MEMORIAL EUCHARIST FOR CAROLINE JAE LITZENBERGER

DECEMBER 13, 2025 11:00 AM





CAROLINE JAE LITZENBERGER

NOVEMBER 2, 1942 - OCTOBER 27, 2025

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Jae Litzenberger, beloved partner, parent, sibling, scholar, priest, and teacher, died on October 27, 2025, after a years-long battle with multiple myeloma and rheumatoid arthritis. She was 82.

Born on November 2, 1942, in Tacoma, WA to parents Luther Theodore Wiles of Ennis, Montana, and Barbara Patricia More Wiles of Tacoma, Washington, Caroline's life was marked by intellectual curiosity, profound faith, the pursuit of truth, and service to others.

The eldest of four, her childhood was spent in Gig Harbor, Washington on the shores of Puget Sound in which she learned to swim, fish, and avoid red jellyfish. Athletic by nature, she particularly loved playing basketball with her father. With family roots in the American plains on one side and England on the other, she recalled holiday meals when venison and other wild game were served on an heirloom table that had come around Cape Horn from Cincinnati, a frontier necessity back in the 1860s when her maternal forebears had been selected to run the Customs House for the Washington Territory. Caroline was born in war time, and would recall curfews and sirens and learning how to iron the three pleats into the back flap of a navy uniform shirt. She graduated from Gig Harbor High school in 1960.

Caroline's curiosity and love of learning led her to Seattle, where she attended the University of Washington. As one of only a few female students, she earned a B.S. in Mathematics with a probability and statistics option, and a minor in history in 1964. While in Seattle, she sang in the choir at St. Mark's Cathedral, started a family, and began her career. She would always look back on these years as being the time when she got to define who she was.

Relocating south in 1968, Caroline would spend the bulk of the rest of her life living in and around Portland, Oregon. After having started her computer programming career with Boeing in Seattle, she continued this work into the 1980s in Portland, working primarily for the Port of Portland. While in this position, she developed a cargo inventory system that incorporated handheld devices, which she taught the longshoremen on the docks how to use.

After the traumatic loss of her daughter, Alison, to a mountain climbing accident on Mt. Hood in 1986, Caroline changed directions in her career and went back to school at Portland State University to study history. She earned an M.A. in 1989 focusing on early-modern England. She continued her graduate work, refining her subject matter to the English Reformation, at Trinity College, Cambridge where she received her Ph.D. in 1993. She subsequently became an accomplished historian and published widely in the field. Her scholarly contributions were recognized internationally, and in January 2000 she was named a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society of Great Britain.

Caroline joined the history faculty at West Virginia University in 1994 and received tenure in 1999. She returned to Portland State University and received tenure there as an Associate Professor of History in 2002, where she continued to teach, mentor, and inspire students. In June 2002 she also was awarded the John Eliot Allen Outstanding Teaching Award from PSU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences—a testament to her passion for education and her deep care for students. She published four books (co-authoring one) and multiple articles, and presented many times at conferences in England and the United States.

Alongside her academic life, Caroline was also deeply committed to her faith and to the Episcopal Church, in which she was a life-long member. After more than 30 years as a lay leader in her home parishes, in the Diocese of Western Oregon, and in the national church, she was ordained to the priesthood in January 2004. As a priest, much of her work focused on spiritual formation and religious education. She served as interim rector at a handful of parishes around Portland and was active on multiple diocesan committees.

Caroline deeply loved music, loved singing and listening, and was an active supporter of the music program in her home parish. She was an Anglophile to her core, having traveled to and lived in England – her living spaces were always adorned with imagery from English Cathedrals and landscapes. She was an avid reader of mystery and spy novels and a connoisseur of dark chocolate and Earl Grey tea. But as much as she moved and as busy as she was, she always returned to the ocean, finding ease and peace and a connection to the larger world.

Caroline is survived by her spouse, Janet Plog; her son Brian, his husband Robert Smith and their two sons Otto and Sigurdur; and her siblings Gayle Erickson, Mary Bowlby, and Jack Wiles and their spouses and children. She was preceded in death by her parents and her daughter, Alison.

The family wishes to thank all those who cared for her at Holladay Park Plaza and especially those who were with her in her last hours at Kaiser Permanente Sunnyside Medical Center.

Her legacy lives on through her many publications, her students, her colleagues, her church and diocesan community, and all who were enriched by her teaching, scholarship, and ministry.

A reception of "High Tea" will follow in the Parish Hall.

In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to the church's Mission Endowment Fund or Music Program.

Caroline's ashes will reside in the columbarium at St. Michael & All Angels.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD, RITE 2 CAROLINE JAE LITZENBERGER

PRELUDE CHORALE Prelude on "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland," BWV 659

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please stand as able while the following Anthems are said in procession

ANTHEMS

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

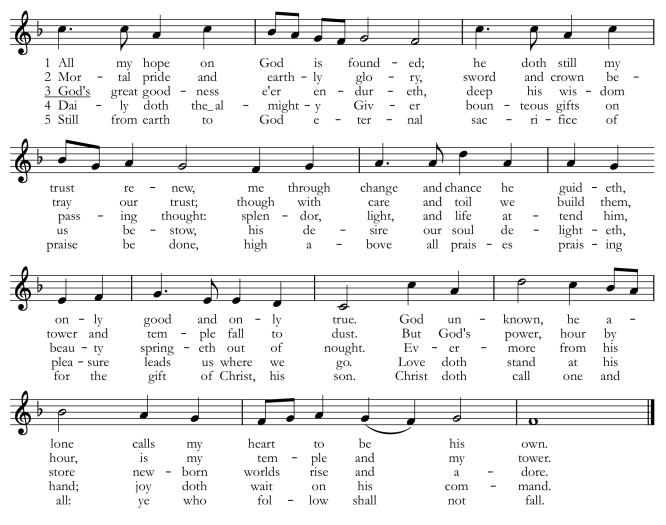
As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies. 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.



All my hope on God is founded



Words: Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt., after Joachim Neander (1650-80) Music: *Michael*, Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

WELCOME

The Bishop then addresses the congregation.

We have come here today to remember before God our sister Caroline, to give thanks for her life; to commend her to God our merciful redeemer; to commit her body to its final resting place, and to comfort one another in our grief.

THE COLLECT

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

- And diso will

Bishop Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Caroline. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

REMEMBRANCE

THE FIRST READING Wisdom 3:1-5, 9

Lector A reading from Wisdom of Solomon

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster and their going from us to be their destruction, but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself;

Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

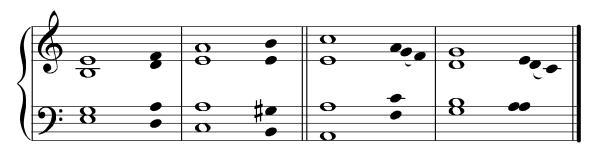
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able

PSALM 42:1-7

Simplified Anglican Chant



- 1 As the deer longs for the water-brooks, *
 - so longs my soul for you, O God.
- 2 My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living **God**; * when shall I come to appear before the presence of **God**?
- 3 My tears have been my food day and **night**, * while all day long they say to me,
 - "Where now is your God?"
- 4 I pour out my soul when I think on these **things**: * how I went with the multitude and let them into the house of **God**,
- †5 With the voice of praise and **thanksgiving**, * among those who keep **holy-day**.
- 6 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my **soul**? * and why are you so disquieted with-/-in me?
- 7 Put your trust in **God**, *

for I will yet give thanks to you,

who are the help of my countenance, and my God.

THE SECOND READING

Revelation 21:2-7

Lector A reading from the book of Revelation.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them and be their God:

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN 516

Come down, oh love divine (v.1-2 before the Gospel, v. 3 following)

Down Ampney



Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt. Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 22:34-40

The Deacon says

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Matthew

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated

THE HOMILY

Please stand as able

THE APOSTLES' CREED

The Bishop says

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

he ascended into heaven.

he is seated at the right hand of the Father.

and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

The Deacon says

For our sister Caroline, let us pray to our Savior Jesus Christ who said: "I am Resurrection and I am Life." Hear us, O Christ.

Leader

Jesus, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; be with us and all who mourn for Caroline, and dry the tears of those who weep.

All Hear us, O Christ.

Jesus, you wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend. Comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, O Christ.

Jesus, you raised the dead to life. Give to our sister eternal life.

Hear us, O Christ.

Jesus, you promised paradise to the thief who repented. Bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, O Christ.

Caroline was washed in the waters of Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her a place in the company of your saints.

Hear us, O Christ.

Caroline was nourished with your Body and Blood in the Eucharist; grant her a place at the table at the banquet you have promised to your people at the close of the age.

Hear us, O Christ.

Comfort us in our sorrow at the death of Caroline; let faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Hear us, O Christ.

The Bishop concludes with the following prayer

Creator of all, we pray for all those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and gracious power, work in them the divine purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead that we might share your life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Please greet each other with a sign of peace.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY The Bishop says an offertory sentence

Caroline's family requests that today's offering be given "in memorium" to St. Michael's Mission Endowment and the Music Fund.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O magnum mysterium

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

O magnum mysterium, et admirable sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, jacentum in praesepio! Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum. Alleluia!

O great mystery, and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the newborn Lord, lying in their manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

Please stand as able

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Enriching our Worship, Prayer 2

Bishop The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Bishop Lift up your hearts.

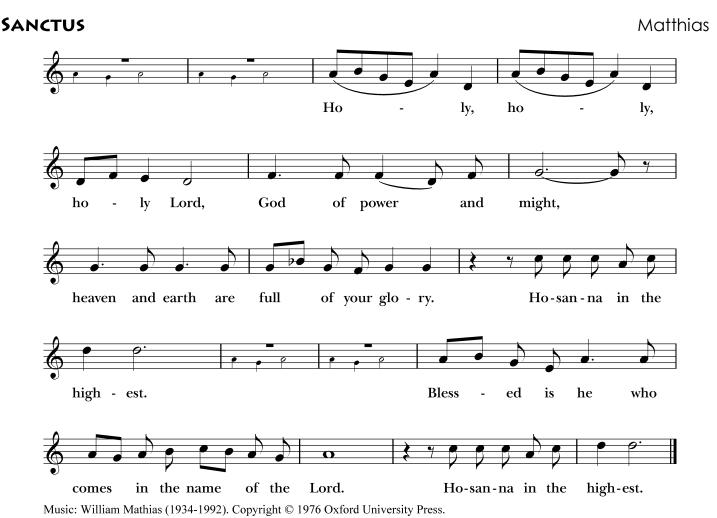
People We lift them to the Lord.

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Bishop continues

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:



The Bishop continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bishop And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Bishop breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Near







THE INVITATION

The Bishop says

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come to this table, all who have much faith and all who would like to have more; all who have been here often and all who have not been for a long time; all who have tried to follow Jesus, and all who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here. (lona)

Please be seated until invited by the Ushers to move forward to stand or kneel at the altar. To receive only a blessing, place arms in an "x" across your chest as the priest approaches. To share the bread, extend hands open, palms up, one on top of the other.

You may request a gluten-free wafer from the priest.

To share the cup, take hold of the base and guide it to your mouth.

If not desiring to receive the wine, fold arms in an "x" over your chest as the cup passes by.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.

Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Amen.

Where charity and love are, God is there.

The love of Christ has gathered us together.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us revere and love the living God.

And from a sincere heart let us love on another.

Amen.

HYMN 645

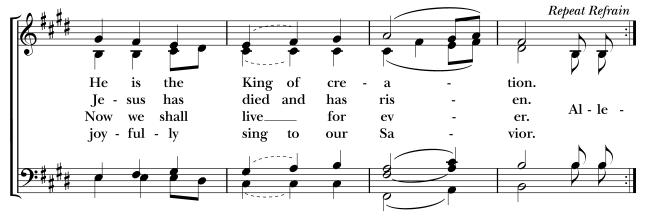
The King of love my shepherd is

St. Columba



Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: St. Columba, Irish melody, harm. Hymnal 1982.



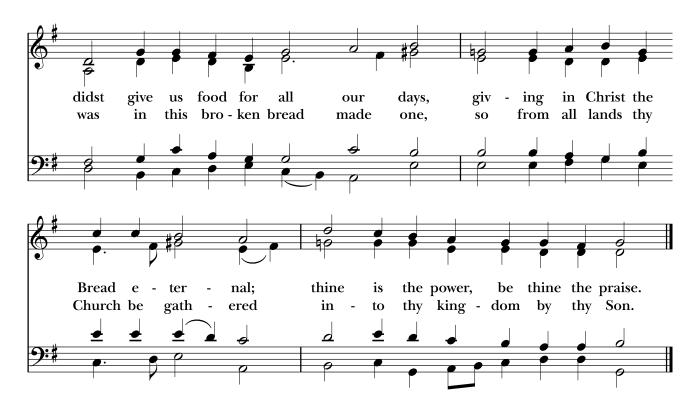


The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950). Copyright © 1973, The Word of God. All Rights Reserved. P.O. Box 8617, Ann Arbor, MI 48107. Music: *Alleluia No. 1*, Donald Fishel (b. 1950); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928), Charles Mallory (b. 1950) and George Mims (b. 1938). Melody Copyright © 1973, The Word of God. All Rights Reserved. P.O. Box 8617, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.



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Words: Greek, ca. 110; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Rendez à Dieu*, melody and harm. att. Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).



Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927). Words adapted by James Joiner. Tune: I am the Bread of life.

Please stand as able

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Bishop says

Let us pray.

All Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us with the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, giving us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. We pray that this Sacrament may be for us a comfort in affliction, and a sign of our inheritance in that place where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the joy of true homecoming, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Please remain standing

The Ministers take their place at the body.

A bell is tolled

The Ministers and Family then proceed to the Columbarium while the Congregation remains in place.

PSALM 139:1-11

Sung by Choir

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places * and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before * and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; * it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? * where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
 if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning * and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me * and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, * and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; * darkness and light to you are both alike.

THE COMMITTAL

The following anthem is said by All

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.
The One who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies through the indwelling Spirit.
My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.
You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are the pleasures for evermore.

While the ashes are placed to rest, the Bishop says these words

Holy God, Holy and Powerful, Holy Immortal One, by the death and burial of Jesus your anointed you have destroyed the power of death and awakened the dead into your true and eternal life. Keep Caroline, whose body we now lay to rest, in the company of your saints. And at the last raise her up to share with all the faithful in the endless joy and peace won through the victory of Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

The Ministers, Family, and Friends return to rejoin the Congregation.

Please remain standing as able.

Bishop May God be with you People And also with you.

Bishop Let us pray

God of the saints, we bless your holy name for all who have finished their course in faith: for the Blessed Virgin Mary, for matriarchs, patriarchs, prophets and martyrs; and for all your people, known and unknown; and we pray that, encouraged by their example, upheld by their prayers, and strengthened by their companionship on the way, we may also share in the inheritance of your saints, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord; And let light perpetual shine upon her.

May Caroline's soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

The Bishop dismisses the people, saying

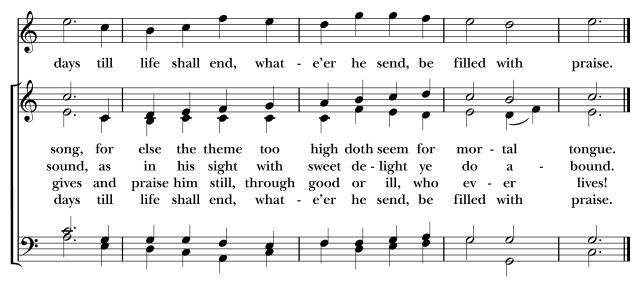
Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Bishop Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.





Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691); rev. John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862). Music: *Darwall's 148th*, melody and bass John Darwall (1731-1789); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.; desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947).

POSTLUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

J.S. Bach

A NOTE ABOUT THIS SERVICE FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

This liturgy is an Easter liturgy: it finds all meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 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."

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

VESTRY Assisting in the Service The Rt. Rev. Diana Akiyama Senior Warden **Bishop** Ann Wetherell Deacon The Rev. Marla McGarry-Lawrence **Junior Warden-Facilities** The Rev. R. Scott Painter, Rector Preacher Junior Warden-People Elizabeth Rouffy Remembrancer Dr. Brian Litzenberger **Parish Clerk Assisting Clergy** The Rev. J. Antonio Álvarez **Treasurer** The Rev. W. Sherman Hesselarave First Year Sheryl Fullerton, Julie Romberg **Organist** Hannah Brewer Tim Shields, Henry Welch **Choir Director** Brian Fairbanks **Second Year** Joe de Luna, Elizabeth Rouffy Choir St. Michael's Singers Kevin Warren, Ann Wetherell Crucifer Lucy Shields **Acolyte** George LeBaron Third Year Lindsay Gutiérrez, Ann Hararayes Patrick McLaughlin, Susie Silva-Strommer **First Lector** Ann Wetherell **Second Lector** Mary Bowlby **Diocesan Convention Delegates Prayer Leader** Charlene Sabin Sherri Afryl, Cheryl Braginsky, Barbara Mason, David Young (Alternate) **Presenters of Gifts** Sigurdur & Otto Litzenberger **Eucharistic Ministers** Tim Shields, Lynda Moses, Samer Hakimeh, Becky Tooley Livestream Steve Walton **Bread Baker** Ann Wetherell

Nancy & Rick Parker, Sheryl Fullerton, Julie Romberg, Joe Afryl, Karen Oalesby,

Julie Grandfield, Sam Harkins, Stephanie English

Kirk Lambert, Jennie Street,

Altar Flowers are given in memorium by Richard & Peggy Hartman and

The Rev. David & Jeanne Pace.

STAFF

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Dave Reilly



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