



**A Thanksgiving and Celebration  
for the life of  
Thomas Charles Buckland McLeish  
1 May 1962–27 February 2023**

**Tom**



**Thursday 27 April 2023  
at 2.00pm**

## WELCOME!

Our family and I are delighted that you are able to be with us today. Thank you so much for coming and sharing this service of thanksgiving and celebration with us—whether here in person or joining us on the livestream. We have been overwhelmed by the love and support that we have received during recent months—your kind words and encouragement, prayers, concern and practical care. Thank you.

Life is like a patchwork—different people, different places, different times, different occasions that all come together and relate to each other to make a whole. Today we are making an ambitious attempt to create an overview of Tom's extraordinarily rich and colourful 'life patchwork' and the ways in which he has changed our lives through our relationship with him. Amongst the variety, no doubt, common patterns will emerge! This service was planned with Tom and we are very grateful to all those who have been willing to help us make it a reality today by giving us a glimpse into the area of Tom's 'patchwork' that they have been a part of.

Thank you to York Minster for allowing us to hold our celebration here today. Thank you to the York Minster musicians—the Director of Music, Robert Sharpe, the organist Ben Morris and the York Minster Choir, especially the girls who have had a special place in our hearts since our Rosie was a chorister here.

Joseph McDermott will be playing Robert Schumann's Adagio and Allegro before the service today—a piece that Tom learnt as a teenager and one that he regularly played at home. Joseph was one of the musicians who indulged Tom by playing horn duets when he visited our home! Joseph will be accompanied by Cynthia Wood who patiently taught our four children piano and provided immense musical support to them during their childhood. Thank you, Joseph and Cynthia.

Thanks to the Revd Canon Dr Vicky Johnson, Precentor here at York Minster, for leading our service today. Last year, Vicky worked on behalf of the Minster with Tom on a Sciences in Congregations funded project of ECLAS (Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science) and as a governor with Tom at St Peter's School, York. Thanks to Craig McLeish for sharing, on behalf of himself and Piers, a taste of their experience of Tom as brother; to Jessica Crossley who, with her husband Peter, have been friends to us and our family since we arrived in Ilkley in 1996 with two small children.

Thanks to Professor Mike Cates, FRS, Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at the University of Cambridge, who Tom first met when starting his PhD in the Theory of Condensed Matter Group in Cambridge in 1984, and who has continued as a valued friend and colleague since, for giving us a bird's eye view of the impact of Tom in Science and the Scientific community; to Dr Claire Craig, Provost of Queen's College, Oxford who first met Tom at the Royal Society and shared his desire for all forms of knowledge to make a difference in the world, for giving us a bird's eye view of the impact of Tom in the humanities and interdisciplinary fields and their communities. I have no doubt that these academic communities will find a way of more fully acknowledging Tom's contribution to these areas in a more appropriate setting at a later date.

Thank you to Barbara Scott who, with her husband, Keith, hosts our church Small Group that we have been part of. Barbara also shares links with the University of York and she is someone who had to learn to change her thinking from 'Why me?' to 'Why not me?' when she contracted polio in her 20s. The kindness, generosity, humility and eagerness to learn more of Jesus of Barbara and Keith knows no bounds. Christa and Matt Carns know the love for each other that is spoken of in the reading from Song of Songs and the love of God. Tom had many friends around the world and we're grateful that Matt and Christa are able to be representative of Tom's global family. Matt has also lived with us and therefore knows us well! Thank you both for reading for us today. Thanks to Jane Cook, a friend to us both as an undergraduate, and her husband, Nick, who welcomed us to Sheffield when we arrived in 1989. Jane and Nick are currently living and working in Rwanda, where April is a month of remembrance and so, as they lead us in the prayers, they bring with them wisdom from our Rwandan sisters and brothers who have suffered so much.

David Wilkinson is Principal of St John's College Durham and Professor in the Department of Theology and Religion. He has been a great friend and work colleague to Tom since he first welcomed him to Durham as Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research with the words 'We've been praying for you.' He and Tom co-founded ECLAS—which has gone from strength to strength over the past ten years. He has also been a most wonderful support and friend to us both over the past months and has been the lynchpin with ECLAS who have so kindly administered the mailing list which has enabled us to keep an incredible number of well-wishers informed of Tom's journey. Thank you, David, for sharing with us today some insight into these Bible passages that were so loved by Tom.

And, finally, Tom and I are so grateful for God's generosity in giving us Rosie, Max and Beth, Nick and Lydia, Katie and Mark and little Joel and Phoebe, the first of the next generation. We have learnt so much from you and received so much love from you. Thank you. Thank you for sharing your thoughts today on Tom as 'Dad'.

We, all, warmly welcome you to join us after the service at The Hospitium in York Museum Gardens for refreshments and for the opportunity to share your piece of Tom's 'life patchwork' with others here.

Julie

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### MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

*played by Joseph McDermott (horn) and Cynthia Wood (piano):*

Adagio and Allegro

Robert Schumann

*played by Benjamin Morris, Assistant Director of Music:*

An Wasserflüssen Babylon BWV 653

Johann Sebastian Bach

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*The Choir of York Minster is directed by Robert Sharpe, Director of Music.*

*The organ is played by Benjamin Morris, Assistant Director of Music.*

*Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off; personal cameras, recording and video equipment may not be used before or during the service.*

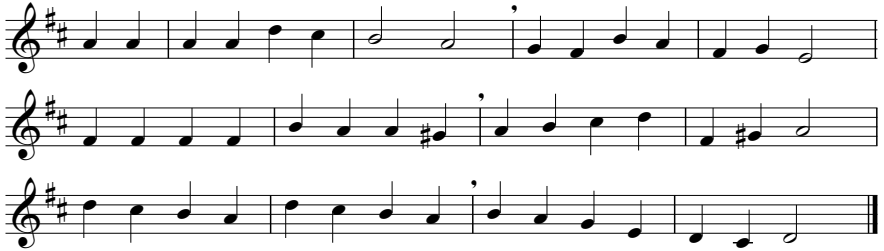
# ORDER OF SERVICE

## WELCOME

Vicky Johnson

*Please stand.*

## HYMN



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;<br>to his feet thy tribute bring.<br>Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,<br>who like me his praise should sing?<br>Praise him! Praise him!<br>Praise the everlasting King. | 3. Father-like, he tends and spares us;<br>well our feeble frame he knows;<br>in his hands he gently bears us,<br>rescues us from all our foes.<br>Praise him! Praise him!<br>Widely as his mercy flows. |
| 2. Praise him for his grace and favour<br>to our fathers in distress;<br>praise him still the same for ever,<br>slow to chide, and swift to bless.<br>Praise him! Praise him!<br>Glorious in his faithfulness.       | 4. Angels, help us to adore him;<br>ye behold him face to face;<br>sun and moon, bow down before him;<br>dwellers all in time and space.<br>Praise him! Praise him!<br>Praise with us the God of grace.  |

*Words* Henry Francis Lyte (1793–1847)

*Tune* PRAISE, MY SOUL, NEH 436, John Goss (1800–80)

**TOM**  
Julie McLeish

*Please remain seated as the choir sings:*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word,  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation: which thou hast prepared before the face  
of all people,

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*Words* Luke 2.29–32 ♦ *Music* THE GLOUCESTER SERVICE, Herbert Howells

**TOM – AS BROTHER**  
Craig McLeish

**TOM – AS FAMILY FRIEND**  
Jessica Crossley

**TOM – OUR DAD**  
Katie, Nicholas, Max, Rosie

## 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.

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

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.

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.

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.

*Words* John Whittier (1807–92)

*Tune* REPTON, NEH 353, Hubert Parry (1848–1918)

## TOM AND SCIENCE

Mike Cates

**READING FROM THE BIBLICAL BOOK OF JOB**  
**The Lord's Answer to Job**

Barbara Scott

Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

“Who is this that obscures my plans with words without knowledge?

Brace yourself like a man;

I will question you, and you shall answer me.

“Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?

Tell me, if you understand.

Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!

Who stretched a measuring line across it?

On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—

while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?

“Who shut up the sea behind door when it burst forth from the womb,

when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness,

when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place,

when I said, ‘This far you may come and no farther;

here is where your proud waves halt?’

“Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea

or walked in the recesses of the deep?

Have the gates of death been shown to you?

Have you seen the gates of the deepest darkness?

Have you comprehended the vast expanses of the earth?

Tell me, if you know all this.

“What is the way to the abode of light?

And where does darkness reside?

Can you take them to their places?

Do you know the paths to their dwellings?

Surely you know, for you were already born!

You have lived so many years!



“Does the rain have a father?  
Who fathers the drops of dew?  
From whose womb comes the ice?  
Who gives birth to the frost from the heavens  
when the waters become hard as stone,  
when the surface of the deep is frozen?

“Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades?  
Can you loosen Orion’s belt?  
Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons  
or lead out the Bear with its cubs?  
Do you know the laws of the heavens?  
Can you set up God’s dominion over the earth?”

JOB 38.1–11, 16–21, 28–33

*Please remain seated.*

**TOM AND THE HUMANITIES**

Claire Craig

**READING FROM THE BIBLICAL BOOK  
OF THE SONG OF SONGS**

Christa and Matt Carns

*She:*

Like an apple tree among the trees of the forest  
is my beloved among the young men.  
I delight to sit in his shade,  
and his fruit is sweet to my taste.  
Let him lead me to the banquet hall,  
and let his banner over me be love.  
Strengthen me with raisins,  
refresh me with apples,  
for I am faint with love.  
His left arm is under my head,  
and his right arm embraces me.  
Daughters of Jerusalem,  
I charge you by the gazelles and by the does of the field:  
Do not arouse or awaken love  
until it so desires.

Listen! My beloved!  
Look! Here he comes,  
leaping across the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag.  
Look! There he stands behind our wall,  
gazing through  
the windows,  
peering through the lattice.

My beloved spoke and said to me,  
“Arise, my darling,  
my beautiful one, come with me.  
See! The winter is past;  
the rains are over and gone.  
Flowers appear on the earth;  
the season of singing has come,  
the cooing of doves  
is heard in our land.  
The fig tree forms its early fruit;  
the blossoming vines spread their fragrance.  
Arise, come, my darling;  
my beautiful one, come with me.”

*He:*

My dove in the clefts of the rock,  
in the hiding places on the mountainside,  
show me your face,  
let me hear your voice;  
for your voice is sweet,  
and your face is lovely.  
Catch for us the foxes,  
the little foxes that ruin the vineyards,  
our vineyards that are in bloom.

*She:*

My beloved is mine and I am his;  
he browses among the lilies.  
Until the day breaks  
and the shadows flee,  
turn, my beloved,  
and be like a gazelle  
or like a young stag  
on the rugged hills.

## DU RING AN MEINEM FINGER

from *Frauenliebe und Leben* by Robert Schumann

Rosie and Max McLeish

Du Ring an meinem Finger,  
Mein goldenes Ringelein,  
Ich drücke dich fromm an die Lippen,  
Dich fromm an das Herze mein.

*You ring on my finger,  
My golden little ring,  
I press you devoutly to my lips,  
To my heart.*

Ich hatt ihn ausgeträumet,  
Der Kindheit friedlich schönen Traum,  
Ich fand allein mich, verloren  
Im öden, unendlichen Raum.

*I had finished dreaming  
Childhood's peaceful dream,  
I found myself alone, forlorn  
In boundless desolation.*

Du Ring an meinem Finger  
Da hast du mich erst belehrt,  
Hast meinem Blick erschlossen  
Des Lebens unendlichen, tiefen Wert.

*You ring on my finger,  
You first taught me,  
Opened my eyes  
To life's deep eternal worth.*

Ich will ihm dienen, ihm leben,  
Ihm angehören ganz,  
Hin selber mich geben und finden  
Verklärt mich in seinem Glanz.

*I shall serve him, live for him,  
Belong to him wholly,  
Yield to him and find  
Myself transfigured in his light.*

Du Ring an meinem Finger,  
Mein goldenes Ringelein,  
Ich drücke dich fromm an die Lippen,  
Dich fromm an das Herze mein.

*You ring on my finger,  
My golden little ring,  
I press you devoutly to my lips,  
To my heart.*

## **TOM AND THE BIBLE**

David Wilkinson

*Please remain seated for the prayers, which are led by Jane and Nick Cook.*

### **PRAYERS**

*The prayers include:*

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **ANTHEM**

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace: whose mind is stayed on thee. The darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day: the darkness and the light to thee are both alike.

God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for evermore. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace: whose mind is stayed on thee.

*Words* Isaiah 26.3; Psalm 139.11; 1 John 1.5; Psalm 119.175; Matthew 6.13

*Music* Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76)

*After the anthem, please stand to sing the hymn.*

## HYMN



1. Come down, O Love divine,  
    seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;  
    O Comforter, draw near,  
    within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
2. O let it freely burn,  
    till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
    and let thy glorious light  
    shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
3. Let holy charity  
    mine outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:  
    true lowliness of heart,  
    which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
4. And so the yearning strong,  
    with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
    for none can guess its grace,  
    till he become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

*Words* Bianco da Siena (*d.* 1434) trans R F Littledale (1833–90)

*Tune* DOWN AMPNEY, NEH 137, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

*Please remain standing.*

## THE BLESSING

### RECESSIONAL PSALM

*Psalm 150 is sung by the choir as the procession leaves:*

O praise God in his holiness ♦ praise him in the firmament of his power.  
Praise him in his noble acts ♦ praise him according to his excellent greatness.  
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet ♦ praise him upon the lute and harp.  
Praise him in the cymbals and dances ♦ praise him upon the strings and pipe.  
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals ♦ praise him upon the loud cymbals.  
Let every thing that hath breath ♦ praise the Lord.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son ♦ and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be ♦ world without end. Amen.

### MUSIC AFTER THE SERVICE

Toccatà in G

Théodore Dubois

*You are warmly invited to join our family after the service at The Hospitium in York Museum Gardens for refreshments and for the opportunity to share your piece of Tom's 'life patchwork' with others here.*

## **DONATIONS**

If you would like to give a donation in memory of Tom, please consider giving to one of the following three charitable causes:

### **Gastroenterology Services at York Hospital**

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/julie-mcleish>

Tom would be extremely happy to know that the fantastic team in York have the resources to match their excellent capabilities in providing a continuity of care for their patients. Funds will go toward supporting the York team, including the possibility a new Endoscopic Ultrasound Service in York which would allow internal ultrasound and biopsies of the pancreas to be taken in York, rather than patients having to travel to other hospital sites, as Tom had to do.

### **Help Musicians UK (Musicians' Benevolent Fund)**

<https://tommcleish.muchloved.com/>

Tom absolutely loved music and he really cared about musicians and their work being supported and encouraged. 'Help Musicians is a charity for professional musicians of all genres, both in work and in retirement... We love music and want a world where musicians thrive.'

Tom would have said a loud AMEN! to this.

### **Macmillan Cancer Support**

<http://tributefunds.macmillan.org.uk/In-Memory/Tom-McLeish>

Tom was a man who made the most of life who also cared deeply about people and had a wonderful gift of encouraging others. After his diagnosis, Macmillan enabled Tom to continue living even as he was dying and to receive encouragement himself in the time it mattered most. Thanks to the palliative care team who made all this possible. This fund is to keep supporting them in their wonderful work - to enable them to keep giving people the gift of enjoying life when death feels close and to enable people to be with those they love when they need it most.

Thank you.