

A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of

# Elizabeth Catherine Graham

24th August 1936 - 27th February 2021



Thursday 11th March 2021

St Columba's Free Church

## **Elizabeth's Life**

Elizabeth Catherine Graham was born in Inverness on 24 August 1936, the youngest of four children, to Dr Henry and Mrs Janet Mackay. Although born in Inverness, she was brought up in Wick, Caithness.

Elizabeth was converted when she was 12 years old and came early to a mature understanding of all things Christian under the wise guidance of her godly mother.

After completing her schooling she attended Edinburgh University graduating with an MA. She then went to Moray House where she took a Teaching Diploma and also gained a Diploma in Biblical Studies equipping her to teach RE. She later qualified as a teacher of children with special educational needs.

In September 1966 Elizabeth married William Donald (Billy) Graham, then Minister in Kirkcaldy and Kinglassie Free Church. Their two children, Anne and Ruth, were born in Kirkcaldy. From there, in January 1970, the family moved to Edinburgh when Bill was called to Buccleuch and Greyfriars Free Church.

In 1976 the family moved to South Africa when Billy was appointed as a missionary to work with the Xhosa-speaking Free Church in Southern Africa, with whom they worked for the next 20 years.

Billy and Elizabeth returned to Edinburgh in 1996, a move prompted by Elizabeth's severe illness at that time. Following some years as members of Buccleuch they moved to St C's when Billy was made interim-moderator of the congregation. In all the congregations, at home and abroad, where Elizabeth settled, she became deeply involved and left her mark as a genuinely committed Christian "mother in Israel".



**Welcome**

Derek Lamont, Minister at St Columba's Free Church

**Prayer**

**Hymn**

In Christ Alone

**First Reading**

Psalm 139:1-18

David Howard, Elizabeth's Grandson

**Tribute**

**Second Reading**

Romans 8:18-39

Thomas Davis, Assistant Minister at St Columba's Free Church

**Prayer**

**Short address**

**Psalm 16 v 5-8 and v 11**

**Benediction**

## In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone! - who took on flesh  
Fulness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones he came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day,  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine - Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath.  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## Psalm 139:1-18

- O Lord, you have searched me and known me!
- <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- <sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- <sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue,  
behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.
- <sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.
- <sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is high; I cannot attain it.
- <sup>7</sup> Where shall I go from your Spirit?  
Or where shall I flee from your presence?
- <sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there!  
If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!
- <sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- <sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me.
- <sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light about me be night,"
- <sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light with you.
- <sup>13</sup> For you formed my inward parts;  
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
- <sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works;  
my soul knows it very well.
- <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- <sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw my unformed substance;  
in your book were written, every one of them,  
the days that were formed for me,  
when as yet there was none of them.
- <sup>17</sup> How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!
- <sup>18</sup> If I would count them, they are more than the sand.  
I awake, and I am still with you.

## Romans 8:18-39

<sup>18</sup> For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup> And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. <sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. <sup>28</sup> And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. <sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died— more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” <sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> 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.

**Psalm 16 (v 5-8 and v 11)**

5. O LORD, you are to me  
my cup and portion sure;  
The share that is assigned to me  
you guard and keep secure.

6. The land allotted me  
is in a pleasant site;  
And surely my inheritance  
to me is a delight.

7. I'll praise the LORD my God,  
whose counsel guides my choice;  
And even in the night, my heart  
recalls instruction's voice.

8. Before me constantly  
I set the LORD alone.  
Because he is at my right hand  
I'll not be overthrown.

11. You have made known to me  
the path of life divine.  
Bliss shall I know at your right hand;  
joy from your face will shine.

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There will be a voluntary offering online for the work of  
Dumisani Theological Institute in South Africa ([stcolumbas.freechurch.org](http://stcolumbas.freechurch.org)).

The family would like to thank everyone for their very kind expressions of sympathy  
and especially Derek Lamont and Thomas Davis for today.  
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