

A Service to the Glory of God

In Thanksgiving for the Life of

THOMAS J. TAYLOR

January 5, 1931 - January 9, 2022



Tuesday, January 18, 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

Officiant The Reverend Liz Parker, *Rector*
Assisting Clergy The Reverend Ryan Hawthorne, *Curate*
Director of Music Dr. Brady Knapp
Pianist Ken Cowan

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

Prelude

All stand as the Celebrant says the following words during the procession into the church.

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.

Hymn 662 "Abide with me: fast falls the eventide"

Eventide

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
 2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
 3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide:
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Tom, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with Tom's loved ones in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

New Testament Reading

Revelation 21:2-7

Reader A reading from the Revelation to John.

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 as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

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

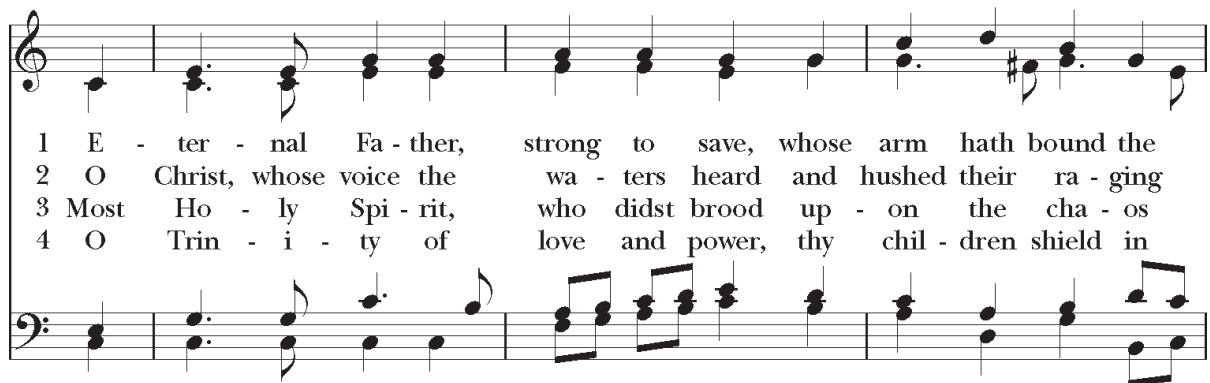
all the days of my life:

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

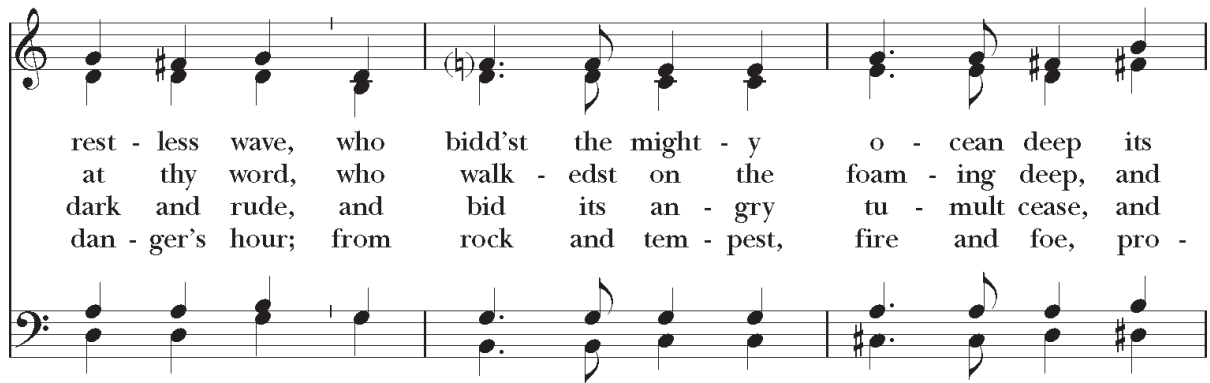
All stand for the singing of the hymn.

Sequence Hymn 608 "Eternal Father, strong to save"

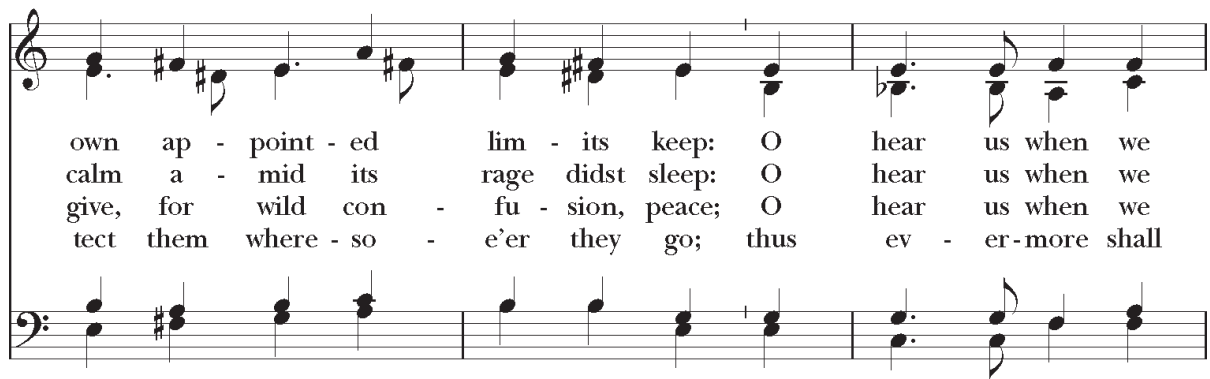
Melita



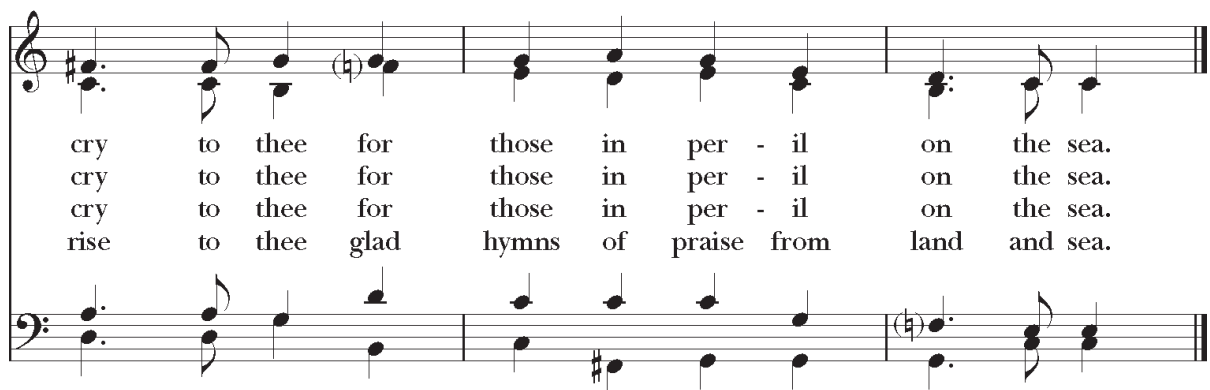
1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the
2 O Christ, whose voice the wa - ters heard and hushed their ra - ging
3 Most Ho - ly Spi - rit, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, thy chil - dren shield in



rest - less wave, who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep its
at thy word, who walk - edst on the foam - ing deep, and
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we
calm a - mid its rage didst sleep: O hear us when we
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace; O hear us when we
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
rise to thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

All remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel: John 14:1-6

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place 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 except through me."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Remembrance

Wilson Taylor, Lucie Taylor, Dillon Chapman and Taylor Chapman

The Prayers of the People

Reader In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying,

Our Father,

People **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.**

Dear Friends: It was our Lord Jesus himself who said, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." Let us pray, then, for our brother Tom, that he may rest from his labors, and enter into the light of God's eternal sabbath rest.

Receive, O Lord, your servant, for he returns to you.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother Tom.

Wash him in the holy font of everlasting life, and clothe him in his heavenly wedding garment.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother Tom.

May he hear your words of invitation, "Come, you blessed of my Father."

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother Tom.

May he gaze upon you, Lord, face to face, and taste the blessedness of perfect rest.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother Tom.

May angels surround him, and saints welcome him in peace.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother Tom.

The Officiant concludes

Almighty God, our Father in heaven, before whom live all who die in the Lord: Receive your servant Tom into the courts of your heavenly dwelling place. Let his heart and soul now ring out in joy to you, O Lord, the living God, and the God of those who live. This we ask through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Commendation

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

Celebrant 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.

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

The Priest says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Tom. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him 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 peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn 208 "The strife is o'er, the battle done"

Victory

Antiphon (at the beginning)

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

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their
 *3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es
 4 He closed the yawn - ing gates of hell, the bars from
 5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

1 ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph
 2 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shout of ho - ly
 3 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our
 4 heaven's high por - tals fell; let hymns of praise his
 5 sting thy serv - ants free, that we may live and

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)

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

Postlude



Thomas James Taylor, 91, died peacefully in his sleep on January 9, 2022. He and Joan, his wife of almost 68 years, moved to Houston in 2018 from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to be closer to family.

Tom was a great husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather – and an exemplary student, a passionate golfer, a successful businessman and a wonderful dancer. He was born in Carthage, Missouri on January 5, 1931, to Dorothy H. Taylor and Thomas E. Taylor. At the age of 14, he went to boarding school at Sewanee Military Academy, graduating in 1949 as Senior Commander. Tom then attended Rice University where he met the love of his life, Joan Wilson Taylor. They married in 1953.

After graduating from Rice, Tom served two years in the Navy. Following his service, he embarked on a long career with ALCOA, the Aluminum Company of America. Having studied architecture at Rice, Tom started at ALCOA in architectural sales, where he became involved in the construction of Century City in Los Angeles. Over decades, Tom's roles at Alcoa varied from megaproject construction, to shower doors and home goods, to executive roles in Georgia, Indiana, and Germany before finishing his career in Pittsburgh in the 1990's as ALCOA's Vice President of Flatted Rolled Products (airplanes, cans and the like.) Until 2018, he and Joan continued to live in Pittsburgh except for winters at their home in Wimberley, Texas. He took great joy in introducing many Pittsburghers to the Hill Country.

Tom was a life-long Episcopalian consistently serving on the vestry at the many places he lived while climbing the ALCOA corporate ladder. He was the Senior Warden at Calvary Church in Pittsburgh, as well as St. Anne's in Tifton, Georgia. Additionally, Tom was an Eagle Scout, President of the Junior Class at Rice, Boy Scout Troop Leader, Little League baseball coach, fundraiser for the United Way, and a founding board member of the Neighborhood Academy in Pittsburgh. Over many years and countless transfers, Tom was a member of numerous clubs: the Jonathan Club in Los Angeles; the Tifton Country Club in Tifton, Georgia; St. Clair Country Club in Pittsburgh; Forest Hills Country Club in Richmond, Indiana. Upon returning to Pittsburgh in 1981 after five years in Germany, Tom became an active participant in the Duquesne Club, the Longue Vue Club, the Pittsburgh Golf Club, and the Laurel Valley Golf Club in Ligonier, PA.

He was predeceased by his parents of Carthage; his in-laws of Houston, James A. and Cathryn C. Wilson; and his dear son-in-law, Paul D. Chapman, also of Houston. His wife Joan W. Taylor, a native of Houston, survives as do his children: son T. James (Jim) Taylor, Jr., and his wife Cary Marriott of San Antonio; daughter Cathryn (Cathy) T. Chapman of Houston; and daughter Dorothy E. (Lisa) Taylor and her husband Scott Sura of Dallas. He was the proud grandfather of Taylor Chapman (NYC), Dillon Chapman (Houston), Lucie Taylor (NYC), and Wilson Taylor (NYC). He is also survived by four great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Tom's memory may be made to the Neighborhood Academy, 707 Aiken Ave. Pittsburgh, PA. 15206.