

Funeral Service of
Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Rev. Alex Muir M.A., B.D.
26th December 1940 ~ 15th March 2010



Tuesday 23rd March 2010
at 11.45am
Dalneigh Parish Church of Scotland,
Inverness

Officiating Minister:

Rev. Fergus Robertson

Assisted by:

Rev. Dr. D. Cameron McPherson

Rev. Alastair C. Keddie

Mr. Ross MacAskill

Organist:

Mr. Gordon Tocher

Soloist:

Mrs. Eleanor Tweedie

Duet / Guitars:

Mr. Cathel Innes and

Mr. Kenny MacKenzie

Bagpipes:

Mr. Donald Lindsay and

Mr. Andrew MacLennan

Order of Service

Organ Recital as Congregation arrives

A Medley of Mozart

Mr. Gordon Tocher

Call to Worship

Rev. Fergus Robertson

Congregational Singing

Psalm 63: 1-8

Tune "Bays of Harris", Alex Muir, 1986
(*Organist plays melody through once*)

O God, I have no God but You,
I seek You earnestly:
In this parched land for You I thirst,
My soul cries longingly -

To see again Your heavenly power
The glory of Your face,
As I have seen You, gracious Lord,
Within Your Holy Place.

Because Your love is more than life
My praise to You I'll give,
And in Your name I'll lift my hands:
I'll bless You while I live.

My soul will be well-satisfied
As with the richest food;
With joyful lips I'll sing your praise
For You, O Lord, are good.

Upon my bed I think of You
Through watches of the night,
All that You've been to me, O God,
Recalling with delight.

Since You have always been my help
Beneath Your wings I'll sing:
Your right hand ever holds me up,
To you my soul will cling.

*Alex Muir, 2005: a modern version of the Psalm, from the Scottish Psalter
and the New International Version of the Bible*

Prayer of Intercession

Rev. Fergus Robertson

Old Testament Reading

Mr. Ross MacAskill

Genesis 1: 1 - 10 (*New International Version*)

The Beginning

1. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. 3. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4. God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness. 5. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day. 6. And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." 7. So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. 8. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. 9. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. 10. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

Gospel Hymn: Solo
Mrs. Eleanor Tweedie

“Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”
Redemption Songs 390, by Fanny Crosby, c.1868

Jesus, keep me near the cross;
there a precious fountain,
free to all, a healing stream,
flows from Calvary's mountain.

*In the cross, in the cross,
be my glory ever,
till my raptured soul shall find
rest beyond the river.*

Near the cross, a trembling soul,
love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star
sheds its beams around me.

In the cross ...

Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day
with its shadow o'er me.

In the cross...

Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river.

In the cross...

Eulogy and Remembrance Address

Rev. Dr. D. Cameron McPherson

Congregational Singing

Psalm 67: “O God be merciful to us”

Tune: “Canisbay”, Alex Muir, 1985

(Organist play melody through once)

O God, be merciful to us,
In love Your people bless,
And shine upon us graciously
The brightness of Your face:

So may Your wondrous ways, O Lord,
In all the earth be known,
And to the nations of the world
Your saving grace be shown.

O may the peoples praise You, Lord,
May all the peoples praise,
The nations all be glad in You,
And sing for joy always.

For You will rightly judge and guide
The nations everywhere
And all the peoples come to You
In worship and in prayer.

Then will the land its harvest yield,
Our God will bless us all;
The whole earth will revere our God
And on his name will call.

O God, be merciful to us,
In love Your people bless,
And shine upon us graciously
The brightness of Your face:

*Alex Muir, 2007: a modern version of the Psalm, from the Scottish Psalter
and the New International Version of the Bible*

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Rev. Alastair C. Keddie

New Testament Reading
Mr. Ross MacAskill
Revelation 21: 1 - 7 (*New International Version*)

The New Jerusalem

1. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." 5. He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6. He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. 7. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

Revival Hymns: Duet

Mr. Cathel Innes and Mr. Kenny MacKenzie

Whose Lips Will Plead?

By Alex Muir, 1986

O' whose lips will plead for the people of Scotland ?
Who'll stand in the gap and who'll build up the wall?
Before the long day of God's patience is over
Before the night comes, when His judgment will fall?

O' whose eyes will weep for the dry eyes of Scotland?
Whose heart will break for the hearts made of stone?
For those who are walking out into the darkness
Away from God's love, without Christ, so alone?

And whose ears can hear what the Spirit is saying?
For those who are willing to watch and pray?
Pray on till God's light fills the skies over Scotland
The light of revival, that brings a new day.

Come With Me And Follow Him

By Alex Muir, 1986

Come with me and follow Him,
Come with me and follow Jesus;
He is waiting to forgive,
From sin's burden He releases.

Why do you ignore his love?
Why do you hold back and doubt Him?
There's no life in heaven above
Or true joy on earth without Him.

Don't you hear the Spirit's voice?
Don't you hear the Saviour calling?
He will save your soul from death,
He will keep your feet from falling.

He will wipe away your tears,
Give your heart a song at midnight,
And He'll lead you by the hand
Into everlasting sunlight.

Come with me and follow Him,
Come with me and follow Jesus;
He alone can give us peace,
He alone has power to save us.

Sermon: "New Beginnings"

Rev. Fergus Robertson

Final Congregational Singing

Accompanied by Mr. Cathel Innes and Mr. Kenny MacKenzie on Guitar

"God Has Given Us a Dream"

By Alex Muir, 1985

God has given us a dream
Of a glorious day to come
When the light of Christ will shine on every hand:
He'll fulfil our heart's desire
When He sends the heavenly fire
That will sweep in flames of glory o'er the land.

Now we pray with all our hearts
For the blessing that imparts
To the seeking souls the truth of God's own word;
And that even those whose minds
Seem so closed and numb and blind
Will at last behold the glory of the Lord.

Glory, glory to the Lamb!
Hallelujah! Praise His Name!
May His kingdom and His power now expand.
May our people bow the knee
To the Christ of Calvary
And the praises of our Saviour fill the land!

*Invitation to Graveside Service followed by
luncheon and fellowship at the Lochardil House Hotel*
Rev. Fergus Robertson

Closing Prayer and Benediction
Rev. Fergus Robertson

*Medley of Alex Muir's Bagpipe Tunes as
Congregation leaves building*
Piper Donald Lindsay
Piper Andrew MacLennan

Bagpipe Tunes will include:

Duncansby Head

Castle of Mey

Bays of Harris

(Parts 1 and 2, Double Common Meter)

Donations, if desired, to
Highland Hospice (Charity No: SC011227) /
Macmillan Cancer Support (Charity No: SC039907)
may be given at the Church door.

The family thank you for your attendance and warmly invites everyone to join them for refreshments and a light lunch at the Lochardil House Hotel, Stratherrick Road, Inverness IV2 4LF, following this Service / Interment at Kilvean Cemetery, Kilvean Road, Inverness IV3 8JN.

D. Chisholm & Sons

—— INVERNESS ——

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