with what he had and was loved throughout his life.

We give you thanks for your promise that as your son has risen from the dead you will raise us all to eternal life, where weakness and suffering give way to joy and comfort.

Loving God,

You know that times of grief and loss can be hard to deal with for us, that we are now forced to adapt to a new life, while we still need a space for our sadness. May we be able to seek and find your comfort in times of pain and may we be assured that you keep us in your loving hand.

Loving God, your son has given his life as a ransom for many. We entrust David and ourselves to your loving care in this time of sadness and grief.

And we pray all this through Jesus Christ, the first to have risen from the dead. AMEN

Hymn: The King of love my shepherd is

Readings

Psalm 46, 1-7

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

³though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.^[c]

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

⁵God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.

⁶Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

⁷The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

John 6, 36-40

³⁷All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. Amen and may God add his blessings to his words

Eulogy

It is a heartache for us that we cannot remember David's life as we would normally do, but we will take a little time to remember and honour his life. The Bible says: Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you and in this confidence let us share the memories of who David was:

David Young was born on 7 March 1935 in Pennyvenie, just outside Dalmellington, to John, a dispatch clerk and his wife Jessie and grew up in Waterside together with his brother Willie, to whom he maintained a good relationship throughout his life. After leaving school David undertook an apprenticeship as a joiner and after his national service in the beautiful Black forest area in Germany came back to work for a couple of firms before he found employment with the Local Authority, where he spent most of his working life, over 30 years in total. David thoroughly enjoyed his work, but his main and his favourite project there was the organization of the Ayr Flower Show, a commitment he continued even after his retirement at the age of 60.

David met Mary, whom of course we all know better as Ray in the village of Patna, although who caught whose eye first is difficult to say today, but maybe that does not matter. It matters though that the couple got married on 4 June 1960 and stayed together ever since. If my calculation is right, they would have celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary this summer. Ray and David loved to travel together. They went to a Cheltenham cottage at least once a year and loved to enjoy the Majorcan sun.

David was a quiet man, a listener not a talker, but he took everything in and in conversation with him one could be sure of his undivided attention. He loved the simple uncomplicated things in life, as long as he had his house his shed and his car, where he could put his practical talents and his joiner's skills to good use, David was content.

David was a good neighbour and a good friend and he gladly took the neighbours' boys Ben and Jack to school, boys would would in the afternoon be welcome at the Youngs' house.

The last two years were a struggle for David, and he became increasingly frustrated with his limitations, especially during the last 12 months, but

although his condition sometimes got him down, both he and Ray always tried to remain cheerful and make the best of it.

It may be a comfort to many of us that Ray could still visit David when he was admitted to Ayr and later to the Biggart hospital, that David was not alone in his last days like so many in these challenging times and I hope that I can share with you the ultimate hope and faith, that David is not alone now, that he is in the presence of our everlasting God, that he is at peace.
AMEN

Committal

The Lord is my help and my salvation. In him I trust.

David is committed into the hands of God in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ who died was buried and rose again for us and is alive and reigns for evermore.

Prayer

Loving God,

We give you thanks for a life that was precious to us and precious to you, for a gentleman who loved and was loved in his quiet, gentle way and in offering our thanks we bring before you our grief.

We remember Ray in our prayer, who knew David the best, shared her life with him to the very last days, who shared joy and sorrow with him each day of her married life, who cared for him unfailingly in his last years and months. Grant her the strength to grieve and the courage to entrust David into your loving hands.

We include in our prayer the staff at Ayr and the Biggart hospital, who give their best to care for patients like David and who will feel the helplessness and sadness when they have to part from them. May they find strength for their daily work.

As we turn our thoughts back to the world, we acknowledge that our life that is changed because David is now beyond our reach and we pray for ourselves, we pray that our troubled hearts may find rest, we ask that we find the courage to grieve and the strength to let go. We ask that we can find comfort in you and that you will dry our tears.

For this we pray in Jesus name. AMEN

Benediction

And now go forth in peace and be comforted in the assurance of God's love. And the God who is higher than all our understanding, God the father, son and holy spirit, be with us all now and forever. AMEN

A Prayer for the Home

Loving God,

As we grieve from afar, we feel the sorrow and the pain of loss, we feel the sorrow and the pain caused by our very absence. Lord, you know us, you know how we long to accompany David on his last journey, how we long to mourn him together, how we long to pay our respects.

You, who has promised to comfort your people know, that in our hearts, with our soul we are with David and with those around him, you know that love and friendship do not know boundaries, know neither time nor space, you know that our thoughts, our prayers are with him wherever we are.

Grant us your comfort, we pray, grant us the trust that David is now at peace with you, that he, who is now beyond our reach is not beyond your loving care, that you have taken him to yourself as you have promised to do, as we all will once see you face to face.

For this we pray in Jesus' name. AMEN