

# Memorial Service

FOR

THE HONOURABLE  
WILLIAM ABERHART  
B.A.

*Premier of Alberta*

DEAN OF THE  
CALGARY PROPHETIC BIBLE INSTITUTE

Who departed this life  
Sunday, May 23rd, 1943

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Held in the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute  
Sunday, May 30th, 1943.

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## Order of Service

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*Opening hymn*.....O God, Our Help In Ages Past

*Invocation*.....Rev. Wm. J. Laing

*National Anthem*

*Solo*.....“There’s No Disappointment in Heaven”  
Mr. Cyril Hutchinson.

*Introduction* .....Chairman, Mr. C. R. Pearce

*Speakers*— Mr. E. Geehan.  
Mrs. M. Jury.

*Solo*.....“No Night There”  
Miss Marian McClune.

*Hymn*.....Shall We Gather at the River

*Prayer*.....Rev. Christopher Burnett

*Offering and Announcements.*

*Organ Interlude*.....Mr. Harry Rimmer

*Speaker*— James D. Ferguson, M.A.

*Solo*.....“The Holy City”  
Mr. Cyril Hutchinson.

*Speakers*— Rev. Wm. J. Laing.  
Miss Mabel Giles, B.A.

*Solo*.....“Take My Life and Let It Be”  
Miss Marian McClune.

*Speaker*— Dr. Wm. E. Spankie, M.D., C.M.

*Hymn*.....In a Little While We’re Going Home

*Address*.....Mr. Cyril Hutchinson

*Funeral March* (Congregation Standing)

*Benediction*.....Mr. Cyril Hutchinson

## O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our Guard while troubles last,  
And our eternal home.

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## THE BEAUTIFUL RIVER

Shall we gather at the river  
Where bright angel feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever,  
Flowing from the throne of God?

### CHORUS

Yes, we'll gather at the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints at the river  
That flows from the throne of God.

On the margin of the river,  
Washing up its silver spray,  
We will walk and worship ever,  
All the happy golden day.

Ere we reach the shining river,  
Lay we ev'ry burden down;  
Grace our spirits will deliver,  
And provide a robe and crown.

At the smiling of the river,  
Mirror of the Saviour's face,  
Saints whom death will never sever  
Lift their songs of saving grace.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace.

## In Memorium

Weep not for him whom we revere;  
In every stone strong builded here  
His memory shall remain.  
But weep for those who shall not hear  
His voice admonishing and clear  
Upon this earth again.  
No chaff nor stubble shall confound  
The work he built upon this ground;  
But gold and precious stone abide  
When builder builds with master pride.

Strong servant of his mighty God,  
Fearless the paths on earth he trod.  
His steadfast eyes upon that Sun  
Of Righteousness from whom he drew  
His strength, his sustenance anew  
Until his task was done.  
Why do we grieve? He has o'erspent  
His hours of travail, often blent  
With storm and stress of bitterness  
When he walked through earth's wilderness.  
God gave him strength to watch and pray  
The privilege of Gethsemane.  
Henceforth earth holds no diadem  
With which our hands can burden him.  
The Crown for which his soul had striven,  
To him the righteous Judge has given,  
And none may take away.

—Ruth Olson Seaborn.

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## IN A LITTLE WHILE WE'RE GOING HOME

Let us sing a song that will cheer us by the way—  
In a little while we're going home;  
For the night will end in the everlasting day—  
In a little while we're going home.

### CHORUS

In a little while . . . In a little while  
We shall cross the billows foam;  
We shall meet at last when the stormy winds are past;  
In a little while we're going home.

We will do the work that our hands may find to do  
In a little while we're going home;  
And the grace of God will our daily strength renew  
In a little while we're going home.

There's a rest beyond, there's relief from every care—  
In a little while we're going home;  
And no tears shall fall in that City bright and fair;  
In a little while we're going home.

# Memorial Service

for the late Premier

## Honourable William Aberhart

McDougall United Church

Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1943

3 p.m.

Under the auspices of the

Edmonton General Ministerial Association

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“I heard a voice from Heaven, saying unto me,—Write, ‘from henceforth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord. Even so saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labours’.”

# Order of Service

Presiding: Rev. Daniel Young, Past President, Ministerial Association.

Call to Worship.

Invocation.

Hymn: "O God Our Help in Ages Past."

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defence is sure.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,  
And our eternal home. Amen.

Responsive Reading: Rev. Peter Dawson.

*Psalm xc.*

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting thou art God.

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

*Psalm xxxix. 4.*

Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.

And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee.

Scripture Lesson, Selected Passages: Rev. Daniel Young.

Choir Selection.

Prayer: Archdeacon S. F. Tackaberry.

Hymn: "Onward Christian Soldiers."

Onward, Christian soldiers,  
Marching as to war,  
With the Cross of Jesus  
Going on before.  
Christ, the royal Master,  
Leads against the foe;  
Forward into battle,  
See! his banners go.

Onward! Christian soldiers,  
Marching as to war,  
With the Cross of Jesus  
Going on before.

Like a mighty army  
Moves the Church of God;  
Brothers, we are treading  
Where the saints have trod.  
We are not divided,  
All one body we,  
One in hope, in doctrine,  
One in charity.

Onward, then, ye people!  
Join our happy throng;  
Blend with ours your voices  
In the triumph song:  
Glory, laud and honour  
Unto Christ the King!"  
This, through countless ages,  
Men and angels sing. Amen.

Sermon: Rev. R. McElroy Thompson, President Edmonton Ministerial Association.

Choir Selection.

Tribute to the late Premier: "His Life and Work." Hon. E. C. Manning.

Hymn: 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, O 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.

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

National Anthem.

Benediction: Dr. A. K. McMinn.

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The congregation will please remain standing after the Benediction until  
His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the official parties retire.



# Memorial Service

for

THE HONOURABLE

*William Aberhart*

B. A.

PREMIER OF ALBERTA

Who departed this life  
Sunday, May 23rd, 1943.



Social Credit Women's Auxiliaries of Alberta

Tuesday, December 7th, 1943  
4.00 p.m.

# Order of Service

Hymn ..... "O God Our Help in Ages Past"

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defence is sure.

One Minute Silence.

II Samuel 3:38

And the king said unto his servants,  
Know ye not that there is a prince and a  
great man fallen this day in Israel?

St. John 12:24.

Verily, verily, I say unto you,  
Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground  
and die, it abideth alone: but if it die,  
it bringeth forth much fruit.

Tribute—"To Us the Torch Is Thrown" ..... Mrs. E. Gostick

Prayer for Direction.

Hymn—"Onward, Christian Soldiers"

Onward! Christian soldiers,  
Marching as to war,  
With the Cross of Jesus  
Going on before.  
Christ, the Royal Master,  
Leads against the foe;  
Forward into battle,  
See! His banners go.

Onward, then, ye people!  
Join our happy throng;  
Blend with ours your voices  
In the triumph song:  
"Glory, praise and honour  
Unto Christ the King!"  
This, through countless ages,  
Men and angels sing.

Onward! Christian soldiers,  
Marching as to war,  
With the Cross of Jesus  
Going on before.

# Aberhart Is Honored In Church He Founded

'Sponsored Cause of Common People', 1942  
Rites Are Held by Prophetic Institute

Packing the church which he founded 16 years ago, and of which he was dean, devoted followers paid their last tribute to Premier William Aberhart in a memorial service in the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute, Sunday afternoon.

There were tears in the eyes of many men and women in the congregation, as the qualities of the late premier and dean of the Institute, as statesman, educationist, economist and, simply, a "preacher of the word of God", were extolled by a number of speakers.

The service opened with the hymn which in the past at many church services and meetings had served as an inspiration to many of "Brother Aberhart's" disciples, "O God, Our Help In Ages Past".

It closed with an impressive and sorrowful funeral march played on the church organ while the congregation stood with bowed heads.

## MANY WITHOUT SEATS

So eager were friends of the late premier to join in this last tribute to their beloved dean, that many stood in the balcony and main auditorium throughout the two-hour memorial service, every seat being occupied.

"He was a great man who towered high above his fellowmen," E. Geehan, vice-president of the Calgary Social Credit Constituency Association, asserted. "Dean Aberhart touched thousands of lives and made them better. He was compassionate, considerate and the soul of generosity.

"The man we loved has gone, but he has left us a heritage," Mr. Geehan continued. "We have the inspiration of his unbounded courage. Our task is to take up the torch he has handed down to us and press fearlessly on."

## SACRED TRUST

Speaking in behalf of provincial women's auxiliaries of the Social Credit movement, Mrs. M. Jury declared Dean Aberhart had labored unceasingly in behalf of his fellowman.

"He gave us a sacred trust," Mrs. Jury said. "We must not flag nor falter until we have attained his objective — economic freedom for the people."

Association of the late Premier Aberhart with the Crescent Heights High School, of which he was principal for many years, was recalled in a tribute by James D. Ferguson, M.A. vice-principal.

WILLIAM  
cipal, he said, had built Crescent Heights High School into one of the largest and most progressive high schools in the west.

### HELPED EDUCATION

As minister of education, Premier Aberhart introduced legislation which had an excellent educational effect, Mr. Ferguson continued. By enlarging the school districts, many rural children were offered educational opportunities unavailable previously.

This was an outstanding educational achievement. Also due to Premier Aberhart was credit for legislation making teaching a profession.

Rev. William J. Laing, pastor of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute Baptist Church, declared Dean Aberhart had the life and character of a saint.

"What Brother Aberhart was to this province as a statesman, he was to this church as an apostle," Rev. Mr. Laing asserted.

"He made a rich contribution to the Christian church in the west. He fought a good fight."

### GOD-FEARING MAN

"This building stands as a visible reminder that Dean Aberhart was a God-fearing, righteous man," Miss Mabel Giles, B.A., member of the staff of the Crescent Heights High School, said.

"As a high school teacher and a Bible teacher he was the most talented and distinguished in Canada. He was one of the most able Bible teachers of his time."

Premier Aberhart had a great and noble character, Dr. William E. Spankie, declared. "A star of the first political magnitude has passed at a time when the destiny of the people of the province seemed linked inseparably with their beloved premier," he said.

"He had the finest personality of any man who entered public life in my time," Dr. Spankie continued. "No man had a greater love for democratic institutions—freedom from want and freedom from fear. He sponsored the cause of the common people as no man in public life has done in history."

### HAS GONE TO HEAVEN

Cyril Hutchinson, secretary of the Institute, spoke with sadness of the passing of Dean Aberhart. He had gone to the heaven of which he had often referred in glowing terms, Mr. Hutchinson said.

said.

"He died trusting in the Lord and his work will follow him for many a day," he continued. "He sowed seeds which have not yet sprung up in the hearts of many men."

Mr. Hutchinson said one of Dean Aberhart's favorite hymns was "In a little while, we're going home". Brother Aberhart had gone home.

C. R. Pearce acted as chairman during the service. Prayer and a special tribute were offered by Rev. Christopher Burnett, while solos were rendered by Mr. Hutchinson and Miss Marian McClune. Organ music was provided by Harold Rimmer.

The front of the church was banked with floral tributes.

## Held at Edmonton

EDMONTON, May 31 (CP) — Hundreds of people from the highest of public offices and the humblest of homes came to Edmonton's McDougall United church Sunday to pay a last tribute to the late Premier Aberhart, the man who brought a new kind of government to Alberta eight years ago.

The young, the aged and mothers with babes in arms rubbed shoulders with cabinet ministers, the judiciary, high military officers and civic and government officials at the 90-minute service in memory of the social credit leader who died at Vancouver May 23.

Crowds unable to get into the church listened to loud-speakers which brought the words of tribute to them outside.

Members of the social credit party who today will meet in caucus to choose a new leader, were there in force to hear the service presided over by Rev. Dan Young, past president of the Edmonton Ministerial Association. The sermon was delivered by F. R. McElroy Thompson, president of the Ministerial Association.

## GREATEST ALBERTA LOSS

Acting Premier Hon. E. C. Manning, provincial secretary, in tribute said he viewed the premier's death as "the greatest ever sustained by the people of this province, for whose good and welfare he fought with such courageous zeal."

"Nineteen hundred years ago a valiant soldier of Jesus Christ heralded the end of his earthly career with these words: 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course; I have kept the faith.' These words seem most appropriate today."

Mr. Manning said Canada had never had a greater warrior than Premier Aberhart in the cause of human freedom, nor a more valiant champion of the under-privileged

and oppressed. The good work he had done would never die.

The crowded church echoed to the strains of one of the late premier's favorite hymns, "O God Our Help in Ages Past."

Lieut.-Gov. J. C. Bowen and Mrs. Bowen attended the service, accompanied by Wing Cmdr. E. A. MacPherson, officer commanding No. 4 Initial Training School.