

Thanksgiving Service
to celebrate the life and witness of
Sylvia 'Anne' Martin
7 April 1943 – 4 July 2025



Friday 18th July – 11am



Welcome to St Andrew's
*Please join us in singing the hymns
and saying those parts of the service printed in **bold** type.*

Welcome

Reverend Ian Morrison, Vicar

Opening prayer

Reverend Clem Taplin

Grace and peace from the Lord be with you

And also with you.

please be seated

We have come together
to thank God for the life of Anne,
to celebrate her life,
to mourn and honour her,
to lay to rest her mortal body
and to comfort one another in our sadness.

We face the certainty of our own death and judgment.
Yet Christians believe that those who die in Christ
share eternal life with him.
Therefore, in faith and hope we turn to God,
who created and sustains us all.

In a time of silence,
let us make our personal thanksgiving to God
for all that Anne has meant to us

silence

For her life and memories, we give thanks.
Lord our God, we praise your name
for all who have finished this life loving and trusting you,
for the example of their lives,
the life and grace you gave them
and the peace in which they rest.

We praise you today for your servant Anne
and for all you did through her

**Meet us in our sadness
and fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving,
for the sake of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

please stand

Hymn

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.

please be seated

Words: John L Bell 1949;
Tune: KELVINGROVE;
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St Paul, in writing to the Christian community at Rome encourages them with these words:

‘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 8.38-39

Placing of Christian Symbols

Reverend Ken Parker

Christian symbols are placed near the coffin by members of Anne’s family.

A Candle – the risen Christ

Lord Jesus, light of the world, you are the morning star. Now that the night of this world is past, bring Anne into the light of life and open to her everlasting day. **Amen.**

Water (poured into a bowl) – Baptism

Lord Jesus, living water, you share your life with us. As Anne was baptised, so now bring her safely through the deep waters of death, to be raised to new life in triumph. **Amen.**

Anne’s Bible and Prayer Book – the Word of God

Anne was nourished in life by her response to your gospel, may she now hear you greet her saying ‘Come blessed of my Father!’ **Amen.**

Anne’s Sheet music ‘Moonlight Sonata’ – Beethoven

Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. As Anne found solace in your gift of music, may the music today bring solace to those who mourn her death. **Amen.**

Anne’s Certificate and graduation regalia – in recognition of her service to teaching and Scotch College.

Lord God, you made us in your own image and gave us individual gifts with which to serve you. Thank you for Anne’s service as an educator for others.

Music for Reflection

'Pie Jesu' from *Requiem* – Gabriel Fauré 1845–1924)
sung by Katherine Norman
accompanied by Dr Calvin Bowman

Personal Reflections

Sue Cole
lifelong friend

Donna Del Porto
friend and colleague

Family Tribute

Emily Martin
daughter

Music for Reflection

Oblivion –
Astor Piazzolla 1921-1992

Reading

A reading from St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians,
read by the Reverend Ron Browning.

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now, we see

in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. (1Cor 13; NRSV)

Homily

The Reverend Clem Taplin

Poetry Reading

Dover Beach by Matthew Arnold (1822-1888)
read by the Reverend Keiron Jones.

The sea is calm tonight.
The tide is full, the moon lies fair
Upon the straits; on the French coast the light
Gleams, and is gone; the cliffs of England stand,
Glimmering and vast, out in the tranquil bay.
Come to the window, sweet is the night air!
Only, from the long line of spray
Where the seam meets the moon-blanch'd land,
Listen! You hear the grating roar
Of pebbles which the waves draw back, and fling,
At their return, up the high strand,
Begin, and cease, and then again begin,
With tremulous cadence slow, and bring
The eternal note of sadness in.

Sophocles long ago
Heard it on the Ægean, and it brought
Into his mind the turbid ebb and flow
Of human misery; we
Find also in the sound a thought,
Hearing it by this distant northern sea.

The sea of Faith
Was once, too, at the full, and round earth's shore
Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled
But now I only hear
Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar,
Retreating, to the breath
Of the night-wind, down the vast edges drear
And naked shingles of the world.

Ah, love, let us be true
To one another! For the world, which seems
To lie before us like a land of dreams,
So various, so beautiful, so new,
Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light
Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;
And we are here as on a darkling plain
Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight,
Where ignorant armies clash by night.

please stand

Hymn

**God is love, let heav'n adore him;
God is love, let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
God, who laid the earth's foundation,
God who spread the heav'ns above,
God who breathes through all creation
God is love, eternal love.**

**God is love, and gently enfolding
all the world in one embrace,
with unfailing grasp is holding
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then we find that self-same aching
deep within the heart of God.**

**God is love, and, though with blindness
sin afflicts our human hearts,
God's eternal loving-kindness
holding, guiding, grace imparts.
Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is love, so love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.**

Words: Timothy Rees 1874-1939;
Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH

please sit or kneel for prayer

Let us now turn to God in prayer.

God of mercy, Lord of life,
you have made us in your image
to reflect your truth and light:
we give you thanks for Anne,
for the grace and mercy she received from you,
for all that was good in her life,
for the memories we treasure today.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You promised eternal life to those who believe.
Remember for good this your servant Anne
as we also remember her.

Bring all who rest in Christ
into the fullness of your kingdom
where sins have been forgiven
and death is no more.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Your mighty power brings joy out of grief and life out of death.
Look in mercy on Anne's family:
her daughters Libby, Ally and Emmie; son-in-law Mark;
grandchildren – Tom, Harry, Jack, Meg and Alex;
siblings – Marion, John and Irene;
those who Anne loved, and all who mourn her.

Give them patient faith in times of darkness.
Strengthen them with the knowledge of your love.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of mercy, entrusting into your hands all that you have made
and rejoicing in our communion with all your faithful people,
we make our prayers through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

The Lord's Prayer

Reverend Ken Parker

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**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 for ever. Amen.**

The Farewell

Reverend Dr Alex Ross

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 Anne 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 for ever. **Amen.**

*The coffin is sprinkled with water as a reminder of the new life
in Jesus that we receive through baptism.*

*Incense is then used to honour Anne's mortal body
and to symbolise the rising of our prayers to God.*

The Committal

Reverend Dr Alex Ross

Let us now entrust Anne into the care of God.

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave new birth to Anne by water and the Spirit.

Grant that her death may recall to us your victory over death,
and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love.

We now entrust Anne to your unending care:
in the faith of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God of love, you have given us a sure and certain hope
of the resurrection to eternal life.

We here commit the body of our dear Sister Anne to be cremated:
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust,
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.**

Support us, O Lord, all the day long of this troublous life,
until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,
the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.

Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us safe lodging,
a holy rest, and peace at the last;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing and Dismissal

Reverend Ian Morrison

The Lord bless you and keep you – John Rutter (b. 1945)

sung by Katherine Norman

accompanied by Dr Calvin Bowman

please stand

May the love and faithfulness of God
by which our Lord Jesus was raised from the dead
bless and console you,
and bring healing and peace to your broken hearts
and the blessing of God:

✠ the Father who created us in love,
the Son who bears our pain in love
and the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us in love
be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace, in the name of Christ.

Amen.

*Anne's coffin will be escorted from the Church
to the bagpipes played by Alex Davey (family friend),
to the waiting hearse outside.*

*Please follow the Sanctuary party
and family members from the church.*

Anne's ashes will be interred in the St Andrew's
Garden of Remembrance at a later date.

The Martin family would like to thank you
for attending this special thanksgiving service for Anne,
and for your many expressions of love,
kindness and deepest sympathy in this time of sorrow.

Following the service everyone is invited to join us
for refreshments in the bluestone Pioneer Chapel
(side chapel, open to the main church).

