



A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
FOR THE LIVES OF

Hilary Fernando

(1930-2004)



Dakshini Fernando

(1928-2024)



".... Lost in wonder, Love and Praise."

Friday 28th June 2024

6.00 p.m.

A prayer written by Dakshini on 20th February 1983:

My Life's Prayer

Lord, here am I.
I am but a flickering light.
Rekindle me and set me ablaze
for Thee.
Send me out to light other dark lives,
that, together we may be ablaze for Thee,
before, I burn out.
Thank you Jesus.



The Service is officiated by

The Right Reverend Dhiloraj Canagasabey
Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Colombo

The Venerable Perry Brohier
Vicar, St. Luke's, Borella

The Venerable Chrisantha Mendis
Former Archdeacon of Colombo

The Reverend Chintha Polgampola
Curate, St. Michael and All Angels, Polwatte

The Service is sung by
Members of the Choir of St. Michael and All Angels, Polwatte

The Organ is played by
Denham Pereira, Organist, St. Michael and All Angels, Polwatte

Please remain silent before the service begins

Music before the Service

<i>Fantasia in c BWV 562</i>	<i>J. S. Bach (1685–1750)</i>
<i>Prelude on 'Brother James' Air'</i>	<i>Searle Wright (1918–2000)</i>
<i>Nimrod, No. 9 from Enigma Variations</i>	<i>Sir Edward Elgar (1857–1932)</i>

Order of Service

*The congregation is asked to join in all text printed in **bold**.*

All stand as the clergy enter and take their place in the Sanctuary

All sing

Hymn

**Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme
too high doth seem
for mortal tongue.**

**Ye blessèd souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released,
behold the Saviour's face,
his praises sound,
as in his sight
with sweet delight
ye do abound.**

**Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
and praise him still,
through good and ill,
who ever lives.**

**My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love;
let all thy days
till life shall end,
whate'er he send,
be filled with praise.**

Words: Richard Baxter (1823–97)

Tune: DARWALL'S 148th
John Darwall (1872–1958)

Remain standing. The minister welcomes the congregation

Greeting

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

Dear friends, we are gathered together in this Church to remember before God the lives of Hilary and Dakshini Fernando; to give thanks for their lives and to remember their faith, generosity, kindness and loyalty.

We remember their love of their family and friends and give thanks for the many friends and colleagues they nurtured over the years.

Jesus, Son of David, whose holy house this is, taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for him. So let us pray first for those who need our prayers: for the lonely and the unloved, the lost and the powerless, the sick and the fearful, that they may know the love of God and feel the hand of friendship and support from those who, like Hilary and Dakshini, love others as God loves us.

Prayers of Penitence

As we acknowledge our human frailty,
we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission,
and confess them before God our Father.

Silence is kept

All sing

Lord, have mercy upon us

Christ, have mercy upon us

Lord, have mercy upon us

The Bishop Emeritus continues

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Remain standing. The celebrant says

Collect

O God of grace and glory,
we remember before you this day, Hilary and Dakshini.
We thank you for giving them to us, their family and friends,
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.

All sit

Tribute
given by
Changa Samaraweera
Cousin

Remain seated. Treshan Fernando, Grand-Nephew, reads

Reading

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans Chapter 8

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8. 31–39

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

**O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hands hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed;**

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;**

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim: “My God, how great thou art!”**

Words: Carl Gustav Boberg (1859-1940)

Tune: HOW GREAT THOU ART

Translated by: Stuart K. Hine (1899– 1989)

Stuart K. Hine

Remain standing. Anil Gunawardana, Nephew, reads

The Gospel

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
John Chapter 14

Glory be to Christ our Saviour

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14. 1–6

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to Christ our Lord.

Remain standing until invited to be seated

Homily

given by

Right Reverend Dhiloraj Canagasabey
Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Colombo

All kneel or remain seated

Prayers

led by

Kishani Seresinhe, close friend

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

The Greeting of Peace

Jesus says to his disciples,
‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you.
Let not your hearts be troubled or afraid.’
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

All exchange a sign of peace

Hymn

during which the Bread and Wine are placed on the Altar

**Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Virgin's Son,
the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won
which now his brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic Rose,
as of that Rose the Stem;
the Root whence mercy ever flows,
the Babe of Bethlehem.**

**Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds yet visible above
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise:
his reign shall know no end,
and round his piercèd feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.**

**Crown him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.**

Words: Matthew Bridges (1800–1894)

Tune: DIADEMATA
George Elvey (1816–93)

Remain standing as the celebrant dedicates the offerings

God of all goodness and grace,
receive the gifts we offer;
and grant that our whole life
may give you glory and praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Remain standing. The celebrant continues

The Eucharist Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.
When we turned away
you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.
**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the very night that he was betrayed
to suffer death upon the cross for us,
the Lord Jesus took bread
and when he had given thanks to you almighty Father,
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 manner, after supper he took the cup also,
and after giving thanks, he gave it to them saying:
Drink, all of you, from this,
for this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is poured out for many
and for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

All sing

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Breaking of the Bread

The bread which we break
is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

**We being many are one bread,
one body for we all partake of the one bread**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

All kneel and silence is kept

All sing

**O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

The celebrant invites the people to receive the Holy Communion, saying

Draw near with faith and take this holy sacrament to your comfort
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

All sit

Members of the congregation are welcome to move forward to receive communion.

Remain seated to sing

Hymn

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.*

**Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours,
he made their tiny wings:**

**The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky:**

**The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one:**

**He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God almighty,
who has made all things well:**

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–95)

Tune: ALL THINGS BRIGHT
William Monk (1823–89)

All kneel or remain seated as the minister says,

Prayer after Communion

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious
God's mercy endures forever.

We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples.
Amen.

Thanksgiving for the lives of Hilary and Dakshini Fernando

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us all with the gift of this earthly life
and has given to our brother and sister, Hilary and Dakshini
their span of years and gifts of character.
God our Father, we thank you now for their lives,
for every memory of love and joy,
for every good deed done by them
and every sorrow shared with us.
We thank you for their life and for their death,
we thank you for the rest in Christ they now enjoy,
we thank you for giving them to us,
we thank you for the glory we shall share together.
Hear our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All stand to sing

Hymn

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:**

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:**

Words: Edmond Budry (1854–1932)

Tune: MACCABEUS
George Handel (1650–1759)

Remain standing. The Bishop Emeritus gives

The Blessing

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Remain standing as the clergy move out of the Sanctuary and move to the vestry then sit.

*Members of the congregation are all invited to a time of fellowship
and refreshments. Please follow the family to the Parish Hall.*

We greatly appreciate your presence today, and thank you for sharing
with us this evening of remembrance, praise and thanksgiving.

Family of Hilary & Dakshini Fernando

A selection of treasured poems of Dakshini's

Life is but a stopping place
A pause in what's to be
A resting place along the road
To sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn some things,
But never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place
Far greater than we know.
For some, the journey's quicker,
For some the journey's slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward
And find an everlasting peace,
In the new life beyond.

Anonymous

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following paths God made for me
I took his hand I heard him call
Then turned, and bid farewell to all
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to sing, to play
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found my peace... at close of play
And if my parting left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened... deep with sorrow
I wish you sunshine of tomorrow
My life's been full I've savoured much
Good friends, good times
A loved one's touch
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with grief
Lift up your hearts and share with me,
God wants me now... He set me free.

Anonymous



Faithful Lord, lift us up when we are down. Watch over us and keep us safe.