

*A Service of Celebration
for the Life of*



*Anthony John Merritt
"Tony"*

3rd March 1933 – 3rd February 2026

St Catherine of Siena Church
Cocking

Friday 13th February 2026
at 1.30pm

Order of Service



*Service led by
The Reverend Canon Simon Holland*

*Organist
Mr Malcolm Brinson*



Opening Music

Pachelbel's Canon

Pachelbel String Quartet

Welcome and Opening Prayer



Hymm

Abide with me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see—
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Reading

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me

In the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparatest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Eulogy

Read by Toby Merritt



Hymn

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord;
And where there's doubt true faith in you.

Refrain:

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light;
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Refrain:

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
In giving to all men that we receive;
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Refrain

Prayers *concluding with* The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, they 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

Hymn

The Lord's My Shepherd

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green: he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
ev'n for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill:
For thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forever more
My dwelling place shall be.



*"I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun;
Of happy memories that I leave when life is done"*

Commendation

Blessing

Closing Music

Country Roads

John Denver

A Private Family Committal will Take Place Tomorrow

Thank you all for being here today to honour Anthony.
Your presence, love, and support mean so much to
his family and to all who loved him.



You are warmly invited to join Anthony's family at
The Royal Oak Midhurst GU29 OEP

Donations in memory of Anthony can be made to
Glucoma UK

via www.merrittsofmidhurst.co.uk
Funeral Notices | Anthony Merritt



Alternatively, cheques can be made payable
to the charity and sent to

MERRITT'S *of* **MIDHURST**
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