

St Peter's Parish Church, Rawdon



(image courtesy of Alan Wilson)

Funeral Service Leslie Raymond Viet Mitchell (1923-2014)

Monday 20th October 2014
at 1pm

Order of Service

Introduction (by the Rev. Cayte Norman)

Opening Hymn:

Guide me, O thou Great Redeemer (John Hughes, 1873-1932)

*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, bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore,
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, strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield,
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, songs and praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.*

Tribute

(by Mr Jon Hawkins)

First Reading:

Ecclesiastes, 3: 1-11 (read by Dr Hannah Hunt)

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians, 15: 50-58 (read by Mrs Joyce Simpson)

Following the service, Les's body will be taken to
Rawdon Crematorium for cremation.

His daughter, Rosemary, will accompany him there.
Everyone is most warmly invited, meanwhile, to remain at the church
and take refreshments, served in the adjacent St Peter's Room,
with Les's wife, Eileen.

There will be a retiring collection for Help for Heroes.
Thank you for attending and honouring Les's full and fruitful life of love
and service. Please hold him in your memories and prayers.

We include below a beautiful poem by a family friend,
written in his memory and drawing on conversations
with Rosemary in his final days.

Great Beauty (in memoriam Leslie Mitchell)

A Great Beauty visited him
as he rocked between life and death,
shuffling in clean sheets to find
the next resting place.
And she came in the kindness of carers,
was found in family love,
and great beauty was in your sweet temper,
your passion to communicate
with those you never saw,
in your stubbornness and dottiness.
And now a Great Beauty greets you,
setting aside the broken body of her son
who she rocked, o so gently, on her knee.

Hannah Stone 7 October 2014

Hymn:

The 'Boy Scout' Hymn, by Ralph Reader
(to the tune of 'Abide with Me')

*Now as I start upon my chosen way,
In all I do, my thoughts, my work, my play,
Grant as I promise, Courage new for me
To be the best, the best that I can be.*

*Help me to keep my Honour shining bright
May I be loyal in the hardest fight
Let me be able for my Task, and then,
To earn a place among my fellow men.*

*Open mine eyes to see things as I should,
That I may do my daily turn of good
Let me be ready, waiting for each need
To keep me clean in thought and word and deed.*

*So as I journey on my chosen way,
In all I do, my thoughts, my work, my play,
Grant as I promise, Courage new for me
To be the best, the BEST that I can be.*

Prayers

(read by the Rev. Dr Jane De Gay)

Commendation & Blessing

Closing Hymn:

God be in my head (Sarum Primer)

*God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.*

Committal