

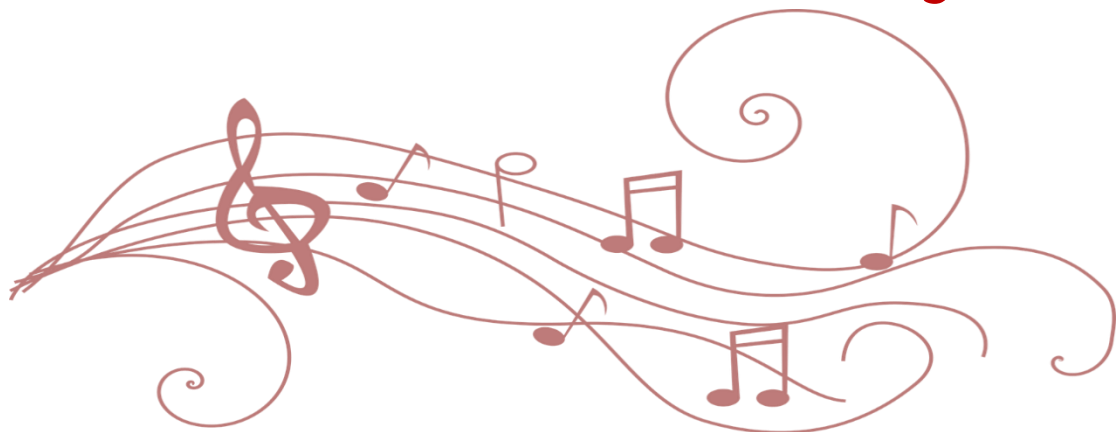


A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Ralph Venton Waters

8th April 1940 – 17th December 2021



11am
Saturday 2nd July 2022
at
Christ Church, Worthing



**Chanson de Matin Op.15 no.2 by Edward Elgar 1857-1934
is played before the service**

The Gathering

Welcome from Revd Nancy Ford

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father. Grace and mercy be with you.

All And also with you.

We look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Today we come together to remember Ralph before God, to give thanks for his life and for the many memories we all hold dear.

Father in heaven, we thank you because you made us in your own image and gave us gifts in body, mind and spirit. As we honour Ralph's memory, make us more aware that you are the one from whom comes every perfect gift, including the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

Hymn 466 *to the tune of Coe Fen*

How shall I sing that majesty
which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie;
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around
thy throne, O God most high;
ten thousand times ten thousand sound
thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,
whilst I thy footsteps trace;
a sound of God comes to my ears,
but they behold thy face.
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,
with all my fire and light;
yet when thou dost accept their gold,
Lord, treasure up my mite.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart,
in flame it with love's fire;
then shall I sing and take my part
with that celestial choir.
They sing, because thou art their Sun;
Lord, send a beam on me;
for where heaven is but once begun
there alleluias be.

How great a being, Lord, is thine,
which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore,
a sun without a sphere;
thy time is now and evermore,
thy place is everywhere.

Reading : Romans 8:35, 37- 39 *read by Joan Pemble*

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, 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.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God



Psalm 150 sung by the choir *and returning choir boys!*

1. O Praise God | in his | holiness : praise him in the |
firmament | of his | power.
2. Praise him in his | noble | acts : praise him ac-| cording
to his | excellent | greatness.
3. Praise him in the | sound of the | trumpet : praise him
up-| on the | lute and | harp.
4. Praise him in the | cymbals and | dances : praise him
up-| on the | strings and | pipe.
5. Praise him upon the | well-tuned | cymbals : praise him
up-| on the | loud | cymbals.
6. Let every thing | that hath | breath : praise | -- | -- the |
Lord.

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. | A-|men.



Memories of our Dad – Jacqui

Hymn 507

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares can 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.

CCLI 2765 © Jan Struther [Joyce Placzek]

Reflections from Revd Dr. Hazel Sherman
Psalm 121 *with verses from John 14*

Hymn 175- *choir note vs 3 is omitted from the hymn book*

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Prayer

Almighty Saviour, those who have died in faith have eternal joy in your presence. For us who remain, be with us in our sadness and turn our eyes to you. By your death once for all upon the cross, raise us to new life, give us victory over death and confidence to look forward to your coming. **All Amen.**

Affirmation of Faith

Minister: Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ:

All: Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession - *Revd Elliott Allison*

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.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us all with the gift of this earthly life and has given to Ralph his span of years and gifts of character. God our Father, we thank you now for all his life, for every memory of love and joy, for every good deed done by him and every sorrow shared with us.

We thank you for his life and for his death,
we thank you for the rest in Christ he now enjoys,
we thank you for giving him to us,
we thank you for the glory we shall share together.
Hear our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Conclusion

Neither death nor life can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant to us, Lord God, to trust you not for ourselves alone, but also for those whom we love and who are hidden from us by the shadow of death; that, as we believe your power to have raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, so may we trust your love to give eternal life to all who believe in him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **All Amen.**

Hymn 598

There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea
There's a kindness in his justice
Which is more than liberty
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment given

For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of man's mind
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind
But we make His love too narrow
By false limits of our own
And we magnify His strictness
With a zeal He will not own

There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head
There is grace enough for thousands
Of new worlds as great as this
There is room for fresh creations
In that upper home of bliss

If our love were but more simple
We should take Him at His word
And our lives would be all gladness
In the joy of Christ our Lord

Blessing and Dismissal

Minister:

God of hope, grant that we, with all who have believed in you, may be united in the full knowledge of your love and the unclouded vision of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All* Amen.

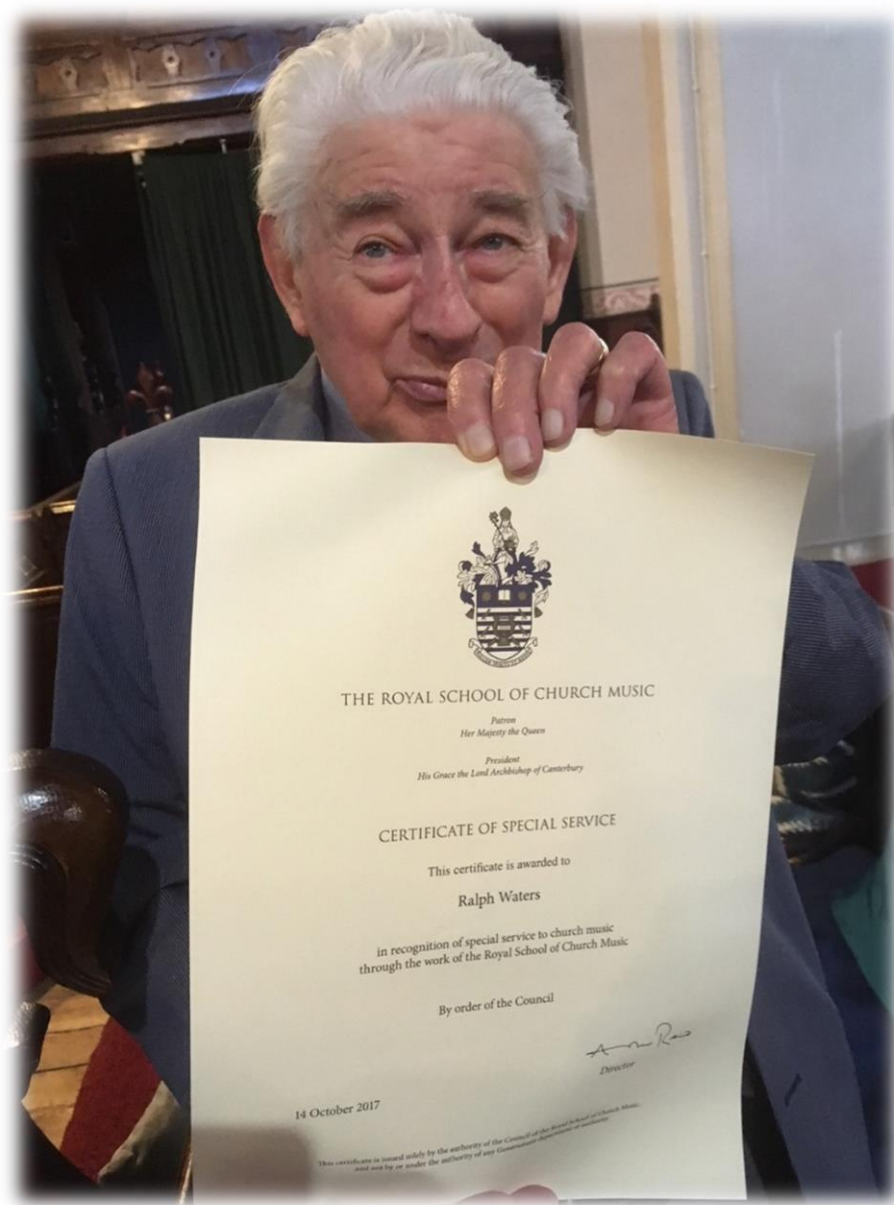
The Dismissal

May the infinite and glorious Trinity,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
direct our life in good works,
and after our journey through this world
grant us eternal rest with all the saints.

All Amen.

Please be seated for “Prelude and Fugue in B flat on the name Bach” by Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750.

BWV898



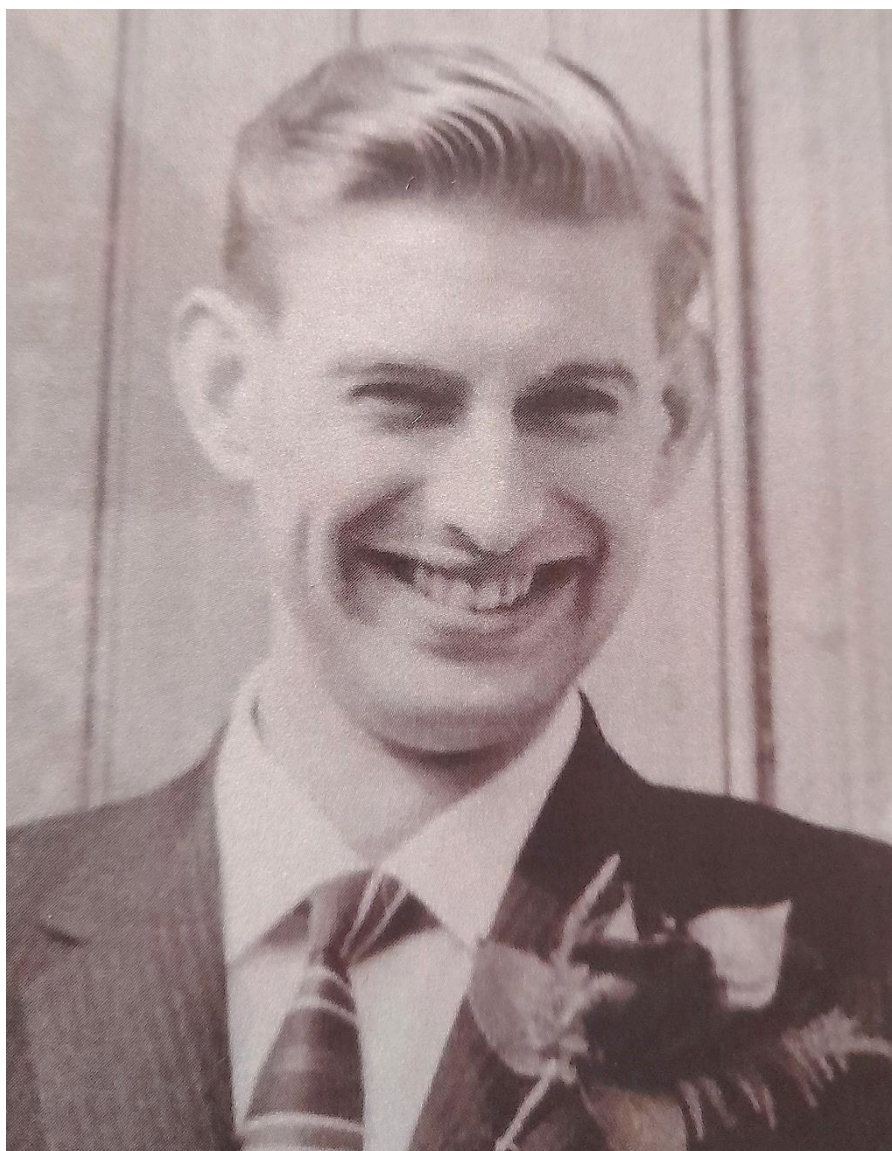
**There now follows an official opening of the new
‘Waters’ Hall’ at the west end of the church.**

**Ralph, along with fellow members of the church present
today, was instrumental in the planning of this
wonderful space. We hope he would approve!**

**Stay with us for refreshments as we meet to chat and
catch up, after celebrating the life of a dear friend.**

If you would like to help us to continue the reordering at the west end, by erecting a glass screen and door to separate the hall from the church, please feel free to donate. We also have a card machine, should you be 'cashless!'





Ralph Venton Waters

8th April 1940 to 17th December 2021