



Donations in memory of Alec would be appreciated for:

**British Heart Foundation and
St Andrew's Church Restoration Project**

and may be left in the donation box at the end of the service or online at:
www.hillierfuneralservice.co.uk/obituaries/alec-edward-friend-chambers

Following the funeral you are warmly invited
to join the family for refreshments at:

Shrivenham Memorial Hall
Shrivenham
SN6 8AU

St Andrew's Church, Shrivenham
Tuesday 16th July 2024 at 12.00 noon



A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of

Alec Edward Friend Chambers

2nd June 1925 - 15th June 2024

Hymn

'I Vow to Thee my Country'

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
The love that asks no questions, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice

And there's another country I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

Prayer

The Dismissal

Hymn

'Love Divine'

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of Heav'n to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesu, Thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Closing Music

'The Jolly Airman'

Central Band of the Royal Air Force

Hymn

'O Lord my God (How Great Thou Art)'

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

And when I think of God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And lead me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow with humble adoration,
And then proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

Tribute

Bill Gillespie

Reading

*'I thank Thee Lord that I have lived'
Elizabeth Countess of Craven 1750 -1828
read by Gus Gillespie*

I thank thee God, that I have lived
In this great world and known its many joys:
The songs of birds, the strong sweet scent of hay,
And cooling breezes in the secret dusk;
The flaming sunsets at the close of day,
Hills and the lovely, heather-covered moors;
Music at night, and moonlight on the sea,
The beat of waves upon the rocky shore
And wild white spray, flung high in ecstasy;
The faithful eyes of dogs, and treasured books,
The love of Kin and fellowship of friends
And all that makes life dear and beautiful.

I thank Thee too, that there has come to me
A little sorrow and sometimes defeat,
A little heartache and the loneliness
That comes with parting and the words 'Good-bye';
Dawn breaking after weary hours of pain,
When I discovered that night's gloom must yield
And morning light break through to me again.
Because of these and other blessings poured
Unasked upon my wondering head,
Because I know that there is yet to come
An even richer and more glorious life,
And most of all, because Thine only Son
Once sacrificed life's loveliness for me,
I thank Thee, God, that I have lived.

Prayers

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conducted by Reverend Robin Cardwell

Organist: Bernard Martin

Berlin Airlift Veterans

They look back at times gone by
To that great armada in the sky
Silhouettes above a blockaded city
They came to help Berlin, not to pity
No thought of conquer, or of gain
But a fragile peace to sustain
All young and in their prime
Long, long ago another time
Many nations stood side by side
A force no man could divide
How many know, how many care
The impossible task they did in the air
Many said it could not be done
They gave their all the task was won
The last magnificent piston engine story
Pratt and Whitney, Hercules, Merlin, end in glory
Tempelhof airfield saved Berlin, and yet
They closed its gates with no regret
Built by the people in record time
Tegel airfield, is it next in line?
Will Berliners stand in Air Bridge Square?
To find the memorial no longer there
Will the memories of the veterans fade away?
Like the propeller aircraft of yesterday
No, our bond with Berlin can never be broke
With the memories we have no words need to be spoken
W.L. Ball

Welcome and Introduction

Hymn

'Lord of all Hopefulness'

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.

Prayer

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 13, verses 1 - 13
read by Edward Gillespie

Gospel Reading

John 14, verses 1 - 6
read by Harry Gillespie