

Celebrating
the Life of
Dick Shepley



30th April 1950 - 28th February 2025

St. Swithin's Church, Holmesfield
28th March 2025

Order of Service

Music

Dance Me to the End of Love

Leonard Cohen

Welcome and Introduction

The Revd. Ian Webb

Hymn

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above,
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O help us to see
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Reading

Psalm 116

read by Helen Neal (Dick's Goddaughter)

I love the Lord
because he heard my plea for mercy,
and listened to me.
As long as I live, I will call to him when I need help.
The ropes of death tightened around me,
the snares of Sheol confronted me.
I was confronted with trouble and sorrow.
I called on the name of the Lord,
"Please, Lord, rescue my life!"
The Lord is merciful and fair;
our God is compassionate.
The Lord protects the untrained;
I was in serious trouble and he delivered me.
Rest once more, my soul,
for the Lord has vindicated you.
Yes, Lord, you rescued my life from death,
kept my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.
I will serve the Lord
in the land of the living.

How can I repay the Lord
for all his acts of kindness to me?
I will celebrate my deliverance,
and call on the name of the Lord.
I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
before all his people.
The Lord values
the lives of his faithful followers.
Yes, Lord! I am indeed your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your female servant.
You saved me from death.
I will present a thank offering to you,
and call on the name of the Lord.
I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
before all his people,
in the courts of the Lord's temple,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the Lord!

Eulogy

by the Family

including a recording of Fionn

Hymn

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Poem

So Here I sit with Pen in Hand

written by Dick

read by Martin Edmunds

Address

by Jim Scott

Message

from Bishop Daniel Gitau

read by Paddy Taylor

Prayers

The Revd. Ian Webb

Hymn

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken
Formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage:
Grace which, like the Lord the giver,
Never fails from age to age?

Members we our Lord's creation,
Granted just one shot at life,
Need help to resist temptations,
Which cause endless needless strife.
How can I give thanks to Jesus,
Saving me upon this day?
Trust in him is all that sees us
Find the true and narrow way.

Saviour, since of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
Let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
All his boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure
None but Zion's children know.

*with apologies to John Newton who wrote this hymn,
verse 3 was written by Dick Shepley on 28th March 2024*

Commendation

Blessing

Music

Harvest Moon

Neil Young

Big Log

Robert Plant

*You are most welcome to make your way to
Abbeydale Sports Club,
Abbeydale Road South, S17 3LJ
for refreshments following the service
where the family will join you following the committal.*

*If wished, donations may be made payable to
“Holmesfield Village Society”
or “St. Luke’s Hospice”
may be sent to John Heath & Sons,
14, Earsham Street, Sheffield, S4 7LS
or made online at www.memorygiving.com/dickshepley
or by scanning the QR code below.*

*With thanks for the care and support they gave
Dick and the family during the final weeks.*



*And thank you all - the love for Dick has poured in
over the last few weeks. It truly was a life well lived.*



So Here I sit with Pen in Hand

So here I sit with pen in hand: I surely must explain,
For occasions such as this demand I scribble once again.
My words from not beyond the grave: in fact I'm strong and well.
But in my strange predicament, here's thoughts that in me dwell.
I have no fear of what may be, or what the future's holding.
I feel I must set down these words: The future's now unfolding.
To manage all my earthly life, long lists were in control.
It seems that where I'm going, they'll no longer have a role.
So I've left the leaky windows and roofs I should have mended
So with real procrastination, such tasks are clearly ended.
My message for a long time was "Retirement's not an option",
So massive thanks to many friends for your help and great devotion
There's every splendid reason now to be glad on my account,
For life's been very good to me: Great blessings on me mount.
A wondrous place awaits me now, of this I can be clear,
For Jesus took my hand I know when I was filled with fear.
For that which happened years ago as you're possibly aware,
Proved he was right and I was wrong. He saved me from despair.
In his mercy he forgave me for all that I'd done wrong.
I found a new direction and sang a brand new song.
No, it's not my life's conclusion, it's just a little move.
To join my Lord and Saviour in that glorious place above.

Dick Shepley





Order of Cremation Service

for immediate family only.

Music

In Christ Alone

Stuart Townend

Psalm 127

The Revd. Ian Webb

Music

Wish You Were Here

Pink Floyd

John Heath & Sons

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