



A Service

of celebration for the life of



AUDREY FERNANDO

7 October 1945 - 12 October 2025

Thursday 23 October 2025 - 10.30am

St Aidan's Anglican Church, Noble Park



What Is Dying

We are standing on the seashore.

A ship sails and spreads her white sails
to the morning breeze and starts for the ocean.

She is an object of beauty, and we stand watching her
till at last she fades on the horizon and someone says, "She is gone".

Gone where? Gone from sight, that is all, she is just as large in the masts,
hull and spars as she was when we saw her,
and just as able to bear her load of living freight to its destination.

The diminished size and total loss of sight is in us, not in her.

And just at the moment when someone says, "She is gone",
there are others who are watching her coming,
and other voices take up a glad shout, "There she comes"; and that is dying.

Why should I be out of your mind because I am out of your sight?

I am but waiting for you, for an interval,
somewhere very near just around the corner. All is well.

Life means all that it ever meant.

It is the same as it ever was. There is unbroken continuity.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Lighting the Paschal Candle

In baptism, Audrey Fernando received the light of Christ.
That light has guided her throughout her life.
May she now enjoy the Risen life with her Risen Lord.
All: Amen.

Placing of the Flowers

The placement of flowers reminds us of the vibrant personality of Audrey Fernando, of whom we have come here to celebrate today: all the events, activities and relationships that were touched by her life.
All: Amen.

Sprinkling of the Holy Water

In the waters of baptism, Audrey Fernando died with Christ, and rose with Him to a new life. May she now share with Him, Eternal Glory.
All: Amen.

Welcome and Prayers

Rev. Earnest

Grace and peace from the Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

We have come together to thank God for the life of Audrey to mourn and honour her, to lay to rest her mortal body, and to support one another in grief. We face the certainty of our own death and judgement. 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.

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 Lord Jesus Christ said, 'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet will they live.' – *John 11:25*

Words of Remembrance

Andrew Fernando, Grandchildren,
Tammy Paul

Hymn

Amazing Grace

Judy Collins

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found.
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to feel
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers toils and snares
We have already come
'Twas grace that brought us safe that far
And grace will lead us home

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found.
Was blind, but now I see

Psalm 121

Shane Schuiling

I lift up my eyes to the mountains –
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot slip –
he who watches over you will not slumber;
Indeed, he who watches over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord watches over you –
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all harm –
he will watch over your life.

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8, 10, 20 & 22

Andrew Fernando

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose
under the heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time of plant, and a time
to pluck up that which is planted;
A time to kill, and a time to heal,
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
A time to weep, and a time of laugh,
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
A time to rend, and a time to sew,
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
A time to love, and a time to hate,
a time of war, and a time of peace.
I have seen the travail,
which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it.
All go unto one place; all are of the dust,
and all turn to dust again.
Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better,
than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his
portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?

Psalm 100

Sharon Cassar

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness
Come before his presence with singing.
Know ye that the Lord he is God
It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,
And into his courts with praise
Be thankful unto him, and bless his name.
For the Lord is good;
His mercy is everlasting;
And his truth endureth to all generations.

Second Reading

John 14:1-6

Rev. Earnest

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Hear the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Hymn

How Great Thou Art

Chris Rice

Oh Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling 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 see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze

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

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

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 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 then 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

Homily

Rev. Earnest

Song

Psalm 23 – The Lord is My Shepherd

Music: Brian Boniwell; Arr: Kevin Hunt;

Sung by Fr Paul Gurr

The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.
Over the mountains, the waters and byways,
valleys and highways he's waiting for me.
I want to go to meet him there, to lay myself down in his love.

The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.

And while on the journey to where we are going,
he promised to be there to help us along.
Over the mountains we'll walk on together,
to know all the wonders he's given to me.
I want to go to meet him there, to lay myself down in his love.

The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.

Prayers of the Faithful

Chrishanthi Fernando,
Caryl Gauder and
Beverley Vollenhoven

Rev Earnest: Dear brothers and sisters, the Lord is always faithful and raises those who have fallen in the shadow of death. Moved by the Holy Spirit, with living faith we offer our prayers:

Chrishanthi: For those who mourn the loss of Audrey, that their grief may be lightened by the risen Christ and his promise to unite us again in our heavenly home. Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Caryl: For Audrey, who has been called from this life to the next, that she and all who have passed may enjoy the peace and happiness of heaven. Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Beverley: We give thanks to all who provided support, love and care for Audrey, including family, friends and staff at South-Eastern Hospital and Banksia Palliative Care. Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Earnest

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today your 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.

Please stand

The Farewell

Rev. Earnest

Let us entrust our sister Audrey Fernando
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 Jesus Christ.
We entrust Audrey 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.

Final Blessing

Rev. Earnest

Now to him who is able to keep you from falling,
and to make you stand without blemish
in the presence of his glory with rejoicing,
to the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
be glory, majesty, power and authority,
before all time and now and for ever. Amen.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all.
Amen.

Recessional Song

Wind Beneath My Wings

Bette Midler



Following this service, a Committal Service
will take place at 12.30pm in the Boyd Chapel
at the Springvale Botanical Cemetery.



COMMITTAL SERVICE

Welcome and Prayer

Rev. Earnest

Photographic Reflection

Memory

(Instrumental from Musical 'Cats')

Prayer

Rev. Earnest

O Lord support us all the day long
Until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes
And the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over
And our work is done.
Then in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest
And peace at the last.

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 sister Audrey
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. Amen

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your heart and mind in the knowledge and love of God;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be with you, and remain with you, always. Amen.

Song

Fields Of Gold

Eva Cassidy

To Those Whom I Love and Those Who Love Me

When I am gone, release me, let me go.

I have so many things to see and do.

You must not tie yourself to me with tears,

Be happy that we had so many years.

I gave you my love, you can only guess

How much you gave me in happiness.

I thank you for the love you have shown

But now it is time I travelled on alone.

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must

Then let your grief be comforted by trust.

It is only for a while that we must part

So bless the memories within your heart.

I will not be far away, for life goes on

So if you need me, call and I will come.

Though you cannot see or touch me, I will be near,

And if you listen with your heart, you will hear

All of my love around you soft and clear.

Then, when you must come this way alone, I will greet you

With a smile and a 'Welcome Home'.



The family of Audrey Fernando would like to thank you for your love, support and prayers through this difficult time. You are warmly invited to join the family for refreshments at the Springvale RSL (21-23 Osborne Avenue, Springvale).



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