

A SERVICE IN MEMORY OF  
**ROBERT JOHN RICE**

7 July 1971 – 26 February 2026



All Saints' Church  
Kingston upon Thames  
Thursday 23 April 2026, 2.30 p.m.

**Music before the service:**

Prelude and Fugue in C, BWV 545 (RQ) J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

A Fantazia of Foure Parts (MS) Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

*Master Tallis's Testament* (WV) Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

**Please keep noise to a minimum during the organ music**

**Clergy**

Revd Joe Moffatt, Vicar

Revd Peter McGeary

Revd Dan Sladden

**Organists**

Richard Pearce

Robert Quinney

Mark Shepherd

William Vann

**Conductors**

David Condry, Director of Music

Ralph Allwood MBE

Aidan Oliver

Jeremy Summerly

**Photo credits**

Front: Ben McKee

Back: Hermione Ruck Keene and family members

## HYMN at the entry of the clergy

All my hope on God is founded;  
He doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
Only good and only true.  
God unknown, He alone  
Calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,  
Sword and crown betray his trust;  
What with care and toil he buildeth,  
Tower and temple, fall to dust  
But God's power, hour by hour,  
Is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,  
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
Splendour, light and life attend him,  
Beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore from His store  
New-born worlds rise and adore.

Still from man to God eternal  
Sacrifice of praise be done,  
High above all praises praising  
For the gift of Christ His Son.  
Christ doth call one and all:  
Ye who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges (1844-1930)  
*after Joachim Neander (1650-80)*

*Michael* (Herbert Howells, 1892-1983)

## Welcome and Bidding

Revd Joe Moffatt

concluding with the Lord's Prayer, said by all:

**Our Father, which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses; as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

The Choir (dir. AO) sings

A Prayer of King Henry VI

*Domine, Jesu Christe,  
Qui me creasti, redemisti,  
Et preordinasti ad hoc quod sum;*

*Tu scis quid de me facere vis;*

*Fac de me secundum voluntatem tuam  
cum misericordia, Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Who hast created and redeemed me  
And hast foreordained me unto that  
which now I am;  
Thou knowest what thou wouldst do  
with me;  
Do with me according to thy will,  
in thy mercy, Amen.

Henry G. Ley (1887-1962)

Jonathan Wix reads

Within King's College Chapel, Cambridge

Tax not the royal Saint with vain expense,  
With ill-matched aims the architect who planned  
    (Albeit labouring for a scanty band  
    Of white-robed scholars only) this immense  
    And glorious work of fine intelligence!  
- Give all thou canst; high heaven rejects the lore  
    Of nicely-calculated less or more: -  
So deemed the man who fashioned for the sense  
    These lofty pillars, spread that branching roof  
    Self-poised, and scooped into ten thousand cells  
Where light and shade repose, where music dwells  
    Lingering - and wandering on as loath to die;  
Like thoughts whose very sweetness yieldeth proof  
    That they were born for immortality.

*William Wordsworth (1770-23.iv.1850)*

## Eulogy I

Nicholas Harries

The Choir (dir. RA) 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, but one equal music;  
no fears or hopes, but one equal possession;  
no ends or beginnings, but one equal eternity,  
in the habitations of thy glory and dominion,  
world without end. Amen.

John Donne (1572-1631)

William H. Harris (1883-1973)

Robert Huber reads

### Mondnacht

*Es war, als hätt' der Himmel  
Die Erde still geküßt,  
Daß sie im Blütenschimmer  
Von ihm nun träumen müßt'.*

It was as though Heaven  
Had softly kissed the Earth,  
So that she in a gleam of blossom  
Had now to dream of him.

*Die Luft ging durch die Felder,  
Die Ähren wogten sacht,  
Es rauschten leis' die Wälder,  
So sternklar war die Nacht.*

The breeze passed through the fields,  
The corn swayed gently to and fro,  
The forests murmured softly,  
The night was so clear with stars.

*Und meine Seele spannte  
Weit ihre Flügel aus,  
Flog durch die stillen Lande,  
Als flöge sie nach Haus.*

And my soul spread  
Its wings out wide,  
Flew across the silent land,  
As though flying home.

Josef Freiherr von Eichendorff (1788-1857)  
tr. Richard Stokes, from *The Book of Lieder* (London, 2005)

The Choir (dir. JS) sings

*Komm, Jesu, komm, mein Leib ist müde:  
die Kraft verschwindt je mehr und mehr.  
Ich sehne mich nach deinem Friede;  
Der saure Weg wird mir zu schwer!*

Come, Jesu, come, my body is weary,  
my strength is fading more and more.  
I long for thy peace;  
the thorny path is too hard for me!

*Komm, komm, ich will mich dir ergeben;  
Du bist der rechte Weg, die Wahrheit und das  
Leben.*

Come, come, I will yield myself to thee;  
Thou art the way, the truth and the life.

*Drum schließ ich mich in deine Hände  
Und sage, Welt, zu guter Nacht!  
Eilt gleich mein Lebenslauf zu Ende,  
Ist doch der Geist wohl angebracht.  
Er soll bei seinem Schöpfer schweben,  
Weil Jesus ist und bleibt der wahre Weg zum  
Leben.*

So I give myself into thy hands,  
and bid goodnight to you, O world!  
Though the course of my life hastens to  
its end, the spirit is truly ready.  
Let it dwell with its creator,  
since Jesus is and ever shall be the true  
way to life.

Paul Thymich (1656-1694)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Hermione Ruck Keene reads

It may seem to many, that every perfect Singer must also be a perfect Instructor, but it is not so; for his Qualifications (though ever so great) are insufficient, if he cannot communicate his Sentiments with Ease, and in a Method adapted to the Ability of the Scholar; if he has not some Notion of Composition, and a manner of instructing, which may seem rather an Entertainment than a Lesson; with the happy Talent to shew the Ability of the Singer to Advantage, and conceal his Imperfections which are the principal and most necessary Instructions.

A Master, that is possessed of the above-mentioned Qualifications, is capable of Teaching; with them he will raise a Desire to study; will correct Errors with a Reason; and by Examples incite a Taste to imitate him.

Pier Francesco Tosi, tr. Mr [John Ernest] Galliard, *Observations on the Florid Song; or, Sentiments on the Ancient and Modern Singers* (Bologna, 1723/London, 1743)

## Eulogy II

John Bowley

### HYMN

during verses 3 & 4 of which congregational singers proceed to the stalls

Thy hand, O God, has guided  
thy flock, from age to age;  
the wondrous tale is written,  
full clear, on every page;  
our fathers owned thy goodness,  
and we their deeds record;  
and both of this bear witness:  
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings  
to greatest, as to least;  
they bade men rise, and hasten  
to share the great King's feast;  
and this was all their teaching,  
in every deed and word,  
to all alike proclaiming  
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Through many a day of darkness,  
through many a scene of strife,  
the faithful few fought bravely,  
to guard the nation's life.  
Their Gospel of redemption,  
sin pardoned, man restored,  
was all in this enfolded:  
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?  
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?  
Shall we evade the conflict,  
and cast away our crown?  
Not so: in God's deep counsels  
some better thing is stored;  
we will maintain, unflinching,  
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Thy mercy will not fail us,  
nor leave thy work undone;  
with thy right hand to help us,  
the victory shall be won;  
and then, by men and angels,  
thy name shall be adored,  
and this shall be their anthem:  
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Edward Plumptre (1821-91)

*Thornbury* (Basil Harwood, 1859-1949)  
descant by RJR on themes by Wagner,  
written for the wedding of SJR and FAR, 11 Sep 2010

### **Prayers**

with Amens sung by all who wish (please see congregational music booklet)

O God our Father, we thank thee that thou hast made us in thine own image, and given us the means by which to serve thee. We thank thee for the life of our brother Robert; for the years we shared with him; for the good we found in him; and the love we received from him. Give us now the strength and courage to leave him in thy care, confident in thy promise of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

O God, whose compassions fail not, and whose mercies are new every morning; look with pity upon all who mourn, and in the midst of our grief uphold us by the hope of the resurrection, and strengthen us by thy grace to commend Robert to thy loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, we give thee hearty thanks for the life and witness of Robert, and for all the love and goodness shown through him to those around him; grant that, remembering him with gratitude, we may be stirred to live faithfully, and to walk in thy ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

**And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

## MOTET

sung by all who wish

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

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
The Lord is with thee;  
Blessed art thou amongst women,  
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
Jesus. Amen.

Robert Parsons (c1535-72)

## COMMENDATION AND BLESSING

*Rev'd Joe Moffatt*

Voluntary:

Fugue in E flat major BWV 552 (RP)

J. S. Bach

Refreshments will be served in the East End of the church

Berty's musical legacy is very widely available on Spotify and YouTube.

Some highlights:

Solos on the Polyphony recording of Peter Cornelius: *Die drei Könige* and *Die Vätergruft* (Hyperion CDA 67206): on Spotify

Auld Lang Syne arrangement, sung by the Rodolfus Choir (Spotify)

Nigel Osborne, *Differences in Demolitions* (extracts on YouTube)

Psalm 121 (Walford Davies) with St Paul's Cathedral (YouTube)

*Down by the Riverside*, arr. for the Kings Singers, on their 3CD 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary recording, 'Gold', and on YouTube

Another good performance of *Down by the Riverside*, by Male Ensemble Philippines (YouTube)

Carol arrangements performed by the Kings Singers on YouTube:

Frosty vs. Rudolph

It came upon the midnight clear

Ding dong, merrily on high

and close harmony:

Volare

Botany Bay

Suo Gân

not to mention about 40 recordings as a singer, including many with

Cardinall's Musick

Oxford Camerata

King's College, Cambridge

The Tallis Scholars

etc.,

and Elgar's *The Apostles* (Philharmonia Orch., Canterbury Choral Soc., dir Richard Cooke) Quartz 2CDs, still available

There will be a retiring collection for the provision of music at the church. Please place cash donations in the collection plates at each door or use the card reader terminals. Alternatively, you can make donations via the church website:

[www.allsaintskingston.co.uk](http://www.allsaintskingston.co.uk)

The Vicar and the Director of Music are very grateful for all donations received.

On Sunday 11 October, Felicity Rice, Eloise Irving, Nicholas Harries, and William Vann will run the Royal Parks Half-Marathon in Bertie's memory, and are raising funds for the charity MIND. If you would like to support them, please scan the

QR code below, or visit the website:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/team-berty>.



