

A Celebration of the Life of  
ANTHONY WALTER WHITE

*'Tony'*

*16th April 1938—5th December 2023*



Monday 11th December

St Mark's Anglican Church, Casino

Celebrant—The Reverend Canon Sally Miller

# THE PLACING OF THE CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

## **a The candle**

Light immortal,  
you brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.  
May we, with Tony and all the baptised,  
know the full light of your risen presence. Amen.

## **b Water**

In the waters of baptism we died with Christ,  
and began to walk in newness of life.  
May we, with Tony and all the baptised,  
be brought to the fulfilment of your eternal kingdom. Amen.

## **c The Scriptures**

In life Tony was nourished by the word of God.  
May Christ greet us, with Tony, saying:  
Come, blessed of my Father! Amen.

## **d The cross**

Lord Jesus Christ, you bore our sins on the cross.  
May this cross be a sign to us of your love for Tony  
and the forgiveness of his sins. Amen.

# **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

*We sing together:*

**Come as you are, that's how I want you;**

**Come as you are, feel quite at home.**

**Close to my heart, loved and forgiven;**

**Come as you are, why stand alone?**

**No need to fear, love sets no limits;**

**No need to fear, love never ends.**

**Don't run away, shamed and disheartened;**

**Rest in my love, trust me again.**

**I came to call sinners, not just the righteous;**

**I came to bring peace, not to condemn.**

**Each time you fail to live by my promise,**

**Why do you think I'd love you the less?**

**Come as you are, that's how I love you;**

**Come as you are, trust me again.**

**Nothing can change, the love that I bear you;**

**All will be well, just come as you are.**

*We pray together:*

**Loving God, you alone are the source of life.  
May your life-giving Spirit flow through us,  
and fill us with compassion, one for another.  
In our sorrow give us the calm of your peace.  
Kindle our hope, and let our grief give way to joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

A reading from the second letter to Timothy, chapter 4  
beginning at the 6<sup>th</sup> verse:

For I am already on the point of being sacrificed;  
the time of my departure has come. I have fought the  
good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the  
faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of  
righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge,  
will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but  
also to all who have loved his appearing.

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

A reading from the Book of Revelation, chapter 14 verse 13:

And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this:  
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth."  
"Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest  
from their labours, for their deeds follow them!"

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, chapter 6 beginning at the 37<sup>th</sup> verse.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

All that the Father gives me will come to me; and him who comes to me I will not cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me; and this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up at the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that every one who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

For the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **THE EULOGY**

Family members share some stories of Tony's life.

The RSL Tribute

The Legacy Tribute.

*As we sit with our own memories of Tony, we watch a visual presentation of his life.*

**THE HOMILY – Reverend Canon Sally Miller**

*We sing together:*

1. **I will be Yahweh who walks with you.  
You will be always within my hand.  
Take your heart and give it all to me.  
Strong and constant is my love!  
Strong and constant is my love!**
  
2. **Should you wander far away from me,  
I will search for you in ev'ry land!  
Should you call, then you will truly know:  
Strong and constant is my love!  
Strong and constant is my love!**
  
3. **When you know sorrow within your life,  
I will come, I will embrace your heart!  
Through your pain you will discover me!  
Strong and constant is my love!  
Strong and constant is my love!**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Let us pray with confidence to God our Father,  
who raised Jesus Christ from the dead for the salvation of all.

God our Creator,

we pray for the family and friends of Tony,  
praying particularly today for Frances, Erin, Laura,  
Stephen, Charlotte and Benjamin  
that they may know the comfort of your love.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray that you will use us  
as bearers of your love,  
to support them in their grief.  
We also remember before you  
all who mourn and all who suffer.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Give us patience and faith  
in this time of our loss,  
so that we may come to understand  
the wonder of your mercy,  
and the mystery of your love.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Increase our faith and trust  
in your Son, Jesus Christ,  
that we may live victoriously.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Give us such a vision of your purpose,  
and such an assurance of your love and power,  
that we may ever hold fast the hope  
which is in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We praise you, Lord God, for your faithful servants  
in every age. We give thanks for those who have gone  
before us thinking especially today of Tony's parents,  
Norman and Jean, and his sisters Bobby and Dai.  
May we, with Tony, and all who have died in the faith of  
Christ, be brought to a joyful resurrection  
and the fulfilment of your eternal kingdom.

**Amen.**

## THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*We sing together:*

1. **O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand has made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power through out 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!*

2. **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:**

*Then sings my soul...*

3. **But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die – I scarce can take it in  
that on the cross, our burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away our sin:**

*Then sings my soul...*



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

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, gracious God,  
creator of heaven and earth,  
giver of life, and conqueror of death.  
By his death on the cross,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
offered the one true sacrifice for sin,  
breaking the power of evil  
and putting death to flight.  
With all your saints  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through his resurrection from the dead  
you have given us new birth into a living hope,  
into an inheritance which is imperishable,  
undefiled, and unfading.

With all your saints  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

The joy of resurrection fills the universe,  
and so we join with angels and archangels,  
with Tony and all your faithful people,  
evermore praising you and saying,  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**  
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

**[Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.]**

Merciful God, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.  
On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'  
After supper, he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.'

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.

The priest and other communicants receive the Sacrament.

## THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life and death,  
we thank you that in your great love  
you have given us this foretaste of the heavenly banquet  
prepared for all your saints.  
Grant that this sacrament of Christ's death may be to us  
a comfort in affliction,  
a firm assurance of his resurrection,

and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom  
where death and sorrow are no more,  
but all things are made new. Amen.

## THE FAREWELL

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you gave new birth to our brother Tony  
by water and the Spirit.  
Grant that his death may recall to us  
your victory over death,  
and be an occasion for us  
to renew our trust in your Father's love.  
Give us, we pray, the faith to follow  
where you have led the way,  
to live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

Let us entrust our brother Tony to the mercy of God.

**Holy and loving Father,**  
**by your mighty power you gave us life,**  
**and in your love you have given us new life**  
**in Christ Jesus.**

**We entrust Tony to your merciful keeping:**  
**in the faith of Jesus Christ,**  
**who died and rose again to save us,**  
**and now lives and reigns with you**  
**and the Holy Spirit**  
**in glory forever. Amen.**

## THE COMMITTAL

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
you have given us a sure and certain hope  
of the resurrection to eternal life.

In your keeping are all who have departed in Christ.  
We here commit the body of our dear brother Tony  
to be cremated,  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who died, and was buried, and rose again for us,  
and who shall change our mortal body  
that it may be like his glorious body.

**Thanks be to God who gives us the victory  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

God give to you and all whom you love  
comfort and peace,  
light and joy,  
in this world and the next;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you, and remain with you this day and forever. **Amen**



### **Life is Eternal: The Ship**

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship, at my side, spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says, "There, she is gone."

Gone where?

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast, hull and spar as she was when she left my side. And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port. Her diminished size is in me -- not in her. And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone," there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"

The ship that passes over the horizon is lost to our sight. But still it goes on; it continues to its destination and a safe harbour at last. Beyond the horizon are other words that welcome the traveller. We live with the conviction or struggle with the hope that life itself is an horizon, and our journey goes beyond it not to darkness but to life

*Thank you for your presence here today,  
and your love and support at this time.  
Please join us at The Commercial Hotel  
to continue sharing memories of Tony over afternoon tea*