

Memorial Service in Celebration of the Life of

JOHN VERA

August 30, 1928 — September 4, 2019



St Dunstan's Episcopal Church
Saturday, October 19, 2019
1 o'clock

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

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Hymn prelude on *Amazing Grace*

Hymn prelude on *The King of Love my Shepherd is*

Dale Wood

Charles Callaban

All stand at the tolling of the bell.

Scripture Anthem

Priest I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.
Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though they die.
And everyone who has life, and has committed themselves 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 ourselves,
and none become their own master when they die.
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.

The Collects

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother John. We thank you for giving him to us, his 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.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with John's family and friends 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.**

All are seated.

Welcome

The Rev. Marcia M. Lockwood

Remembering John

Mike Vera, Ben Newcomer,
Nancy Budd-Garvan

There will be time for more stories and sharing during the reception.

All Stand.

Hymn Make me a channel of your peace

Sebastian Temple

Make me a channel of Your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring Your love
Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in You

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of Your peace
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, ever joy
Make me a channel of Your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we're born to eternal life

THE WORD OF GOD

All are seated.

2 Corinthians 4:16—5:9

Read by Hal Snellgrose

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling—if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

Continued

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Read together by all.

Psalm 116:1—10 *Dilexi, quoniam*

Led by Hal Snellgrose

- 1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: *
“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”
- 4 Gracious is the Lord and righteous; *
our God is full of compassion.
- 5 The Lord watches over the innocent; *
I was brought very low, and he helped me.
- 6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul, *
for the Lord has treated you well.
- 7 For you have rescued my life from death, *
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
- 8 I will walk in the presence of the Lord *
in the land of the living.
- 9 I believed, even when I said, “I have been brought very low.” *
In my distress I said, “No one can be trusted.”
- 10 How shall I repay the Lord *
for all the good things he has done for me?

1 Corinthians 13:1—13

Read by Phil Clarkson

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All are seated.

The Homily

The Rev. Marcia M. Lockwood

After the homily a brief silence is kept.

The Prayers *All stand.*

Priest For John, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said,
“I am Resurrection and I am life.”

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress;
draw near to us who mourn, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People Hear us, Lord.

Priest You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

People Hear us, Lord.

Priest You raised the dead to life; give John eternal life.

People Hear us, Lord.

Priest You promised paradise to the thief who repented;
bring John to the joys of heaven.

People Hear us, Lord.

Priest John was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit;
give him fellowship with all your saints.

People Hear us, Lord.

Priest He was nourished with your Body and Blood;
grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

People Hear us, Lord.

Priest Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of John,
let our faith be our consolation and eternal life our hope.

People Hear us, Lord.

Priest Father of all, we pray to you for John, and for all those whom we love but
see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them.
May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you

The people exchange the peace with one another.

Song All I ask of you

Elizabeth & Art Pasquinelli

Deep the joy of being together in one heart
and for me that's just where it is.

But All I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you

As we make our way through all the joys and pain,
can we sense our younger truer selves? *Refrain*

Someone will be calling you to be there for awhile.
Can you hear their cry from deep within? *Refrain*

Laughter, joy and presence: the only gifts you are!
Have you time? I'd like to be with you. *Refrain*

Persons come into the fiber of our lives
and then their shadow fades and disappears. *Refrain*

The Commendation *All Stand.*

Priest **G**ive rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints.

People **Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Priest 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.**

Priest Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant John.
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 Blessings

Priest **L**ife is short.
And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts
of those who travel the way with us.
So be swift to love.
Make haste to be kind.
And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 718 God of our fathers

National Hymn

Postlude Chorale prelude on *Now thank we all our God*

*J. S. Bach
Transcribed by Virgil Fox*

*All are invited to join the family for the Committal in the columbarium
followed by a reception in Brock Hall.*

The Committal

Priest **E**veryone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life
to our mortal bodies through his 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 pleasures for evermore.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus
Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother John. And we commit his
remains to their resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord make his face to shine upon him and
be gracious to him, the Lord lift up his countenance upon him and give him peace.
Amen.

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

**People 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.**

Priest **R**est eternal grant to John, O Lord;

People And let light perpetual shine upon him.

Priest May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

Priest Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Marcia M. Lockwood

Eulogists

Mike Vera, Ben Newcomer, Nancy Budd-Garvan

Readers

Hal Snellgrose & Phil Clarkson

Usher

George Lockwood

Organist

Steve Denmark

Guitar & Vocals

Elizabeth & Art Pasquinelli

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