The Right Reverend
John Robert Geoffrey Neale

21st September 1926 – 17th July 2020

Friday 31st July 2020 at 2.45pm

Church of the Holy Cross
Ramsbury
Order of Service

Welcome
The Reverend Mike Lange-Smith

Sentences from Scripture

Opening Prayer
Hymn
read by Jean Barlow

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
    Alleluya, Alleluya!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:

    O praise him, Alleluya!

And all ye men of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
    O sing ye, Alleluya!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on him cast your care:

    O praise him, Alleluya!

And thou, most kind and gentle death,
Waiting to hush our latest breath,
    O praise him, Alleluya!
Thou leadest home the child of God,
And Christ our Lord the way hath trod:

    O praise him, Alleluya!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
    O praise him, Alleluya!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One:

    O praise him, O praise him,
        Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!

St Francis of Assisi (Tr. William Henry Draper)
Psalm 27
read by Wendy Lange-Smith

Hymn
read by John Spicer

O thou who camest from above
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for Thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return,
In humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart’s desire
To work, and speak, and think for Thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up Thy gift in me.

Ready for all Thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death Thy endless mercies seal,
And make the sacrifice complete.

Charles Wesley

An extract from “Little Gidding” in T.S. Eliot’s “Four Quartets”
read by The Right Reverend Humphrey Southern

2 Corinthians 4:16-17 and 5:6-10
read by The Venerable Mark Ireland
Hymn
read by Caroline Morrison

My God, how wonderful thou art,
Thy majesty how bright!
How beautiful Thy mercy-seat,
In depths of burning light!

How wonderful, how beautiful
The sight of Thee must be,
Thine endless wisdom, boundless power,
And awesome purity!

Yet I may love Thee too, O Lord,
Almighty as Thou art,
For Thou hast stooped to ask of me
The love of my poor heart.

No earthly father loves like Thee;
No mother e’er so mild
Bears and forbears as Thou hast done
With me, Thy sinful child.

Father of Jesus, love’s reward,
What rapture will it be
Prostrate before Thy throne to lie,
And gaze, and gaze on Thee.

Frederick W. Faber

John 10:10b and verses 14–16
read by The Right Reverend Pete Wilcox

Address
The Bishop of Salisbury,
The Right Reverend Nicholas Holtam
Prayers
led by The Right Reverend Stephen Venner

The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn
read by Vikki Matcham

When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Isaac Watts

Commendation
Go forth upon your journey from this world, Christian soul, into the hands of the Father who made you, to find life in Christ who redeemed you, to rejoice in the Spirit who renews you. May the heavenly host sustain you and the company of the redeemed enfold you; may peace be yours this day, and the heavenly city your home. Amen.

_Nunc Dimittis_
Now, Lord, let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

(Luke 2.29-32)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.
Please leave the church by the other door, keeping a safe distance, and gather near the gate to see the hearse depart for the North Wiltshire Crematorium. Bishop John’s ashes will be interred at a later date.

Please come and share memories of John! Safe-distance-refreshments in the garden at the home of John and Rebecca Spicer Minal Woodlands House, Mildenhall, Marlborough SN8 2NH 15 minutes from Ramsbury