



THE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR

Patricia Marie McDonald

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2026

2:00 PM

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE
HOUSTON, TEXAS

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.

Book of Common Prayer, Page 507

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

RITE ONE

2:00 pm — June 29, 2026

PRELUDE

SOLO Morning Has Broken

Bunessan

OPENING ANTHEMS

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 469

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.

HYMN 482

1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could des - troy,
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Words: Jan Struther (1901-1953); Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927

THE COLLECT

BCP 469

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 Patricia, and grant her 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 LESSONS

Congregation seated

The First Lesson

Proverbs 31:10-12, 25-31

Melissa Grobmyer

- ¹⁰ An excellent wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
- ¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
- ¹² She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
- ²⁵ Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.
- ²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- ²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- ²⁸ Her children rise up and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:
- ²⁹ “Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.”
- ³⁰ Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
- ³¹ Give her the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the gates.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 13:4-13

John McDonald, Jr.

⁴ Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. ⁵ It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³ So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Third Lesson

Revelation 21:1-5

Amanda Fisher

¹ 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. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Solo I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord

Land of Rest

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

¹ “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going.”
⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Richnow

THE APOSTLES’ CREED *standing*

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

*He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.*

*He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

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 LORD'S PRAYER

*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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 480

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.*

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. *Amen.*

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

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, she 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 COMMENDATION

BCP 482

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.*

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

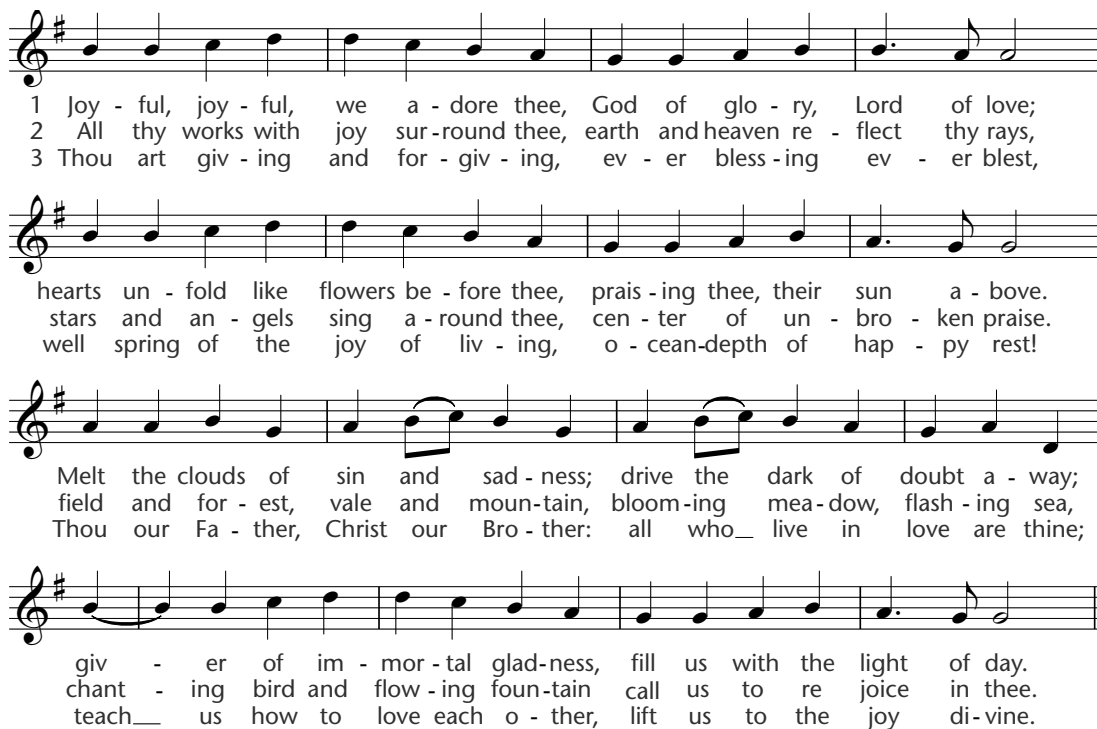
THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

HYMN 376



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.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933) Music: *Hymn to Joy* Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

POSTLUDE

*You are cordially invited to greet the family for a reception
in Sumners Hall immediately following the service.*

Clergy

The Rt. Rev. Jeff W. Fisher, Bishop Suffragan of Texas

The Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Richnow

The Rev. Louise Samuelson

Musicians

Steven A. Newberry, *organist*

Amaan Atkins, *tenor*

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CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. R. Leigh Spruill, *Rector*
The Rev. Reagan W. Cocke, *Senior Vice Rector*
The Rev. John D. Sundara, *Vice Rector*
The Rev. Louise Samuelson, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Trent Pettit, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Libby Garfield, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Richnow, *Priest Associate*
The Most Rev. Josiah Idowu-Fearon, *Bishop in Residence*
The Rev. Dr. Charles M. Stiernberg, *Deacon*

MUSIC AND WORSHIP STAFF

Steven A. Newberry, *Director of Music and Worship*
John Meier, *Associate Director of Music*
Anna Teagarden, *Associate Director of Music*
Sarah Gividen, *Director of Modern Music*
Nick Gividen, *Associate Director of Modern Music*



THE CHURCH OF
ST JOHN THE DIVINE
CHANGING LIVES FOR GOD IN CHRIST