The Burial of Ashes

**George Chadwick**

**31st July 2018**

**Preparation**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

*The priest introduces the service and then says:*

Though we are dust and ashes, God has prepared for those who love him a heavenly dwelling place. As we prepare to commit the George’s remains to the earth, we entrust ourselves and all who love God to his loving care.

**The Scriptural Reading**

The eternal God is our refuge,

and underneath are the everlasting arms.

1    O Lord, you have searched me out and known me;    
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

2    You mark out my journeys and my resting place and are acquainted with all my ways.

3    For there is not a word on my tongue, but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

4    You encompass me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.

5    Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, so high that I cannot attain it.

6    Where can I go then from your spirit? or where can I flee from your presence?

7    If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

8    If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

9    Even there your hand shall lead me, your right hand hold me fast.

10  If I say, ‘Surely the darkness will cover me and the light around me turn to night,’

11  Even darkness is no darkness with you; the night is as clear as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

13  I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

**The Committal**

God our Father, in loving care your hand has created us, and as the potter fashions the clay you have formed us in your image. Through the Holy Spirit you have breathed into us the gift of life. In the sharing of love, you have enriched our knowledge of you and of one another. We claim your love today, as we return these ashes to the ground in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life.

**All   Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Prayers**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for all those whom we love but see no longer. As we remember *George* in this place, hold before us our beginning and our ending, the dust from which we come and the death to which we move, with a firm hope in your eternal love and purposes for us, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Your mighty power brings joy out of grief and life out of death. Look in mercy on George’s family and all who mourn at this time. Give them patient faith in times of darkness. Strengthen them with the knowledge of your love. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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.  **Amen.**

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; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.   **Amen.**

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