

A Service to the Glory of God
In Thanksgiving for the Life of
DAVID LEE HARSHBARGER

July 4, 1946 - April 23, 2022



Tuesday, May 10, 2022 - 11:00 AM

PALMER MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its 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.

—*The Book of Common Prayer, page 507*

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Celebrant	The Rev'd Neil Alan Willard, <i>Rector</i>
Assisting Clergy	The Rev'd Ryan Hawthorne, <i>Curate</i>
Director of Music	Dr. Brady Knapp
Organist	Ben Henderson
Soloist	Priscilla Salisbury, <i>soprano</i> Mariana Rodriguez, <i>mezzo-soprano</i>
Trumpeter	Carrie Schafer

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

Prelude: Rosymedre

Ralph Vaughn-Williams

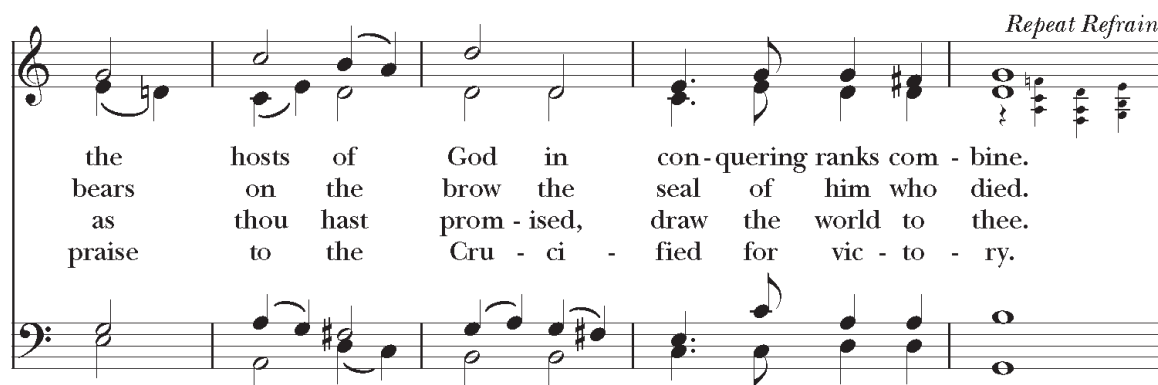
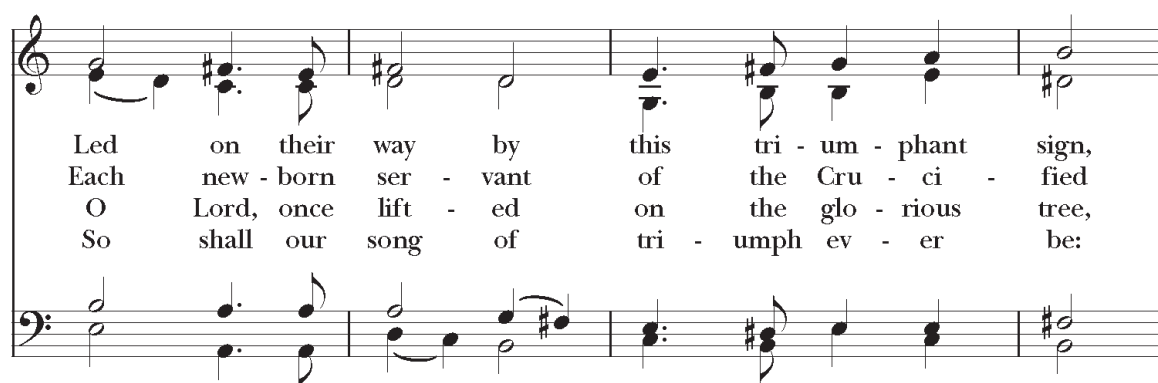
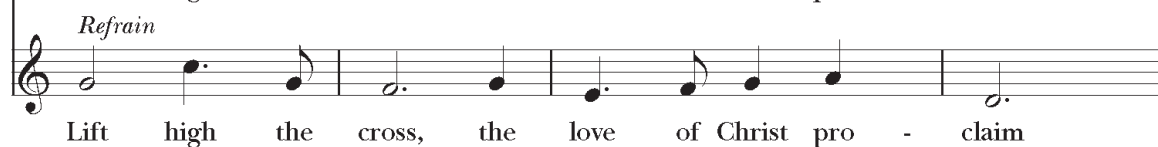
The Celebrant invites the People to stand and says the following words during the procession into the church.

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live;
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth;
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God;
whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold,
and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself,
and no man dieth to himself.
For if we live, we live unto the Lord;
and if we die, we die unto the Lord.
Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord;
even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.



Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant David, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-3

Reader A reading from the book of Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion--to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23, King James Version

The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul;

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;

thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Reader A reading from the Revelation of John.

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 * 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

All remain standing

The Holy Gospel: John 11:17-27

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother, Lazarus, would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Neil Alan Willard, *Rector*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Reader In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. **Amen.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. **Amen.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **Amen.**

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. **Amen.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. **Amen.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. **Amen.**

Grant us grace to entrust David to thy never-failing love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. **Amen.**

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and with all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says this or another sentence of Scripture.

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. *1 Chronicles 29:11*

If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition, you are invited to receive communion with us after the Breaking of the Bread. The consecrated bread will be placed in your outstretched hands. When the chalice of consecrated wine comes to you, you may sip from the chalice, or carefully dip part of the consecrated bread into the wine, or decline it.

If you are not a baptized Christian, or your Christian tradition does not allow you to receive communion with us, we encourage you to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing from a priest. Simply cross your arms over your chest as the priest approaches with the bread, and they will know to give you a blessing instead of communion. In this way, everyone can participate in this part of the service.

Offertory Anthem: *Pie Jesu*

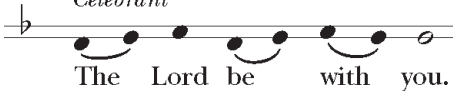


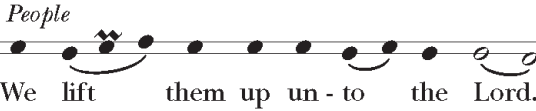

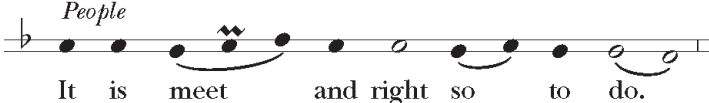
Andrew Lloyd Webber

Pie Jesu,
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
Dona eis requiem.
Agnus Dei,
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
Dona eis requiem,
Sempiternam
Requiem.

Kind Jesu,
Who takes away the sins of the world,
Give them rest.
Lamb of God,
Who takes away the sins of the world,
Give them rest,
Everlasting
Rest.

The Great Thanksgiving

The people stand.

<p><i>Celebrant</i></p>  <p>The Lord be with you.</p>	<p><i>People</i></p>  <p>And with thy spi - rit.</p>
<p><i>Celebrant</i></p>  <p>Lift up your hearts.</p>	<p><i>People</i></p>  <p>We lift them up un - to the Lord.</p>
<p><i>Celebrant</i></p>  <p>Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.</p>	
<p><i>People</i></p>  <p>It is meet and right so to do.</p>	

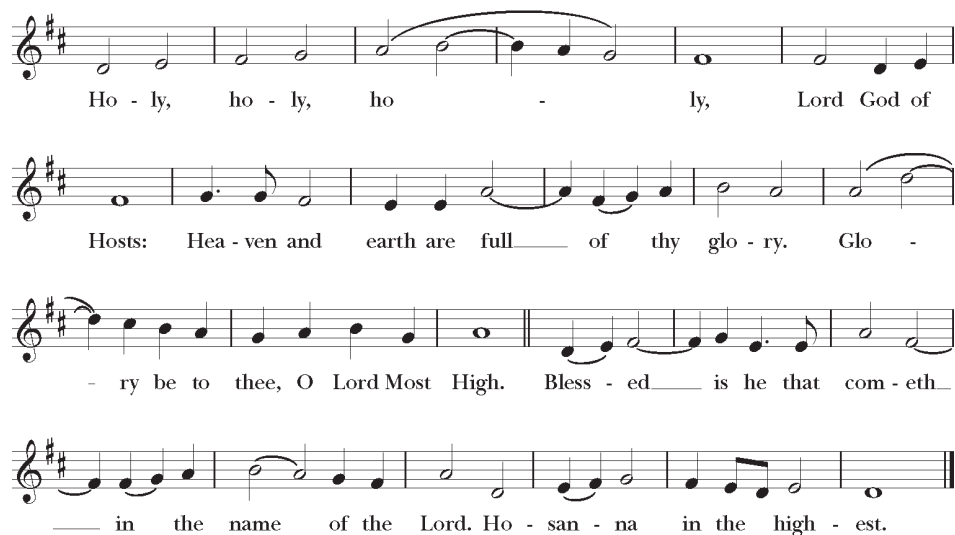
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus (Hymnal S-114)

Willan



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Those who are able are invited to kneel through the Invitation to Communion.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

<i>Celebrant</i>	Our Father,
<i>People</i>	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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem: Agnus Dei (Hymnal S-158)

Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -

way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -

on us. O Lamb of God, that

ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have

mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the

world, grant us thy peace.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Music

Hymn 325 "Let us break bread together on our knees"

Let us Break Bread



1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____



3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____



let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, we thank thee that in thy great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast given unto us a foretaste of thy heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be unto us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE COMMENDATION

During the singing of the hymn, the priest sprinkles water over the urn as a reminder that David was baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Then the priest uses incense, which symbolizes our prayers rising as a fragrant offering to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn 287 "For all the saints, who from their labors rest" (vs. 1-4, 7, 8)

Sine Nomine



1 For all the saints, who from their la - bors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might:____
3 O may thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,____
4 O blest com - mun - ion, fel - low - ship di - vine!____



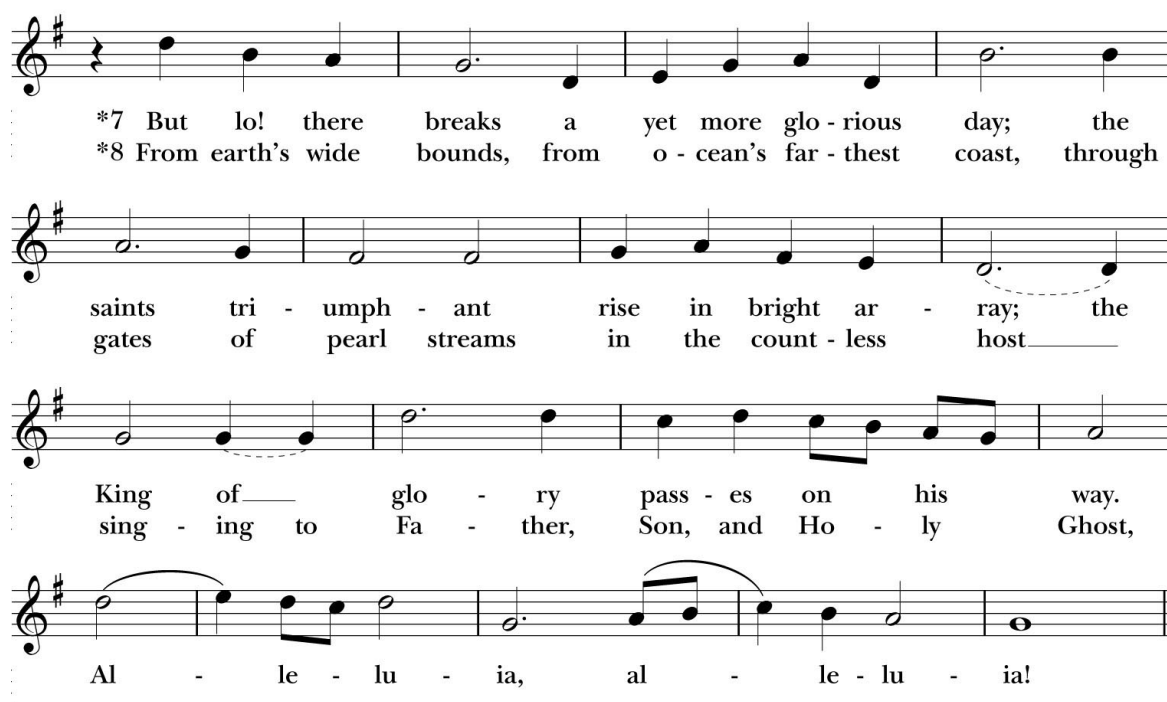
thee____ by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
thou, Lord, their Cap - tain in the well - fought fight;____
fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old, and
We feeb - ly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet



Name, O____ Je - sus, be for ev - er blessed.
thou, in the dark - ness drear, the one true Light.
win, with____ them, the vic - tor's crown of gold.
all are____ one in thee, for all are thine.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



*7 But lo! there breaks a yet more glo - rious day; the
 *8 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through
 saints tri - umph - ant rise in bright ar - ray; the
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host
 King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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

Celebrant Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

The Celebrant, facing the body, says

Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant David. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

The Celebrant then blesses the people, saying

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Closing Hymn 376 "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee"

Hymn to Joy

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Postlude: Fugue in Eb Major, BWV 552

J. S. Bach

The family invites everyone to a reception following the funeral service in the Parish Hall on the second floor.



I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. — 2 Timothy 4:7

David was one of three children (including his older sister Sandra and younger sister Diane) born to Warren Lee “Jib” and Doris Jane Harshbarger in Crawfordsville, Indiana shortly after the end of the Second World War. David grew up farming alongside his father and his uncle, Richard Gregory “Dick” Harshbarger. Time spent in the fields with his father and uncle did a great deal to shape David’s personality and, in particular, his willingness to work hard, weather adversity, and value family.

As a young man, David thrived both in and out of school. He was active in the Boy Scouts of America, eventually attaining the rank of Eagle Scout, and twice attending Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico, first as participant and then again as a counselor. In high school David

was involved in a number of academic extracurricular activities including student council, president of the science club (“Up-N-Atom”), junior class play, and Boy’s State (held at Indiana University, in which students participated in a week of in-depth Civics studies). David was one of only two students from his high school class chosen, due to their particular interest in history, to visit Washington, D.C. and the United Nations in New York City.

David attended college at Rose Polytechnic Institute (now Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology) in Terre Haute, Indiana, where he graduated with a bachelor of science in civil engineering. During his time there he was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, serving as house manager, and later as the chapter’s president. Decades later, David would recall fondly the camaraderie and fellowship he experienced with his fraternity brothers, and what a positive role it played in his college experience. Despite his keen interest in mathematics, engineering, and science however, a summer spent working at the Indiana State Highway Department convinced David that his future lay elsewhere.

He was ultimately recruited out of school by Enjay Chemical Company (now ExxonMobil Chemicals) as a technical sales representative in its specialty division in Houston, Texas. Shortly thereafter, David was transferred to Carmi, Illinois, where James “Jim” Davis, a co-worker, introduced David to his niece, Victoria Susan Wilson, whom David married after a brief courtship. As it turned out, David’s ability to apply his education, critical thinking ability and interpersonal skills to the resolution of challenging customer problems was highly in demand, and David, Vickie, and their son Christopher Keith were transferred, first to Effingham, Illinois, and then back to Houston, Texas, where David and Vickie’s daughter, Breck Arlene, was born.

Within a little more than a year of settling in Houston, David, Vickie, and their new family were again transferred—this time to the island kingdom of Bahrain., just off the northeastern coast of Saudi Arabia in the Persian Gulf. There, as the only Americans in the country, David developed sales in the Middle East. Working from home but traveling frequently to call on customers in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Libya, Iran, Oman, and Qatar, life in the austere posting was exciting (at times too much so, as the family once found itself stranded at the airport in Beirut under artillery fire during the outbreak of civil war in Lebanon and unable to fly out) but also difficult for a young family required to adapt to a radically different culture.

After three years David and his family moved back to Houston, where they settled in the suburb of Deer Park and became members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Pasadena, enjoying weekly fellowship in Christ and establishing lifelong friendships. During this time, David moved from Oil Field Chemicals Product Manager to Operations Department Head at the Houston Chemical Plant. But David's success eventually resulted in the family being relocated to London, England, so that David could assume the role of Manager for Energy Chemicals in the Middle East, Africa and Western Europe.

As foreign postings go, England was much easier to adapt to than Bahrain. Yet, despite all that Great Britain and the nearby European continent had to offer in terms of history and culture (in which the entire family eagerly immersed itself), David remained busy and was often required to be away from his family, travelling even farther abroad, or back to the United States. David never returned empty-handed, however, bringing back tastes of home in the form of American food missed by the family, or thoughtful souvenirs from more exotic locations. The search for a new church home led to St. Mary's, an Anglican church in Walton-on-Thames. Eventually another promotion brought David and his family back to the United States.

David and his family settled in Westport, Connecticut (a commuter suburb of New York City) so that David could work as a product executive in nearby Darien, just a short train ride home. While in Connecticut, David, Vickie, Chris and Breck became members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and continued their search for a permanent spiritual home. Connecticut offered the family a much-needed return to stateside living, and its proximity to so many sites of American historical significance provided the family with a cherished experience. Regardless, Houston still called to David and Vickie's hearts.

Two more job assignments successfully completed, and David and his family were relocated to Houston permanently. Shortly after arriving, David and Vickie had their second daughter, Ashley Elizabeth, after realizing they weren't quite ready to give up being active parents. The family also found its "forever" spiritual home at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, sinking the roots of their faith deeply into the community and glorifying God through joyful service and fellowship. Although the demands of work continued, a transition from chemical sales to safety and environmental affairs allowed David to spend less time traveling and more time in Houston where he truly relished having the time to spend with his family. Despite this change of pace, David continued to perform in the same exemplary fashion that characterized his entire career, ultimately earning industry-wide recognition for his work on worldwide ISO environmental standards.

During this time, David, Vickie and Ashley began to spend more of their time in Galveston—a place of peace and relaxation that they had always enjoyed—as part-time residents. In addition to the sun, surf, and swimming offered by the island, David found a tremendous amount of enjoyment serving on the HOA board of the Galvestonian condominiums, first as its treasurer and then as its president for three years. David and Vickie enjoyed much time in Galveston with their family and friends, including many new friends made at the Galvestonian. Condominium living in Galveston eventually convinced David and Vickie to move from their home in West University into the Warwick Towers Condominium in Houston.

Despite a shared lifetime of work, sacrifice, and family-rearing, David and Vickie's journey toward a well-earned retirement together was interrupted by a cancer diagnosis for David. While it did not define David, it nonetheless became a regular fixture in his life, necessitating his early retirement from ExxonMobil after 35 eventful years. One of his greatest blessings during this time was the presence of Vickie's younger sister, Elizabeth Ann "Libby" Wilson who had previously moved to Houston. Libby provided love and support to David, Vickie and her nieces and nephews during the long years of David's illness.

Eventually David succumbed to complications related to his cancer, passing away at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center on Saturday, April 23rd. Although the cancer that troubled him for so many years ensured that he did not have an easy life, David nonetheless accepted the challenge with grace, humor, boundless love for his family, and a steadfast faith in God. Along with countless friends whose life David touched, he is mourned by his wife Victoria, his children Christopher (Lindsay Nicole), Breck, and Ashley (Cory Alan), his sisters Sandra (Dale) and Diane (Gary), numerous nieces and nephews, and his sister-in-law Elizabeth.

We pray that he may be joyfully reunited with those who have preceded him into God's care, including in particular his father Warren, mother Doris, uncle Richard and all those whose lives touched his and made him the remarkable person he was.

A life lived bravely. A hurt felt deeply. A loss shared widely.

God Saw You

God saw you getting tired,
When a cure was not to be.
So He wrapped his arms around you,
and whispered, "Come to me".
You didn't deserve what you went through,
So He gave you rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
For He only takes the best
And when I saw you sleeping,
So peaceful and free from pain
I could not wish you back
To suffer that again.



PALMER MEMORIAL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

— HOUSTON, TEXAS —