Westminster Abbey



FUNERAL of DIANA PRINCESS OF WALES

Saturday 6 September 1997 11.00 a.m.

From 10.00 a.m., during the Procession of the Cortège from Kensington Palace, the Tenor Bell is tolled every minute.

The service is sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey, conducted by Martin Neary, Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The organ is played by Martin Baker, Sub-Organist of Westminster Abbey.

Music before the service, played by Stephen Le Prevost, Assistant Organist, Westminster Abbey;

Grave and Adagio Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-47)
Organ Sonata, no. 2

Prelude on the hymn tune 'Eventide'

Hubert Parry (1848–1918)

Adagio in E Frank Bridge (1879–1941)

Prelude on the hymn tune 'Rhosymedre' Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Choral prelude: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, Bwv639

Elegy George Thalben-Ball (1896–1988)

Martin Baker plays:

Fantasia in C minor, Bwv537 Johann Sebastian Bach

Adagio in G minor Tomaso Giovanni Albinoni (1671–1751)

Largo, Ninth Symphony (From the New World')

Antonín Dvořák (1841–1904)

Canon Johann Pachelbel (1653–1706)

'Nimrod', Variation 9 Edward Elgar (1857-1934) arranged from Variations on an Original Theme ('Enigma'), op.36

Prelude William Harris (1883–1973)

All stand as the Procession of Visiting Clergy moves to places in the Sacrarium, and then sit.

The Members of the Spencer Family are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

All stand as they are conducted to places in the North Lantern, and then sit.

Members of the Royal Family are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

All stand as they are conducted to places in the South Lantern, and then sit.

Her Majesty The Queen, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, and His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

All stand as Their Majesties and His Royal Highness are conducted to their places in the South Lantern.

The Collegiate Body of St Peter in Westminster moves into place in the Nave.

All remain standing as the Cortège enters the Great West Door.

All sing

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

GOD save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.

Thesaurus Musicus (c 1743) arranged by Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Cortège, preceded by the Collegiate Body, moves to the Quire and Sacrarium, during which the Choir sings

THE SENTENCES

AM the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

St John 11: 25, 26

I KNOW that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

Job 19: 25-27

WE brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

1 Timothy 6: 7; Job 1: 21

William Croft (1678–1727) Organist of Westminster Abbey 1708–27

THOU knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayer; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not, at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall from thee. Amen.

Henry Purcell (1659–95) Organist of Westminster Abbey 1679–95 Book of Common Prayer

I HEARD a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, From henceforth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord: even so saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labours.

William Croft

Revelation 14: 13

All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr Wesley Carr, Dean of Westminster, says

THE BIDDING

WE are gathered here in Westminster Abbey to give thanks for the life of Diana, Princess of Wales; to commend her soul to almighty God, and to seek his comfort for all who mourn. We particularly pray for God's restoring peace and loving presence with her children, the Princes William and Harry, and all her family.

In her life, Diana profoundly influenced this nation and the world. Although a princess, she was someone for whom, from afar, we dared to feel affection, and by whom we were all intrigued. She kept company with kings and queens, with princes and presidents, but we especially remember her humane concerns and how she met individuals and made them feel significant. In her death she commands the sympathy of millions.

Whatever our beliefs and faith, let us with thanksgiving remember her life and enjoyment of it; let us rededicate to God the work of those many charities that she supported; let us commit ourselves anew to caring for others; and let us offer to him and for his service our own mortality and vulnerability.

All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN

I VOW to thee, my country, all earthly things above, entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love: the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test, that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best; the love that never falters, the love that pays the price, the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago, most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know; we may not count her armies, we may not see her King; her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering; and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase, and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

Thaxted Gustav Holst (1874–1934) Cecil Spring-Rice (1859-1918)

IF I should die and leave you here awhile,
Be not like others, sore undone, who keep
Long vigils by the silent dust, and weep.
For my sake – turn again to life and smile,
Nerving thy heart and trembling hand to do
Something to comfort other hearts than thine.
Complete those dear unfinished tasks of mine
And I, perchance, may therein comfort you.

All remain seated. The BBC Singers, together with Lynne Dawson, Soprano, sing:

REQUIEM aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna, in die illa tremenda quando coeli movendi sunt, et terra: dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.

Tremens factus sum ego et timeo, dum discussio venerit, atque ventura ira.

Dies illa, dies irae, calamitatis et miseriae, dies magna et amara valde.

Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

REST eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death in that dread day when the heavens and the earth shall be shaken, and you will come to judge the world by fire. I tremble in awe of the judgement and the coming wrath. Day of wrath, day of calamity and woe, great and exceeding bitter day. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Guiseppe Verdi (1813-1901) from The Requiem

All remain seated. Lady Jane Fellowes reads:

TIME is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those who fear, too long for those who grieve, too short for those who rejoice, but for those who love, time is eternity.

THE HYMN

THE King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth, and where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me; thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth: and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never: good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house for ever.

Dominus regit me J B Dykes (1823-76) H W Baker (1821-77) Psalm 23

All sit. The Right Honourable Tony Blair, MP, Prime Minister, reads

1 CORINTHIANS 13

THOUGH I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love, it profiteth me nothing.

Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Love never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

All remain seated. Elton John sings

CANDLE IN THE WIND

GOODBYE England's rose;

may you ever grow in our hearts.
You were the grace that placed itself
where lives were torn apart.
You called out to our country,
and you whispered to those in pain.
Now you belong to heaven,
and the stars spell out your name.

And it seems to me you lived your life like a candle in the wind:
never fading with the sunset when the rain set in.
And your footsteps will always fall here, along England's greenest hills; your candle's burned out long before your legend ever will.

Loveliness we've lost;
these empty days without your smile.
This torch we'll always carry
for our nation's golden child.
And even though we try,
the truth brings us to tears;
all our words cannot express
the joy you brought us through the years.

Goodbye England's rose, from a country lost without your soul, who'll miss the wings of your compassion more than you'll ever know.

Bernie Taupin (b 1950)

Elton John (b 1947)

THE TRIBUTE

by

The Earl Spencer

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

MAKE me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred let me bring your love,
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you:

O Master grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul!

Make me a channel of your peace: where there's despair in life let me bring hope, where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy:

> O Master grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul!

Make me a channel of your peace: it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

> O Master grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul!

Make me a channel of your peace: where there is hatred let me bring your love, where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Sebastian Temple arranged by Martin Neary (b 1940)

St Francis of Assisi translated by Sebastian Temple All sit. The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr George Carey, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan, leads

THE PRAYERS

For Diana, Princess of Wales

We give thanks to God for Diana, Princess of Wales; for her sense of joy and for the way she gave so much to so many people.

Lord, we thank you for Diana, whose life touched us all and for all those memories of her that we treasure. We give thanks for those qualities and strengths that endeared her to us; for her vulnerability; for her radiant and vibrant personality; for her ability to communicate warmth and compassion; for her ringing laugh; and above all for her readiness to identify with those less fortunate in our nation and the world.

Lord of the loving: hear our prayer.

For her family

We pray for those most closely affected by her death: for Prince William and Prince Harry who mourn the passing of their dearly loved mother; for her family, especially for her mother, her brother and her sisters.

LORD, we thank you for the precious gift of family life, for all human relationships and for the strength we draw from one another. Have compassion on those for whom this parting brings particular pain and the deepest sense of loss. Casting their cares on you, may they know the gentleness of your presence and the consolation of your love.

Lord of the bereaved: hear our prayer.

For the Royal Family

We pray for the Members of the Royal Family, for wisdom and discernment as they discharge their responsibilities in the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and the world.

IORD, we commend to you Elizabeth our Queen, the Members of the Royal Family and all who exercise power and authority in our nation. Enrich them with your grace, that we may be governed with wisdom and godliness: so that in love for you and service to each other we may each bring our gifts to serve the common good.

Lord of the nations: hear our prayer.

For all who mourn

Diana was not alone in losing her young life tragically. We remember too her friend, Dodi Fayed and his family; Henri Paul, and all for whom today's service rekindles memories of grief untimely borne.

LORD, in certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, we commend to you all who have lost loved ones in tragic circumstances. Give them comfort; renew their faith and strengthen them in the weeks and months ahead.

Lord of the broken-hearted: hear our prayer.

For the Princess's life and work

The Princess will be especially missed by the many charities with which she identified herself. We recall those precious images: the affectionate cuddle of children in hospital; that touch of the young man dying of AIDS; her compassion for those maimed through the evil of land mines — and many more.

LORD, we pray for all who are weak, poor and powerless in this country and throughout the world; the sick, among them Trevor Rees-Jones; the maimed and all whose lives are damaged. We thank you for the way that Diana became a beacon of hope and a source of strength for so many. We commend to you all those charities that she supported. Strengthen the resolve of those who work for them to continue the good work begun with her.

Lord of the suffering: hear our prayer.

For ourselves

'And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.' As we reflect on the Princess's compassion for others, we pray that we too may be inspired to serve as she served.

LORD, we thank you for Diana's commitment to others. Give us the same compassion and commitment. Give us a steadfast heart, which no unworthy thought can drag down; an unconquered heart, which no tribulation can wear out; an upright heart, which no unworthy purpose can tempt aside. Grant us, O Lord, understanding to know you, diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a faithfulness that may bring us to your eternal kingdom.

Lord of the compassionate: hear our prayer.

All remain seated. The Choristers sing:

I WOULD be true, for there are those that trust me. I would be pure, for there are those that care. I would be strong, for there is much to suffer. I would be brave, for there is much to dare. I would be friend of all, the foe, the friendless. I would be giving, and forget the gift, I would be humble, for I know my weakness, I would look up, laugh, love and live.

Air from County Derry in G Petrie: The Ancient Music of Ireland (1853)

Howard Arnold Walter

The Archbishop continues:

THEREFORE, confident in the love and mercy of God, holding a living faith in God's mighty resurrection power, we, the congregation here, those in the streets outside and the millions around the world, join one another and the hosts of heaven, as we say together, in whatever language we may choose, the prayer which Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And for forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Archbishop says

THE BLESSING

THE God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do his will: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and all whom you love, this day and for evermore. Amen.

THE HYMN

GUIDE me, O thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand: bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow; let the fiery cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through: strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side: songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

Cwm Rhondda John Hughes (1873-1932) W Williams (1717-91) translated by P Williams (1727-96), and others

Standing before the Catafalque the Dean says

THE COMMENDATION

Let us commend our sister Diana to the mercy of God, our Maker and Redeemer.

DIANA, our companion in faith and sister in Christ, we entrust you to God. Go forth from this world in the love of the Father, who created you; In the mercy of Jesus Christ, who died for you; In the power of the Holy Spirit, who strengthens you. At one with all the faithful, living and departed, may you rest in peace and rise in glory, where grief and misery are banished and light and joy evermore abide. Amen.

All remain standing as the Cortège leaves the church, during which the Choir sings:

↑LLELUIA. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

A Remember me O Lord, when you come into your kingdom.

Give rest O Lord to your handmaid, who has fallen asleep.

The choir of saints have found the well-spring of life, and door of paradise.

Life: a shadow and a dream.

Weeping at the grave creates the song:

Alleluia. Come, enjoy rewards and crowns I have prepared for you.

John Tavener (b 1944)

extracts from William Shakespeare: Hamlet and the Orthodox Funeral Service

At the west end of the church the Cortège halts for the minute's silence, observed by the Nation.

The half-muffled bells of the Abbey church are rung.

All remain standing as the Processions move to the west end of the church.

Music after the service:

Prelude in C minor, BWV546

Johann Sebastian Bach

Maestoso, from Symphonie no.3

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

Members of the Congregation are requested to remain in their places until invited by the Stewards to move.