

# A service of Thanksgiving for the life of

## Fabian John Lo Schiavo

15 December 1949 - 11 May 2023

## St Luke's Anglican Church Enmore 29 May 2023

Celebrant: Fr Jeffrey Parker



Welcome: Fr Jeff

Grace and peace from the Lord be with you.

## And also with you.

We have come together to thank God for the life of Fabian John Lo Schiavo to mourn and honour him, and to support one another in grief.

We face the certainty of our own death and judgement. Yet Christians believe that those who die in Christ share eternal life with him.

Therefore in faith and hope we turn to God, who created and sustains us all.

#### CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS RECEIVED

## a) The candle

Light immortal, you brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. May we, with Fabian and all the baptised, know the full light of your risen presence. **Amen.** 

## b) Water

In the waters of baptism we died with Christ, and began to walk in newness of life.

May we, with Fabian and all the baptised, be brought to the fulfilment of your eternal kingdom. **Amen.** 

## c) The Scriptures

In life Fabian was nourished by the word of God. May Christ greet us, with Fabian, saying: Come, blessed of my Father! **Amen.** 

## d) The cross

Lord Jesus Christ, you bore our sins on the cross. May this cross be a sign to us of your love for Fabian, and the forgiveness of his sins. **Amen.**  Hymn: TIS 360

- 1. Light's reddening dawn gleams through the sky; heaven thunders forth its victory: alleluia, alleluia! the glad earth shouts her triumph high and groaning hell makes wild reply: alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2. While our Lord Christ, the mighty king, despoiling death of all its sting alleluia, alleluia! and trampling down the powers of night brings forth his ransomed souls to light. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6. That Eastertide with joy was bright, the sun shone out with fairer light, Alleluia, alleluia! when to their longing eyes restored the apostles saw their risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 8. Jesus, the king of gentleness, come now yourself our hearts possess, alleluia, alleluia! that we may give you all our days the tribute of our grateful praise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## Words of comfort from the scriptures

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord.

'Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet will they live.'

John 11.25

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3.22-23

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life

John 3.16

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.

Romans 8.38-39

## All together

Loving God, you alone are the source of life. May your life-giving Spirit flow through us, and fill us with compassion, one for another. In our sorrow give us the calm of your peace. Kindle our hope, and let our grief give way to joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Family Tribute to Fabian

#### Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing. He shall make me lie down in green pastures: and lead me beside still waters. He shall refresh my soul: and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil: for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me: you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full. Surely your goodness and loving-kindness will follow me all the days of my life: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

#### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 15 beginning at the 50<sup>th</sup> verse:

Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on the imperishable, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.' 'Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But

thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

For the word of the Lord - Thanks be to God

#### THE GOSPEL

**Gospel Acclamation:** (said)

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Christ is risen from the dead
The first fruits of those who sleep
Alleluia!

Deacon: The Lord be with you Response: And also with you.

The Gospel John 6:35-40

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

For the Gospel of the Lord - Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

### The Sermon

## The Easter Anthem (said)

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

so let us celebrate the feast,

Not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:

death has no more dominion over him.

In dying, he died to sin once for all:

in living, he lives to God.

See yourselves, therefore, as dead to sin:

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ has been raised from the dead:

the first fruits of those who sleep

For since by one man came death:

by another has come also the resurrection of the dead,

For as in Adam all die:

even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

#### THE PRAYERS

## Fr. Jeff:

Let us pray with confidence to God our Father, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead for the salvation of all.

Thanks be to God for the gift of life.

You have made us in your image,

and called us to reflect your truth and light.

We thank you for Fabian's life.

We give thanks for his

family life and the love that he shared with so many friends ... contribution to so many groups in the community

for his strength of character, his endurance, his acceptance of difference, and those special personal qualities that made him the unique person he was, strength in adversity faith, love and hope... ministries in the Church ...

Gracious God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we thank you that you received Fabian by baptism into the family of your Church on earth, and granted him the gift of eternal life. He ate with us the bread of life and drank from the cup of salvation. We thank you for all your goodness to Fabian in Christ our Saviour. **Amen.** 

We thank you, our Father, that your Son Jesus Christ came to die for us.
We thank you that you raised him from the dead.
We thank you for the gift of life, and the life of Fabian.
Bring us, with Fabian and all your faithful people, to the fullness of life you promise to those who love you.
Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer.

We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Grant us forgiveness, and assure us of your love. Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer.

Strengthen us to love and obey you, that we may live the rest of our lives in following your Son, and be ready when you call us to the fullness of eternal life. Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer.

Bless with your healing love and peace Marco, Vic, Check, and Martina, and their families, also remembering Simon today. We pray too for all of Fabian's many friends for whom he held a special place in their hearts. Be close to all of them in their loss. Increase their faith in your undying love. Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer.

Show your mercy to the dying.
Sustain them with hope,
and fill them with the peace and joy of your presence.
Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer.

We praise you, Lord God, for your faithful servants in every age.

May we, with Fabian and all who have died in the faith of Christ, be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of your eternal kingdom. **Amen.** 

#### THE GREETING OF PEACE

Fr. Jeff: We are the body of Christ.

All: His Spirit is with us.

Fr. Jeff: The peace of the Lord be always be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hymn: TIS 370

1. Christ the Lord is risen today: Hallelujah! Let the whole creation say: Hallelujah! Raise your joys and triumphs high: Hallelujah! Sing now, heaven, and earth reply: Hallelujah!

- 2. Love's redeeming work is done; fought the fight, the battle won; vain the stone, the watch, the seal: Christ has burst the gates of hell.
- 3. Lives again our glorious king; where, O death, is now your sting? Once he died our souls to save; where your victory, O grave?
- 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, following our exalted Head; made like him, like him we rise: ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Charles Wesley (1707-88) alt.
Tune: 'Easter Hymn' later form of melody from the John Walsh collection
Lyra Davidica (1708) by John Arnold in his 'Compleat Psalmodist' (1749).
Words and tune: Public Domain.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth, giver of life, and conqueror of death. By his death on the cross, your Son Jesus Christ offered the one true sacrifice for sin, breaking the power of evil and putting death to flight.

With all your saints we give you thanks and praise.

Through his resurrection from the dead you have given us new birth into a living hope, into an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.

With all your saints

we give you thanks and praise.

Hosanna in the highest.

The joy of resurrection fills the universe, and so we join with angels and archangels, with Fabian and all your faithful people, evermore praising you and saying, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood. On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

\*\*Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore with thanksgiving for the gift of your Son we here proclaim his passion and death, and his victory over the grave.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son and bring us with Fabian and all your faithful people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord, we offer our prayer and praise:

➡ Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The priest and other communicants receive the Holy Communion. The sacrament is given with the following words.

The body of Christ [the bread of heaven] keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**The blood of Christ [the cup of salvation] keep you in eternal life. **Amen.** 

#### **AFTER COMMUNION**

Fr. Jeff:

Lord of life and death, we thank you that in your great love you have given us this foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all your saints.

Grant that this sacrament of Christ's death may be to us a comfort in affliction, a firm assurance of his resurrection, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom

where death and sorrow are no more, but all things are made new. **Amen.** 

Item: Sung by Katherine Oldfield and Rajah Selvarajah
Laudate Dominum (based on Psalm 117) from the 'Solemn Vespers', W A Mozart
(1756-91). KV 339.

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes
Laudate eum omnes populi.
Quoniam confirmata est
super nos misericordia ejus,
et veritas Domini manet,
manet in aeternum.
Gloria Patri et Filio et
Spiritui Sancto,
sicut erat in principio
et nunc et semper
et in saecula saeculorum.
Amen.

Praise the Lord, all the nations; praise him, all people.
For he has bestowed his mercy upon us and the truth of the Lord endures forever.
Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen

#### THE FAREWELL

#### Fr. Jeff:

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

You, O Lord, are full of compassion and mercy:

slow to anger and of great goodness.

As a father cares for his children:

so is your care, O Lord, for those who fear you.

For you know of what we are made: you remember that we are but dust.

Our days are like the grass: we flourish like a flower of the field;

When the wind goes over it, it is gone:

and its place will know it no more.

But your loving-kindness, O Lord endures for ever and ever on those that fear you:

and your righteousness on their children's children.

God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy for us you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Be our refuge and strength in sorrow. As your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by dying for us conquered death, and by rising again restored us to life, so may we go forward in faith to meet him, and after our life on earth be united with our dear brothers and sisters in Christ where every tear will be wiped away, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Hymn: TIS 380

1. Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory, over death you've won; angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave clothes where your body lay.

## Refrain:

Yours be the glory, risen conquering Son, Endless is the victory over death you've won.

- 2. See Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom; Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing, For her Lord is living, death has lost its sting. (*Refrain*)
- 3. No more we doubt you, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without you; aid us in our strife; make us more than conquerors, through your deathless love: bring us safe through Jordan to your home above. (*Refrain*)

Edmond Louis Budry (1854-1932) tr. Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939) alt.

Tune: 'Maccabaeus' Georg Friedrich Händel (1685-1759).

Words and music: Public Domain.

Fr. Jeff: Go in peace in the name of Christ. Amen.



Fabian's Family are most appreciative of your attendance today. There will be refreshments supplied in the Parish Hall following the service today. You are warmly invited to share in these and also to tell your stories of Fabian and how he touched your life.

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