

A Service of Thanksgiving  
for the Life of



# Colin Geoffrey Vennell

11<sup>th</sup> December 1937 - 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024

St Paul's Anglican Church  
Wagga Wagga  
Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024



## Welcome

*Rev. Scott Goode*

## 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,  
e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk thro' death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill;  
for Thou art with me, and Thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnishéd  
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 forevermore  
my dwelling place shall be.





## Opening prayer

Let us pray:

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.

## Psalm 121


*Response: My Help comes from the Lord*

I lift my eyes to the hills:  
From where is my help to come?  
My help comes from the Lord:  
The maker of heaven and earth. *Response:*

The Lord will not allow your foot to slip:  
Your guardian will not sleep.  
See, the one who watches over Israel:  
Shall neither slumber nor sleep. *Response:*

It is the Lord who is your keeper:  
The Lord is your shelter on your right hand,  
So that the sun shall not strike you by day:  
Neither shall the moon by night. *Response:*

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil:  
It is the Lord who shall guard your life.  
The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:  
Both now and forever more. *Response:*





## Family Memories

### New Testament Reading

*John 14: 1-6*

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.

## Homily

## Prayers

### Lord’s Prayer

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 and the Power and the Glory

Forever and ever.

Amen





## Poem

*“Close The Gate For Dad” by Nancy Kraayenhof*

For this farmer and grazier the worries are over, lie down and rest your head. Your time has been and struggles enough, put the ute in the shed. Years were not easy, many downright hard, but your faith in God transcended, put away your tools and sleep in peace. The fences have all been mended. You raised a fine family, worked the land well and always followed the sun. Hang up your shovel inside the shed; your work here on earth is done. A faith few possess led your journey through life, often a jagged and stony way, the sun is setting, the cattle are all bedded, and here now is the end of your day. Your love of God’s soil has passed on to your kin; the stories flow like fine wine, wash off your work boots in the puddle left by the rain one final time. You always believed that the good Lord would provide and He always had somehow, take off your hat and put it down, no more sweat and worry for you now. Your labour is done, your home now is heaven; no more must you wait, your legacy lives on, your love of the land, and Dad, we will close the gate.

## Photo Tribute


*“Goodbye Again” by John Denver*

*“Take Me Home, Country Road” by John Denver*

## Farewell

Let us entrust our brother Colin to the mercy of God.  
Holy and loving Father,  
by your mighty power you gave us life,  
and in your love you have given us new life in Christ Jesus.

**We entrust Colin to your merciful keeping:  
in the faith of Jesus Christ,  
who died and rose again to save us,  
and now lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit in glory for ever. Amen.**





## Hymn

### *Amazing Grace*

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I'm found;  
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come.  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.


The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

When we've been there a thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.

## Blessing

### Closing Music

*"Fields Of Gold" by Eva Cassidy*





*Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming.  
See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop,  
patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.*

*James 5:7*



Norah, Anne, Libby & Janine and their families would like to thank you all for your kindness and expressions of sympathy during this very sad time.

Following the service, please join the family in St Paul's Anglican Church Hall, for light refreshments and the sharing of memories you have of Colin.