

Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Kidlington

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023 - 11:00 am

**A celebration and thanksgiving for the life of**

**Martin Davis**



**Priest, Husband, Father, Grampy,  
Son, Brother, Friend**

*22<sup>nd</sup> April 1959 – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2023*

Service led by the Reverend Luci Morriss



## **Entrance Music**

*There is a Kingdom – Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds  
(Congregation to stand at the beginning of the second verse  
“The starry heavens above me”)*

## **Welcome and Introduction**

*Luci Morriss*

## **Hymn**

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet your tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
evermore his praises sing.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to his people in distress.  
Praise him, still the same as ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!

Fatherlike he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows.  
In his hand he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him;  
you behold him face to face.  
Sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

*Henry Francis Lyte, 1834*

### **Reading**

*Bright Field, read by Jane Foster*

I have seen the sun break through  
to illuminate a small field  
for a while, and gone my way  
and forgotten it. But that was the  
pearl of great price, the one field that had  
treasure in it. I realise now  
that I must give all that I have  
to possess it. Life is not hurrying  
on to a receding future, nor hankering after  
an imagined past. It is the turning  
aside like Moses to the miracle  
of the lit bush, to a brightness  
that seemed as transitory as your youth  
once, but is the eternity that awaits you.

*RS Thomas, 1975*

## **Tributes**

*Diana Davis*

*Joel Kelling, Paul Davis & Adam Davis*

## **Song**

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son  
Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us"  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us"

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son  
Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
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And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us"  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us"  
Give thanks

*Henry Smith, 1978*

### **Tributes (continued)**

*Alistair Duncan*

#### **Reading**

*Matthew 11:27-30, read by the Reverend Susy Brouard*

Jesus resumed talking to the people, but now tenderly...

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

## **Address**

*The Right Reverend Dr Steven Croft*

## **Prayers**

*Led by Andrew Westerman and Margaret Day leading into a time of music (Spiegel im Spiegel – Arvo Pärt) and reflection*

*The prayers will conclude with us saying the Lord's Prayer together:*

**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 for ever.  
Amen.**

## 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:

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

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:

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

*Edmond Budry 1884 (translated by Richard Birch Hoyle 1923)*

## Commendation

*The Reverend Luci Morriss*



**Blessing**

*The Right Reverend Dr Steven Croft*

**Exit Music**

*Forever Young, Bob Dylan*

All are invited to a time of food, fellowship and remembering will take place from 12:30 at St John the Baptist Hall Church, Kidlington, OX5 1DD

All mankind is of one author, and is one volume; when one man dies, one chapter is not torn out of the book, but translated into a better language; and every chapter must be so translated; God employs several translators; some pieces are translated by age, some by sickness, some by war, some by justice; but God's hand is in every translation, and his hand shall bind up all our scattered leaves again, for that library where every book shall lie open to one another.

*John Donne,  
Meditation XVII – Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions, 1624*





If you would like to make a donation, the retiring collection will be for the following causes which were close to Martin - Asylum Welcome and the Community Garden at St. John's ('Martin's Garden').

Or, you can give directly to [www.asylum-welcome.org/donate](http://www.asylum-welcome.org/donate) and [www.justgiving.com/page/martins-garden-kidlington](http://www.justgiving.com/page/martins-garden-kidlington)