

A Service of Celebration for the Life of
Zoë Catherine Rose Wilson

18th October 1985 - 27th April 2023



St Nicolas Church,
Prestbury

Wednesday 24th May 2023
at 2.00 pm



ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL MUSIC
Pachelbel's Canon

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPENING PRAYER





HYMN

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise,
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up and follow thee,
rise up and follow thee.

O sabbath rest by Galilee,
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love,
interpreted by love.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace,
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm,
O still, small voice of calm.

PRAYERS

BIBLE READING

John, Chapter 14: verses 1-7

read by David Knight, Zoë's father

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so,

I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again,
and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest;
and how can we know the way?

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life:
no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also:
and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.





PSALM 23

The Lord Is My Shepherd
led by Sarah Hunt

***All:* 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.**



THE EULOGY
by Mark Howdle, Zoë's Godfather

PHOTOGRAPHIC SLIDESHOW

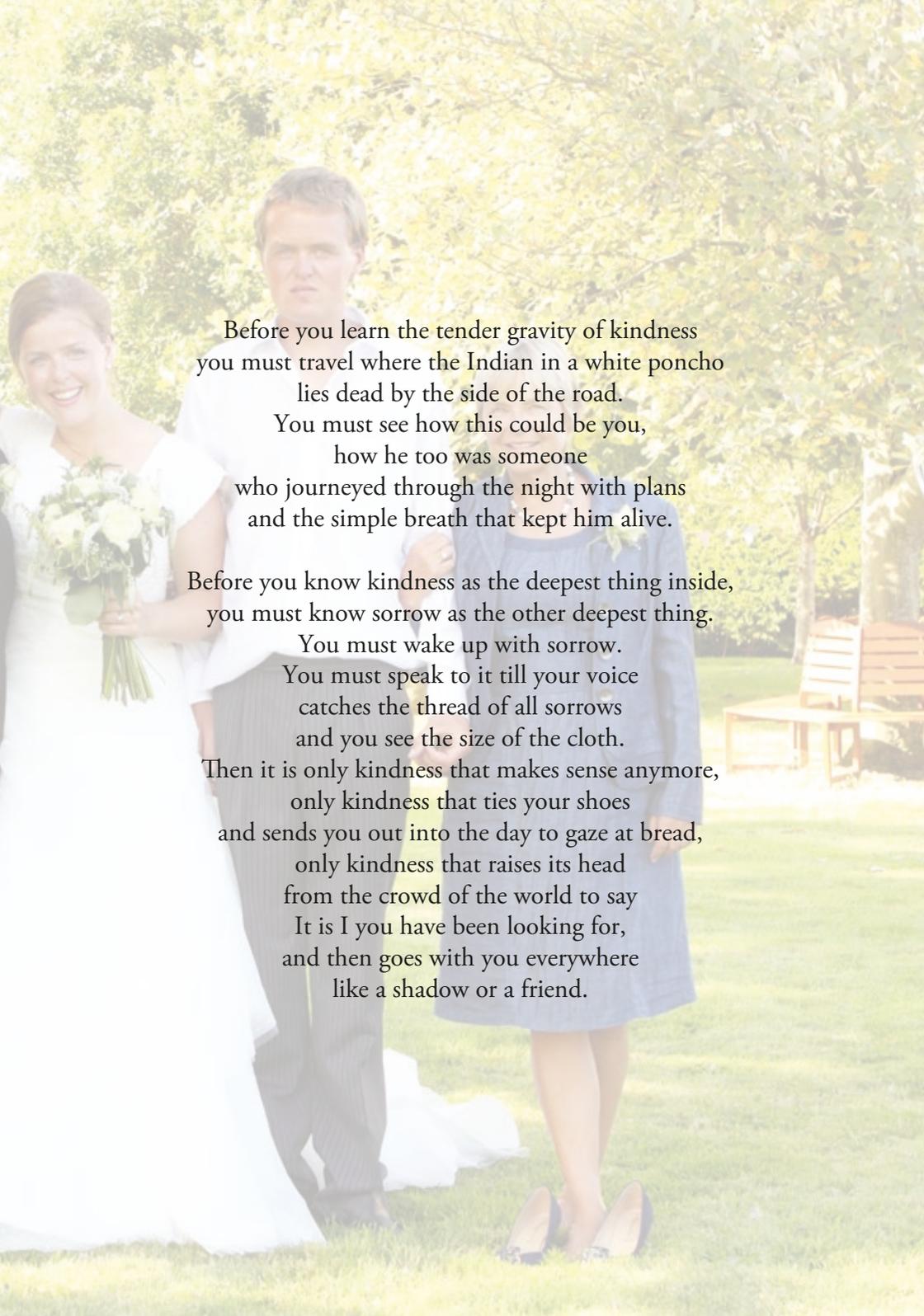


A photograph of a family of four in formal attire standing outdoors in a park-like setting. A woman in a blue dress is on the left, a man in a grey suit is in the center, and a man in a dark suit is on the right. A black dog is being held by the man in the center. The background shows trees and a grassy area.

POEM

Kindness by Naomi Shihab Nye
read by Verity Greenhalgh, Zoë's sister

Before you know what kindness really is
you must lose things,
feel the future dissolve in a moment
like salt in a weakened broth.
What you held in your hand,
what you counted and carefully saved,
all this must go so you know
how desolate the landscape can be
between the regions of kindness.
How you ride and ride
thinking the bus will never stop,
the passengers eating maize and chicken
will stare out the window forever.

A soft-focus photograph of a wedding scene. On the left, a bride in a white dress holds a bouquet of white and yellow flowers. In the center, a groom in a white shirt and dark trousers stands with his hands in his pockets. To the right, a woman in a blue dress stands looking towards the camera. The background is a lush green lawn with trees and a wooden bench.

Before you learn the tender gravity of kindness
you must travel where the Indian in a white poncho
lies dead by the side of the road.
You must see how this could be you,
how he too was someone
who journeyed through the night with plans
and the simple breath that kept him alive.

Before you know kindness as the deepest thing inside,
you must know sorrow as the other deepest thing.
You must wake up with sorrow.
You must speak to it till your voice
catches the thread of all sorrows
and you see the size of the cloth.
Then it is only kindness that makes sense anymore,
only kindness that ties your shoes
and sends you out into the day to gaze at bread,
only kindness that raises its head
from the crowd of the world to say
It is I you have been looking for,
and then goes with you everywhere
like a shadow or a friend.



HYMN

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:
be thou mine inheritance now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun,
O grant me its joys after victory is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

PRAYERS

concluding with THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

TAIZÉ CHANT Bless The Lord, My Soul





THE COMMENDATION

THE BLESSING

RECESSIONAL MUSIC

Nimrod from Variations on an Original Theme ('Enigma'), Op. 36
Edward Elgar





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Donations for:
**Sue Ryder Leckhampton Court Hospice and
Brain Tumour Research.**

Donations may be left as you leave the church or made online at:
www.teamzoe.co.uk/funeral/

And, if desired, on the plate for
the mission and maintenance of this Church.

Please join Zoë's family in the Panoramic Suite
at Cheltenham Racecourse after the service for refreshments.

*Turn right out of the church car park, cross the mini roundabout
and head up to the large roundabout. Take the second exit to enter the racecourse,
and drive round to the rear for free parking and entrance to the building.
Then take the lift up to the Panoramic Suite.*





A MESSAGE FROM ZOË TO JOHN AND MARK:

Extracts from 'Pooh's Grand Adventure',
J. Korman, K. Geurs and C. Crocker,
based on 'Winnie the Pooh', by A. A. Milne

*"If there is ever a tomorrow when we're not together...
There is something you must always remember.
You are braver than you believe,
Stronger than you seem
And smarter than you think.
But the most important thing is,
Even if we're apart...
I'll always be with you."*