

A Celebration of Life



For

Dale Sparkes

July 14th, 1943 - August 7th, 2023

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of life and spirituality. We are gathered as treaty people on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg of the Fort William First Nation and acknowledge this people's stewardship of this land through the ages.

Celebrant and Preacher: Rev. Ann Camber
Celebrant: The Venerable Dr. Deborah H. Kraft
Lay Reader: Rose Jardine
Music: Donna and Ted Hamill and GT Singers
Solo Tribute: James Stewart
Readers / Lectors: Audrey Love, David Reid
Eucharistic Assistant: Alex and Sylvia Kostecki
Ushers: Jim Bolt, Neil Love
Altar Guild: Audrey Love

***Gathering Table a Faith Community
in the Anglican Church of Canada***

Funeral Liturgy – *BAS page 571*

Tuesday, August 15th, 2023

11 a.m.

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,
even though he die.
And everyone who has life,
and is committed to me in faith,
shall not die for ever.

John 11.25–26

Let not your hearts be troubled;
believe in God, believe also in me.
In my Father's house are many rooms;
if it were not so, would I have told you
that I go to prepare a place for you?
And when I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come again and will take you to myself,
that where I am you may be also. *John 14.1–3*

I am sure that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
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*

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the presence of those
who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

Greetings from:

The Most Reverend Anne Germond

Read by The Venerable Dr. Deborah H. Kraft

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.
God of all consolation,
in your unending love and mercy
you turn the darkness of death
into the dawn of new life.

Show compassion to your people in their sorrow.
Be our refuge and our strength
to lift us from the darkness of grief
to the peace and light of your presence.
Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
by dying for us, conquered death
and by rising again, restored life.
May we then go forward eagerly to meet him,

and after our life on earth
be reunited with our brothers and sisters
where every tear will be wiped away.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Lord.
All: Amen.

Funeral Liturgy

BAS page 576

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Hymn: **CP 352 Amazing Grace** *(Omit verse 3)*

In the midst of life we are in death;
from whom can we seek help?
From you alone, O Lord,
who by our sins are justly angered.

**Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,
have mercy upon us.**

Lord you know the secrets of our hearts;
shut not your ears to our prayers,
but spare us, O Lord.

**Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,**

have mercy upon us.

O worthy and eternal Judge,
do not let the pains of death
turn us away from you at our last hour.

**Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,
have mercy upon us.**

The Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, the maker and redeemer of all, grant us, with your servant **Dale** and all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection; that in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Isaiah 61: 1 – 3

The Good News of Deliverance

61 The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,

and release to the prisoners;

² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

1 Corinthians 15: 51 – 57

⁵¹ Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed,

⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

⁵³ For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

⁵⁴ When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

‘Death has been swallowed up in victory.’

55 ‘Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?’

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John 14: 1 - 6

Jesus the Way to the Father

14 ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God,
believe also in me.

2 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?

³ 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.

⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.'

⁵ Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?'

⁶ Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Greetings from the family

Eulogy: Al Chisholm, Ken Ramsey

Sermon: Rev. Ann Camber

The Apostles' Creed

Lay Reader

Lay Reader: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**All: I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

**was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Lay Reader

Lay Reader: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Lay Reader: May all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection die to sin and rise to newness of life, and may we with him pass through the grave and gate of death to our joyful resurrection.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Lay Reader: Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Lay Reader: Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Lay Reader: Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care that casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Lay Reader: Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Lay Reader: Grant us grace to entrust **Dale** to your never-failing love which sustained **him** in this life. Receive **him** into the arms of your mercy, and remember **him** according to the favour you bear for your people.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Hymn: CP 423 How Great Thou Art (Omit Verse 2)

The Preparation of the Gifts

Prayer over the Gifts.

Celebrant: God of mercy, accept the worship we offer you this day. Increase, we pray, our faith, deepen our hope, and confirm us in your eternal love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. ***People:* Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People:* It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose victorious rising from the dead has given to us the hope of resurrection and the promise of eternal life. Therefore with angels and

archangels and all who have served you in every age, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are
full of Your glory
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest**

***Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest***

Patrick Schlabs

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you.

In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,

and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: this is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**All: we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **ALL: Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All: 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 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.**

Celebrant: This is the bread which has come down from heaven.

All: Those who eat this bread will live for ever.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Music

**Here I Am, Lord
Come To The River**

Give Me Jesus (*Jim will be singing and using his djembe*)
CP 612 Healer Of Our Every Ill

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.
God of love, you have fed us at the table of your kingdom.
Teach us to trust, without fear, in your eternal goodness
and mercy. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the
Lord. **Amen.**

The Commendation

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your
saints, where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

**You only are immortal, the creator and maker of
all; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to
earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when
you created me, saying, “You are dust, and to dust
you shall return.” All of us go down to the dust;
yet even at the grave we make our song:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your
saints, where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend your
servant **Dale**. Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own
fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own
redeeming. Receive **him** into the arms of your mercy, into

the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Tribute Song: **Roses are Red**

sung by James Stewart

The Nunc Dimittis is said as we leave followed by the family and Neil Love

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared

before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles

and to be the glory of thy people Israel

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son

and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be

world without end. **Amen.**

*We will continue our celebration for **Dale** with food and fellowship in the Parish Hall here at Gathering Table.*

Interment will take place at a later date.

A thought:

“My understanding of life after death is in the way you touch everyone around you”.



Gathering Table
228 Pearl Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1E4

Email: office@gatheringtable.ca

Web: <http://gatheringtable.ca>

Office: 345-6898

Hall: 345-6088

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Office Administrator: Roberta Wolfe

Friday from 8 a.m. to noon – Treasurer: Sharon Corston

Pastor: Rev. Ann Camber, M.Div.

Phone: 807-251-7503 Email: rector@gatheringtable.ca

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Gail M. Clifton, M.Div.

Phone: 768-9865 Email: gailx2@shaw.ca