



THE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR

Judith Tucker Earle

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 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 — October 5, 2026

PRELUDE

SOLO Ave Maria

Franz Schubert 1797-1828

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.

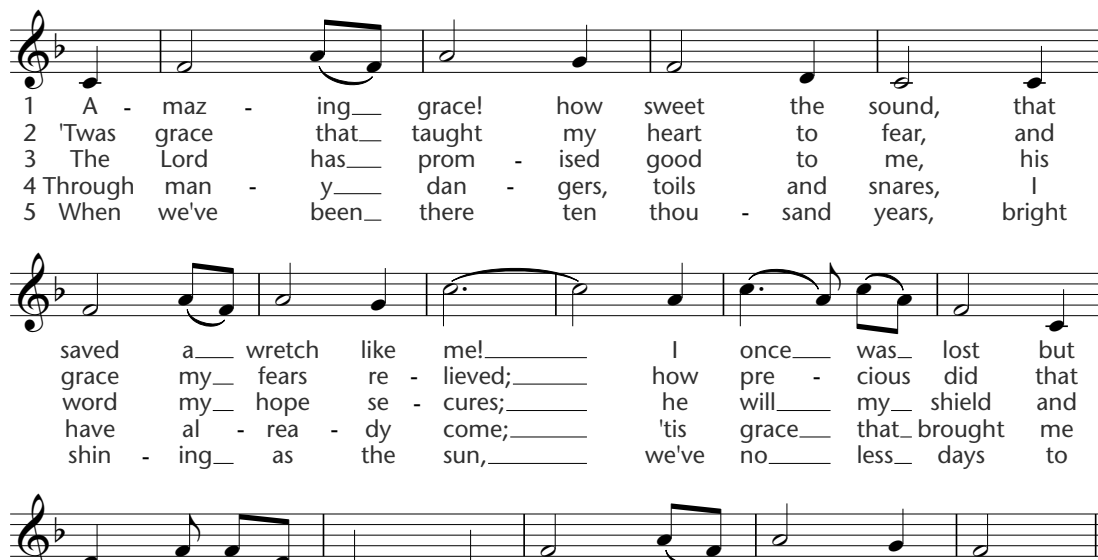
I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth;
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God;
whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold,
and not as a stranger.

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 671



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

saved a__ wretch like me!_____ I once__ was__ lost but
 grace my__ fears re - lieved;_____ how pre - cious did that
 word my__ hope se - cures;_____ he will__ my__ shield and
 have al - rea - dy come;_____ 'tis grace__ that brought me
 shin - ing__ as the sun,_____ we've no__ less__ days to

now__ am__ found, was blind but__ now I see.
 grace__ ap - pear the hour I__ first be - lieved.
 por - tion__ be as long as__ life en - dures.
 safe__ thus__ far, and grace will__ lead me home.
 sing__ God's praise, than when we'd__ first be - gun.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807); Music: New Britain, from Virginia Harmony (1831)

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 Judy, 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

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

- ²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
²³ they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
²⁴ “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,
“therefore I will hope in him.”
²⁵ The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul who seeks him.
²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.
³¹ For the Lord will not
cast off forever,
³² for, though he cause grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
³³ for he does not afflict from his heart
or grieve the children of men.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

- ¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
³ He restoreth my soul
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

- ⁴ 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.
- ⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- ⁶ 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.

Poem *Nothing Gold Can Stay*

Robert Frost (1874-1963)

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

The Second Lesson

1 John 3:1-2

³ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Solo It is well with my soul

Horatio Spafford 1828-1888

The Gospel

John 14:1-6

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

⁴ “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 TRIBUTES

Chip Earle

John Eastman

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.*

SOLO The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte (1885-1964)

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 Judy 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 Judy. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine 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

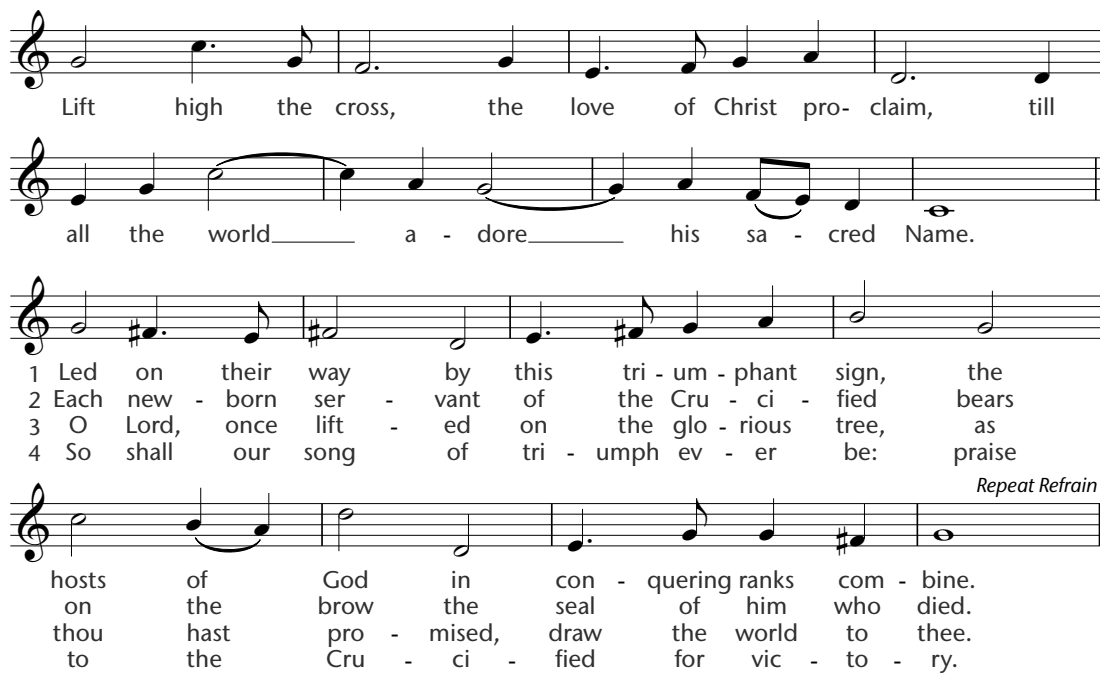
Celebrant: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

HYMN 473



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim, till
all the world a-dore his sa-cred Name.

1 Led on their way by this tri-um-phant sign, the
2 Each new-born ser-vant of the Cru-ci-fied bears
3 O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree, as
4 So shall our song of tri-umph ev-er be: praise

Repeat Refrain
hosts of God in con- quering ranks com- bine.
on the brow the seal of him who died.
thou hast pro- mised, draw the world to thee.
to the Cru- ci- fied for vic- to- ry.

Words: George William Kitchin (1827-1912) Music: CruiferSydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

POSTLUDE

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

Celebrant

The Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Richnow

Musicians

Steven A. Newberry, organ

Nancy Curtis, soprano

All music, texts, and liturgical materials are printed under OneLicense #A708913.



Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.

- Mary Elizabeth Frye (1905 - 2004)

Do not go gentle into that good night

Old age should burn and rave at close of day;
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Though wise men at their end know dark is right,
Because their words had forked no lightning they
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight
Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

And you, my father, there on the sad height,
Curse, bless, me now with your fierce tears, I pray.
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

- Dylan Thomas (1914-1953)

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. Libby Garfield, Associate Rector
The Rev. Trent Pettit, Associate Rector
The Rev. Louise Samuelson, Associate Rector
The Rev. Lars Skoglund, 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

RUNNELLS FELLOWSHIP FALL SEMINARIAN

Jonathan Blackham

MUSIC AND WORSHIP STAFF

Steven A. Newberry, Director of Music and Worship
Bryan Anderson, 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