



St Bartholomew's Anglican Church



A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of

Joyce Amelia Melba Cleary

4 February 1923 - 27 September 2025

A lot can happen in 102 years!

Joyce Amelia Melba Cleary née Ginger

4 February 1923 - 27 September 2025

In the past 102 years, Joyce lived through the Roaring '20s;
the Great Depression of the '30s;
World War 2 in the '40s;
the Cold War and Rock'n'Roll in the '50s;
The Beatles, mini-skirts and the Moon Landing in the '60s;
Women's Lib in the '70s;
the collapse of Communism in the '80s;
the end of the USSR in the '90s;
9/11 and Barack Obama, US President, in the 2000s;
Britain's vote to leave the EU in the 2010s;
the COVID-19 pandemic,
the death of the Queen and the accession of King Charles III in the 2020s.

Joyce witnessed the reigns of five British monarchs
and twenty-six Australian Prime Ministers!
She has seen things that were beyond imagining at her birth:
fast cars, planes, radio, television, computers,
mobile phones, refrigerators, washing machines, central heating,
air conditioning, all now part of everyday life.

A lot can happen in 102 years!

Order of Service

Welcome & Introduction

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

We have come together
to thank God for the life of Joyce,
to celebrate her life,
to mourn and honour her,
to deal reverently with her mortal remains,
to support the family in their grief,
and to give expression to our own.
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.

Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
'til in heaven we take our place,
'til we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Let us pray.
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.

Eulogies

Judi Cleary, Elizabeth Divers,
Jenny Hagelstein

Visual Presentation

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
Anthony Divers

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes.

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what 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 to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, 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 for war, and a time for peace.

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

Stacey Cleary

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;
the Lord will watch over your coming and going
 both now and forevermore.

Gospel Reading

John 14:1-6a

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.”

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Homily

The Prayers

John Cleary

The prayers conclude with The Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me His praise should sing.
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favour
To our fathers in distress.
Praise Him still the same forever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Frail as summer's flower we flourish,
Blows the wind and it is gone,
But while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,
Praise the high eternal One.

Fatherlike He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,
Widely as His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him;
Ye behold Him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,
Praise with us the God of grace.

The Farewell and Committal

The Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
And the Blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Be with you now and always. **Amen**

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We thank you most sincerely for
your comforting thoughts which have been
a great support in this time of sorrow.



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