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A SERVICE FOR THE COMMENDATION  
AND COMMITTAL OF

Joseph Alan Armstrong

14th July 1924 - 13th April 2020



Gedling Crematorium, Nottingham

Thursday 23rd April 2020

3.30 pm

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# Order of Service

## Entrance Music

The Lark Ascending  
by Vaughan Williams

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,  
    over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
    and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
    their life shall become like a watered garden,  
    and they shall never languish again.  
Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
    I will turn their mourning into joy,  
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

*Jer 31.12-13*

## Welcome and Prayers

Reverend Bridget Baguley

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## Bible Reading

### Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
for His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;  
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.



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## Poem

A Song of Living  
by Amelia Josephine Burr  
read by Margaret Holden

Because I have loved life, I shall have no sorrow to die.  
I have sent up my gladness on wings,  
to be lost in the blue of the sky.  
I have run and leaped with the rain,  
I have taken the wind to my breast.  
My cheek like a drowsy child  
to the face of the earth I have pressed.

Because I have loved life, I shall have no sorrow to die.  
I have kissed young Love on the lips,  
I have heard his song to the end.  
I have struck my hand like a seal in the loyal hand of a friend.  
I have known the peace of heaven,  
the comfort of work done well.  
I have longed for death in the darkness  
and risen alive out of hell.

Because I have loved life, I shall have no sorrow to die.  
I give a share of my soul to the world where my course is run.  
I know that another shall finish the task I must leave undone.  
I know that no flower, nor flint was in vain on the path I trod.  
As one looks on a face through a window, through life I have looked on God.  
Because I have loved life, I shall have no sorrow to die.

## Prayers

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with the 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 from the dust of the earth,  
and unto earth shall we return.  
For so you ordained when you created me, saying:  
'Dust you are and to dust you shall return.'  
All of us go down to the dust,  
yet weeping at the grave, we make our song:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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*As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.



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## Commendation

### Committal

‘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. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.’

‘All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.’

*John 14.1-6, 25-27*



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We have entrusted Alan to God's mercy,  
and we now commit his body to be cremated:  
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust:  
in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who will transform our frail bodies  
that they may be conformed to his glorious body,  
who died, was buried, and rose again for us.  
To him be glory for ever. Amen.

## Blessing

May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
and give you peace. Amen.

## Exit Music

Blaydon Races: Geordie Ridley





The family would like to thank everyone  
for their kind words and support at this sad time.

**A.W. LYMN**

*The Family Funeral Service\**

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