

Xanthe Elizabeth Foreman Barton

29 May 2007 – 12 November 2025



Wednesday 10 December 2025
THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Rector

THE REVEREND ELIZABETH G. MAXWELL

Guest Minister and Xanthe's Uncle

THE REVEREND PAUL BARTON

Organist and Choirmaster

DENNIS KEENE, D.M.A.

Choir

VOICES OF ASCENSION

Pallbearers

AMANDA | JONATHAN
HELENA | THEO | HALLY | HERO

UNCLE JOHNNY | UNCLE JEREMY
COUSINS MATTHEW | CAMILLE | ELÉA | CLARA

Ushers

CAROLINE DALMENY | SUSANNAH FIENNES
ALICE LUCAS-TOOTH | KATIE LYDON
CATIE MARRON | ANNA PEMBROKE
LUCY SYKES-RELLIE | GILLIAN TETT
OLGA VOTIS | TERRY ZUCKER

TO MY LOVE

Written by Xanthe Barton

Let it be known of the love we share,
When the great floods come, it will be
You that I stand with. And under the water
Of miserable men, our two souls will bind together.
Not like the stars, doomed to spend eternity always
Watching from afar. Not like whispered promises,
So small they cannot begin
To show our love. But like light, always touching,
Always there. The constant state of unity
Of my love for you.
And when this joyful life fades away
And all that is left is dust and stone,
I shall know that you loved me,
And I you.
Our souls have been welded together
In the fires of the gods themselves.
In this life, and every life until our bones
Decay in the soil and Gaia reclaims them.
Our souls are forever joined, forever intertwined
Until the end. From the day before the atom cloud to the day after
Time ends. I will love you.
Our souls are one, each time we are born
They reunite, and I am thankful.
That you and I met.
In this life, every life and in death.
I am forever yours,
Erato.

OPENING MUSIC

Seated

Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ BWV 639

JS Bach (1685-1750)

Cantique de Jean Racine

G Fauré (1845-1924)

And I Saw a New Heaven

EL Bainton (1880-1956)

As with Rosy Steps, HWV 68

From *Theodora*
GF Handel (1685-1759)

PROCESSIONAL MUSIC

Please stand

Lux Aeterna

EW Elgar (1857- 1934),
Choral setting of 'Nimrod' from the *Enigma*
Variations, Op. 36, arr. J Cameron

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Remain standing

Minister:

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though they die. And everyone who has life, and has committed themselves to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in themselves, and none becomes their own master when they die. For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession. Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Minister: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Minister: Let us pray.

O God, whose beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them: Give us grace to entrust Xanthe to your never-failing care and love, and bring us all to your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

HYMN

Please stand

O come, O come, Emmanuel!
redeem thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone
far from the face of God's dear Son.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Branch of Jesse! draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's ling'ring gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O Antiphons, trans. JM Neale (1818-1866)
Tune: Veni Emmanuel, arr. T Helmore (1854)*

FIRST READING

Please be seated

Isaiah 40: 28-31

Timothy Barton – Uncle Tim

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary;
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

POEM

A Litany of Remembrance

Hermione Caithie, George Plaistowe and Mimi Keighley – Xanthe's friends

At the rising sun and at its going down;
We remember them.
At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter;
We remember them.
At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring;
We remember them.
At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer;
We remember them.
At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of the autumn;
We remember them.
At the beginning of the year and when it ends;
We remember them.
When we are weary and in need of strength;
We remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart;
 We remember them.
When we have joy we crave to share;
 We remember them.
As long as we live, they too will live,
 for they are now a part of us
 As we remember them.

Rabbi Sylvan Kamens & Rabbi Jack Riemer
From: *the Jewish prayerbook Gates of Prayer*

EULOGY

Helena, Theo, Hally and Hero - Siblings

HYMN

Please stand

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone:
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air,
but only his mother, in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,
if I were a wise man I would do my part,
yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

C Rossetti (1830-1894)
Music: G Holst (1874-1934)

APPRECIATION

Please be seated

Amanda Foreman - Mummie

SECOND READING

John 14: 1-6

Jonathan Barton - Daddy

“Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.”

ADDRESS

Reverend Paul Barton - Uncle Paul

ANTHEM

The Righteous Shall Be Had in Everlasting Remembrance

From Israel in Egypt
GF Handel (1685-1759)

PRAYERS

Please kneel or remain seated

Peter Libbey, Caroline Noonan, Elizabeth Uzelac, Nikki Barton
Sarah Williams-Jones, Alexandra Munroe and Vicky Ward
–Nannies, Aunts, Godmothers

For our sister Xanthe, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Xanthe and dry the tears of those who weep.
Hear us, Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, Lord.

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope. Father of all, we pray to you for Xanthe, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Loving and compassionate Father, we pray for Amanda and Jonathan, Helena, Theo, Hally and Hero, and for all Xanthe's family. Hold them in the shelter of your mercy, surround them with your gentleness, and give them strength for each step of the path ahead. In their sorrow, grant them your comfort; in their confusion, your wisdom; and in their grief your steadfast peace. In the name of our Lord.

Amen.

Gracious Lord, we pray for Xanthe's Godparents, Alex, Guru, James, Lizzie, Susannah and Vicky. We thank you for their promise to guide her in faith and love, which they have each done these past 18 years. In the pain of this loss, uphold them by your love, comfort them in their sorrow, and assure them that the child they cherished is now held in the radiance of your eternal care. In your holy name, O Lord.

Amen.

Gracious Lord, we give thanks for the doctors, nurses, and all who cared for Xanthe at Newark Beth Israel and Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone. Grant your blessing to those who tended her with such skill and kindness, who cared for her with such tenderness and respect, and honored her with dignity. Strengthen them in their vocation, renew them when their work sits heavy within, and surround them with your peace; Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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,
for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

HYMN

Please stand

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.
J Struther (1901-1953)

COMMENDATION

Please kneel or be seated

Kontakion of the Departed

Choir:

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Kiev Melody

Minister:

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Xanthe. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

Amen.

THE SONG OF SIMEON (*Nunc Dimittis*)

Choir:

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.

T Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

BLESSING

Minister:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU

Choir:

The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
To shine upon you and be gracious
And be gracious, unto you

The Lord lift up the light
Of his countenance upon you
The Lord lift up the light
Of his countenance upon you

And give you peace

JM Rutter (b. 1945)
© 1981 Oxford University Press

A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Please stand

BLESSING

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL MUSIC

Once There Were Dragons

Remain standing

J Powell (b. 1963)

From *How to Train Your Dragon:*

The Hidden World

(© DreamWorks Animation/Universal Music Publishing)

Fugue in G minor, BWV 578 ("Little Fugue")

JS Bach (1685-1750)

WITH THANKS

In addition to thanking our family and friends for their unfailing love and support, we would also like to express our gratitude to the following people, almost all of them strangers before October 24th.

The Cabin Crew of United Airlines Flight 15, LHR–EWR, for their quick response when Xanthe fainted.

The Newark International Airport US Customs EMS and University Hospital Newark MIC5 Ambulance team for fighting so hard to keep Xanthe alive until they reached Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

The doctors, nurses, and staff at Newark Beth Israel for their dedication and compassion while Xanthe was in their care, among them the ICU nurses: Abi, Carolinne, Cedric, Christine, Danielle, Divine, Joseph, Laureen, Lillith, Marie-Cecile, Marlon, Olivia, Teresa, Tracey, and Victoria. The doctors: Dr Anandarangam, Dr Chen, Dr Dowe, Dr George, Dr Gosev, Dr Guo, Dr Kolli, Dr Nabavi, Dr Patel, Dr Sahu, Dr Shah, Dr Stein, Dr Tabbarah, Dr Taher, Dr Thomas; and finally, thank you to Junior, who found Uncle Johnny's glasses case and returned it to him.

The doctors, nurses and staff at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone for their devotion and kindness not only to Xanthe but the entire family. The ICU nurses: Kelly, Kim and Molly for staying with us to the end, and Jessica, Jessie, Johanna, Ekaterina, Alexis, Gabriella, Shanique, Victoria, the doctors: Dr Ariel, Dr Brush, Dr Eidman, Dr Eison, Dr Latimer, Dr Michael, Dr Rajagopalan, Dr Ru, Dr Santos, Dr Sommer, and Dr Van Helmond; Child Life care: Joe and Karissa and Melanie. We are also grateful to all those who helped to facilitate Xanthe's transfer to Hassenfeld, including Susie Casdin, Catie Marron, Tiffany Moller, Alice Tisch, and Ryan Calhoun, VP of HCH; and finally, to Rev Kaytlin Butler for her spiritual comfort and prayers.

And for their support, advice, and comfort throughout: Dr Brown, Dr Butterfield, Dr Copen, Dr Devi, Dr Ganju, Dr Kruger, Dr Rosewater, Dr Steig, and especially, Dr Teo Dagi.

IN LOVING KINDNESS

Should you wish to make a donation in Xanthe's memory, we ask that you kindly consider the following charities:

HOUSE OF SPEAKEASY

The New York-based educational and literary non-profit, is establishing the Xanthe Barton Poetry Program in her honor.

*Contributions can be made at www.xanthebarton.org.**



THE LONDON AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

Raising money for additional ECMO machines. This heart-lung bypass machine saved Xanthe's life initially, and enabled her damaged heart to recover sufficiently for us to honor her wish to donate her organs after her death.

*Contributions can be made at www.xanthe-barton.muchloved.com***



** House of SpeakEasy Foundation is 501(c)(3) non-profit in the US. All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.*

*** Donations to London Air Ambulance are Gift Aid eligible.*

25TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

London, 4 July 2025



Helena, Theo, Reg, Bill, Hally, Hero and Xanthe

