

Chelmsford Cathedral



The Revd Canon Simon Pothan
15 November 1960 – 13 November 2017

Eucharist of Thanksgiving
7 December 2017 at 11 am

Welcome to this Funeral Eucharist to mark Simon's death. At this celebration, in word and sacrament, we celebrate the Christian faith that was core to his life. All you need for the service is contained in this booklet.

The president of the Eucharist is the Rt Revd Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Chelmsford. The deacon is Canon Chris Chivers, Principal of Westcott House and one of Simon's curates. The preacher is the Very Revd Nicholas Henshall, Dean of Chelmsford.

The Gloria, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei are sung to the setting by Murray and Inwood. Music copyright information: permission to copy words and music covered by CCL Licence No. 193318 and Calamus Licence No. 0635.

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off. There is a loop system installed throughout the Cathedral. If you are a hearing aid user, please turn it to T. There are toilet facilities with full disabled access at the east end of the Cathedral. Please ask a steward to direct you.

In the event of the alarm sounding, please make your way out of the Cathedral via the nearest door and if it is safe to do so, assemble at the rear of the Shire Hall in the South East corner of the churchyard. Please do not go back for your belongings until you are told it is safe to do so.

There is a collection at the end of this celebration. Donations in thanksgiving for Simon's life will be shared between the National Autistic Society, Epilepsy Action and Farleigh Hospice. If you are a taxpayer, please use the Gift Aid envelopes, filling in the details on the outside.

Music before the Eucharist played by Laurence Lyndon Jones.

- *O Mensch, beweine deine Sünde gross – J S Bach*
- *Chorale Prelude on Rockingham – Kenneth Leighton*



Please recycle this booklet after use.

The car park code for today is 6936

From Deb...

First on behalf of the children and myself I want to say a huge thank you to everyone here today for coming to celebrate Simon's life and mourn his passing. 2017 has been a horrible year in the Pothen household, apart from a certain wedding, but many of you here today have helped us get through it with your unfailing support and friendship.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a few thank yous.

To all the clergy of the cathedral and the staff of the cathedral office, thank you for all the support you gave to Simon and us during his illness and since his death. You will never know how much your texts, messages and visits meant to Simon. He loved you all and loved working alongside you – thank you.

To our friends old and new who visited us in the last months of Simon's life and laughed and cried with us in full measure – thank you.

To all the staff at the chemotherapy and oncology unit in Broomfield Hospital and the fantastic nurses in the day therapy unit, a huge thank you for all their kindness to Simon during his illness. Finally to two truly amazing ladies from Farleigh to Lynne Meale and Janet Hemmings who were with us every step of the way, supporting Simon's wish to die at home surrounded by his family. We could not have achieved this last wish without you or coped since his death without your support.

¶ **The Gathering**

Introit

The choir sings

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven,
To enter into that gate and dwell in that house,
Where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light;
No noise nor silence, no fears, no ends or beginnings, but one equal eternity;
In the habitation of thy glory and dominion, world without end. Amen.

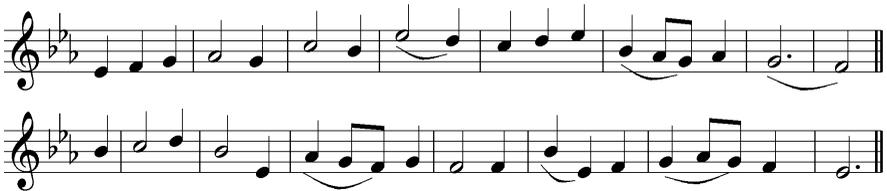
Words: after John Donne (1571-1631)

Music: William Harris (1883-1973)

Please stand

Hymn

during which the choir and ministers move through the congregation to their places and the deacon brings the Book of the Gospels to the altar.



**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.**

**O loving wisdom of our God!
when all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.**

**O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against their foe,
should strive and should prevail;**

**And that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.**

**O generous love! that he who smote
in Man for man the foe,
the double agony in Man
for man should undergo;**

**And in the garden secretly
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.**

Words: John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Tune: Chorus Angelorum

The Greeting

The Bishop welcomes the congregation, introduces the service

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you

All **and also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Please sit.

Tributes

Deb and the children share memories to celebrate Simon's life.

The Beatitudes

Please stand. Canon Chris Chivers says

Let us hear our Lord's blessing on those who follow him.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

All **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are those who mourn,

All **for they shall be comforted.**

Blessed are the meek,

All **for they shall inherit the earth.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,

All **for they shall be satisfied.**

Blessed are the merciful,

All **for they shall obtain mercy.**

Blessed are the pure in heart,

All **for they shall see God.**

Blessed are the peacemakers,

All **for they shall be called children of God.**

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake,

All **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

The Prayers of Penitence

Canon Chris Chivers invites the people to confess their sins.

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4.14-16)

Silence is kept for a short time and Canon Chris Chivers leads the confession.

Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you;
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Often you weep over our sins and our pride,
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds,
in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The Bishop says

Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us;
in your love and tenderness remake us.
In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

All **Amen.**

Anselm of Canterbury (1033 –1109)

Gloria in Excelsis

We sing the Gloria, an ancient hymn of praise.

Dom Gregory Murray

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, _____ and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. _____ Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, _____ al - migh - ty God and
Fa - ther, _____ we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you
for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the
Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of _____ God, you take a - way the
sin of the world, _____ have mer - cy on us; _____ you are sea - ted at the
right hand of the _____ Fa - ther, re - ceive our _____ pray'r. _____ For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the _____ Ho - ly Spi - rit
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - - - men.

The Collect

The Bishop says Let us pray. The congregation, still standing, remains for a short time in silent prayer, after which the Bishop says the Collect.

Almighty God,
you are the Lord of life and the conqueror of death,
help in every time of trouble
and comfort for those who mourn:
be with us now and give us a true faith and a sure hope
that Simon now rests in your peace and shares in your glory.
Grant this through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit

The Reading

1 Corinthians 15.12-28

read by the Revd Dr Robert Beaken

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

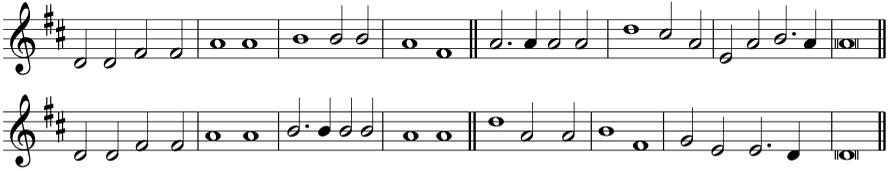
But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is plain that this does not include the one who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all.

Your faithful servants bless you.

All **They make known the glory of your kingdom.**

Please stand to sing the hymn to welcome the Gospel

Hymn



Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

Tune: Nicaea

Please remain standing and as the Gospel is carried into the centre of the Cathedral, please turn to face it.

Alleluia

Choir

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All **Alleluia!**

Choir

I am the living bread that came down from heaven.
Whoever eats of this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.

All **Alleluia!**

The Gospel Reading

Luke 24.13-35

Canon Edward Carter announces the Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast.

One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people.

"The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but did not find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

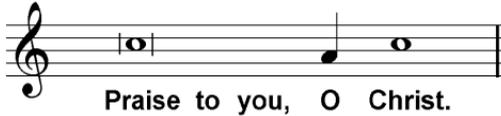
He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All



The Sermon

The Very Revd Nicholas Henshall, Dean of Chelmsford

The Prayers of Intercession

The Bishop says

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

The congregation sits or kneels.

The intercessions are led by Fr Anthony Lane, Canon Ivor Moody and the Revd Jean Sykes.

This response is used

Jesus, Lord of life,
All **in your mercy, hear us.**

Anthem

The choir sings

Behold, O God our defender: and look upon the face of thine anointed.
For one day in thy courts: is better than a thousand.

Words: Psalm 84

Music: Herbert Howells (1892 – 1983)

At the end the Bishop says

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

All **Amen.**

Please stand

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

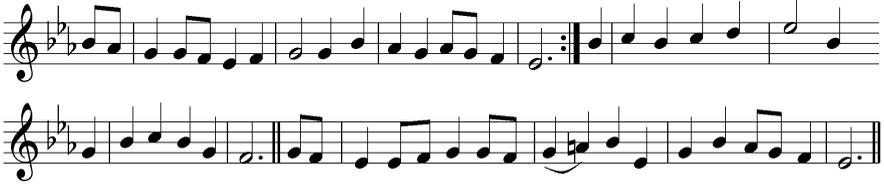
The Bishop says

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn



**We hail thy presence glorious,
O Christ our great High Priest,
o'er sin and death victorious,
at thy thanksgiving feast:
as thou art interceding
for us in heaven above,
thy church on earth is pleading
thy perfect work of love.**

**Through thee in every nation
thine own their hearts upraise,
offering one pure oblation,
one sacrifice of praise:
with thee in blest communion
the living and the dead
are joined in closest union,
one body with one head.**

**O living bread from heaven,
Jesu, our Saviour good,
who thine own self hast given
to be our souls' true food;
for us thy body broken
hung on the cross of shame:
this bread its hallowed token
we break in thy dear name.**

**O stream of love unending,
 poured from the one true vine,
 with our weak nature blending
 the strength of life divine;
 our thankful faith confessing
 in thy life-blood outpoured,
 we drink this cup of blessing
 and praise thy name, O Lord.**

**May we, thy word believing,
 thee through thy gifts receive,
 that, thou within us living,
 we all to God may live;
 draw us from earth to heaven
 till sin and sorrow cease,
 forgiving and forgiven,
 in love and joy and peace.**

Words: Richard Godfrey Parsons (1882-1948)

Tune: Meirionydd

Please remain standing.

The Eucharistic Prayer



The Lord be with you R: **And al - so with you.**



Lift up your hearts. R: **We lift them to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
 Lord God of truth,
 for by the breath of your mouth
 you have spoken your word,
 and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
 and placed us in the garden of your delight.
 Though we chose the path of rebellion
 you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
 You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets
 to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
 we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
 evermore praising you and singing:

Paul Inwood

(Organ introduction)

Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might:

heav - en and earth, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry, your

pow'r and might. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -

san - na in the high - est heav'ns. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est heav'ns.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn, likely 'Hosanna in the Highest'. It consists of six staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff is labeled '(Organ)' and contains the instrumental introduction. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking at the end of the sixth staff. The lyrics are: 'Bless - ed, bless - ed is he - who comes, bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes; bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est heav'ns. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est heav'ns!'.

(Organ) Bless - ed, bless - ed is
 he - who comes, bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes;
 bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -
 san - na in the high - est heav'ns. Ho - san - na, ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est heav'ns!

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
 enthroned in splendour and light,
 yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
 you reveal the power of your love
 made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,
 Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
 loving us to the end,
 he gave himself to death for us;
 dying for his own,
 he set us free from the bonds of sin,
 that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

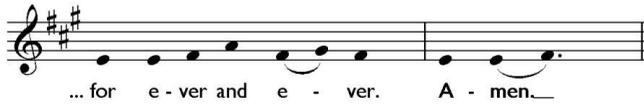
Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth, heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with Mary, Peter, Cedd and all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory by yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.



The Bishop and other ministers bow, and the congregation sits.

The Lord's Prayer

O Christ, remember us in your kingdom,
and teach us to pray:

All

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Giving of Communion

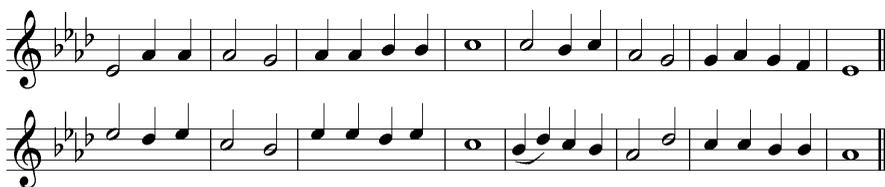
The Bishop says

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Bishop and people receive communion. There are standing stations for communion around the Cathedral – Christians of all traditions are very welcome to receive communion here at Chelmsford Cathedral. If you simply want to receive a blessing, please come to the one of the clergy and keep your head bowed.

During the distribution of communion these hymns may be sung



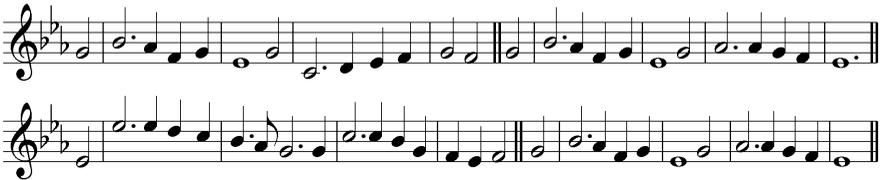
**Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast,
body of Christ, be thou my saving guest,
blood of my Saviour, bathe me in the tide,
wash me with water flowing from thy side.**

**Strength and protection may thy passion be,
O blessèd Jesu, hear and answer me;
deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me,
so shall I never, never part from thee.**

**Guard and defend me from the foe malign,
in death's dread moments make me only thine;
call me and bid me come to thee on high
where I may praise thee with thy saints for ay.**

Words: Latin, 14th c, tr Anon.

Tune: Anima Christi



**Sweet sacrament divine,
hid in thine earthly home,
Lo, round thy lowly shrine,
with suppliant hearts we come;
Jesu, to thee our hearts we raise
in songs of love and heartfelt praise:
sweet sacrament divine.**

**Sweet sacrament of peace,
dear home for every heart,
where restless yearnings cease
and sorrows all depart;
there in thine ear all trustfully
we tell our tale of misery:
sweet sacrament of peace.**

**Sweet sacrament of rest,
ark from the ocean's roar,
within thy shelter blest
soon may we reach the shore;
save us, for still the tempest raves,
save, lest we sink beneath the waves:
sweet sacrament of rest.**

**Sweet sacrament divine,
earth's light and jubilee,
in thy far depths doth shine
the Godhead's majesty;
sweet light, so shine on us, we pray
that earthly joys may fade away:
sweet sacrament divine.**

Words: Francis Stanfield (1835-1914)

Tune: Divine Mysteries

Anthem

The choir sings

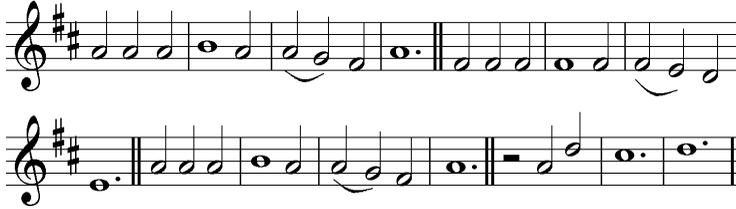
*Ave Maria, gratia plena; Dominus tecum: benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Amen.*

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Thou art blessed among women,
and blessed is Jesus, the fruit of thy womb. Amen.

Words: Luke 1.28

Music: Robert Parsons (c.1543-1623)

Hymn



The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung. *Alleluia!*

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst. *Alleluia!*

On the third morn he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain. *Alleluia!*

He brake the age-bound chains of hell;
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumph tell. *Alleluia!*

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee. *Alleluia!*

Words: Latin 17th century tr. Francis Pott (1832-1909)

Tune: Victory

Prayer after Communion

The Bishop says Let us pray. The congregation remains for a short time in silent prayer, after which the Bishop says the Post Communion Prayer.

O gracious and holy Father,
give us wisdom to perceive you,
diligence to seek you,
patience to wait for you,
eyes to behold you,
a heart to meditate upon you,
and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the Spirit
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

(Benedict of Nursia)

All **You have opened to us the Scriptures, O Christ,
and you have made yourself known
in the breaking of the bread.
Abide with us, we pray,
that, blessed by your royal presence,
we may walk with you all the days of our life,
and at its end behold you
in the glory of the eternal Trinity,
one God for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Please stand.

Hymn



**Stand up, stand up, for Jesus,
ye soldiers of the cross;
lift high his royal banner,
it must not suffer loss:
from victory unto victory
his army shall he lead,
till every foe is vanquished
and Christ is Lord indeed.**

**Stand up, stand up, for Jesus;
the trumpet call obey;
forth to the mighty conflict
in this his glorious day:
ye that are men now serve him
against unnumbered foes;
let courage rise with danger,
and strength to strength oppose.**

**Stand up, stand up, for Jesus;
stand in his strength alone;
the arm of flesh will fail you,
ye dare not trust your own:
put on the Gospel armor,
and watching unto prayer,
when duty calls, or danger,
be never wanting there.**

**Stand up, stand up, for Jesus;
the strife will not be long:
this day, the noise of battle;
the next, the victor's song.
To him that overcometh
a crown of life shall be;
he with the King of glory
shall reign eternally.**

Words: George Duffield (1818-1888)

Tune: Morning Light

¶ The Prayers at the Coffin

Please remain standing.

The Commendation

The Bishop of Chelmsford leads the prayers of Commendation

Let us commend Simon to the mercy of God,
our maker and redeemer.

God our creator and redeemer,
by your power Christ conquered death
and entered into glory.
Confident of his victory and claiming his promises,
we entrust Simon to your mercy in the name of Jesus our Lord,
who died and is alive and reigns with you,
now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Rt Revd Christopher Foster, Bishop of Portsmouth and Simon's training incumbent, reads Revelation 21.1 – 7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then 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 as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.”

Bishop Christopher says

Simon,
may Christ give you rest in the land of the living
and open for you the gates of paradise;
may he receive you as a citizen of the kingdom,
and grant you forgiveness of your sins:
for you were his friend.

The symbols of Simon's priestly ministry are removed and the coffin sprinkled with the water of baptism as the members of the ministry team gather round the coffin to sing the Benedictus, the canticle Simon has sung with them day by day at Morning Prayer.

The Benedictus

In your unfailing love, O Lord,
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, •
who has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, •
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets God promised of old •
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us.
To show mercy to our ancestors, •
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: •
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, •
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, •
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation •
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God •
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, •
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68–79

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

In your unfailing love, O Lord,
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.

The Farewell

The Bishop of Chelmsford says

Go forth upon your journey from this world, O Christian soul,
in the name of God the almighty Father who created you;
in the name of Jesus Christ, his Son,
who suffered and rose again to save you;
in the name of the Holy Spirit
who strengthens and sustains you;
may the prayers of Mary, Peter, Cedd and all the saints help you;
may the angels of God come around you to protect you
as you set forth on your way.
May your portion this day be peace,
and your dwelling in Paradise.

All **Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis

The coffin is borne from the Cathedral as the choir sings

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation :
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Words: Luke 2.29-32

Music: Hylton Stewart in C

Organ Voluntary: Adagio by Frank Bridge.

Retiring Collection

there is a retiring collection at the end of this celebration.

Donations in thanksgiving for Simon's life will be shared between the National Autistic Society, Epilepsy Action and Farleigh Hospice. If you are a taxpayer, please use the Gift Aid envelopes, filling in the details on the outside.

Refreshments are served in the North Transept after the service.

Please take this order of service with you and continue to give thanks for Simon and pray for Deb and the whole family.



visit us at
www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk