

Memorial Service in Celebration of the Life of

RAY ELDON HIEBERT

1932 — 2023



St Dunstan's Episcopal Church
Saturday, September 16, 2023
11:00 am

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

Concerning the Service:

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 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.”

Their 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, Lazarus. So, while we rejoice that the one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we walk with sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

The congregation is encouraged to participate throughout the service. Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude: “Ashokan Farewell”

Anthony DeMers, guitarist

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 Collect

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 Ray. 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.**

All are seated.

Bristlecone Pine

Poem by Ray Hiebert

Reader—Sienna Hiebert, granddaughter

This is how you live
four thousand years.

You get your seed
to the top of White Mountain
where the air is pure
and the wars are far away.

You sink your roots
into the granite soil
until they find firm rock
through sun or snow.

You can always see Death Valley
in the distance far below,
a view with no dominion here
where eagles ride the wind.

THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 23 A Psalm of David

Reader—*Nick Hiebert, great-nephew*

The Lord is shepherd and guide. God is present in the time of danger and is generous and merciful.

- 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.

1 Corinthians 13:1–8

Reader—*Melanie Rosen, friend*

Paul continues his discussion of spiritual gifts by placing them all within the context of the greatest gift of love. Unless the members of the church are anchored in the love of God found in Christ, all other gifts and expressions of the Holy Spirit are without value. The love of God is both the source and end of all spiritual gifts. Faith and hope, too, are chief among the gifts, but the measure of all things is love.

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not 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 have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.


Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

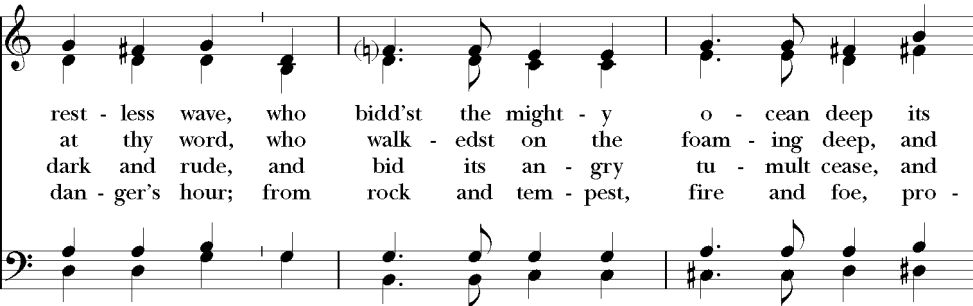
All stand.

Hymn 608 Eternal Father strong to save

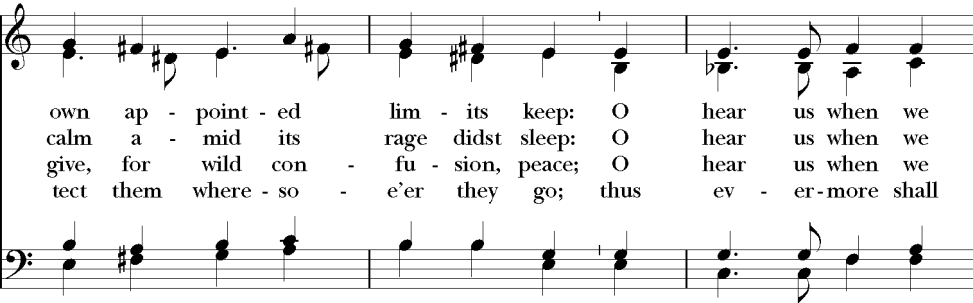
Melita



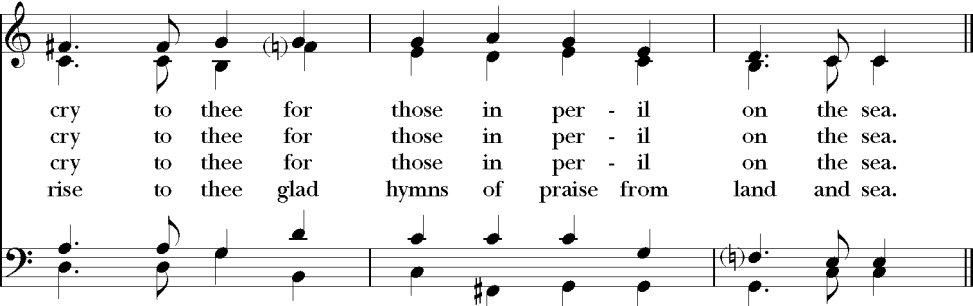
1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the
2 O Christ, whose voice the wa - ters heard and hushed their ra - ging
3 Most Ho - ly Spi - rit, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, thy chil - dren shield in



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.

John 14:1–6

Jesus speaks with his disciples shortly before his passion and tells them that he is the way, the truth, and the life. He is the way because he himself is going the way of the sacrifice of his death, so to prepare a place for his disciples. In this way followers will discover the truth that Jesus so intimately reflects the character of God that those who have seen him have seen the Father. All who come to the Father through Jesus will find true life.

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

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

"Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me.
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? And when 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. And you know the way 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, but by me."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

All are seated.

Eulogies

*David Hiebert, son
Steven Hiebert, son
Brian Hoey, former student and friend*

The Homily

The Rev. Laurel Coote

After the homily a brief silence is kept.

All stand.

You Raise Me Up

Rolf Lovland and Brendan Graham

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It begins with a piano introduction in E-flat major, 4/4 time, marked *mp*. The first system includes guitar chords E^b, E^b/G, and A^b. The second system includes B⁷sus, A/C, E^b/B^b, and A⁹2, with a *dim.* marking. The third system includes A^b(9)/C, E^b/B^b, B⁷sus, and E^b, with a tempo marking of *Slowly* ♩ = 60. The vocal entry begins with the lyrics "When I am" and is marked *mp*. The verse section starts with the lyrics "down and oh, my soul, so wea-ry, when trou-bles come and my heart hur-dened". The piano accompaniment for the verse features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a sustained bass line in the left hand.

Chords: E^b, E^b/G, A^b, B⁷sus, A/C, E^b/B^b, A⁹2, A^b(9)/C, B⁷sus, E^b, B⁷sus/E^b.

Tempo: *Slowly* ♩ = 60

Lyrics:
 When I am
 down and oh, my soul, so wea-ry, when trou-bles come and my heart hur-dened

B⁷sus B^b A^b(9) E^b/G A^b(9)

bc, then I am still and wait here in the si - lence un - til you

E^b/B^b B^b7 E^b Chorus: C^m B^b A^b A^b

come and sit a while with me. You raise me up so I can stand on

cresc. *mf*

E^b/G B^b7 C^m B^b A^b A^b E^b/G B^b

moun - tains. You raise me up to walk on storm - y seas I am

dim. *mp*

E^b A^b(9)/C E^b/B^b E^b/G A^b(9) E^b/B^b B^b7sus B^b7 E^b (Violin solo)

strong when I am on your shoul - ders. You raise me up to more than I can be.

mf

F B \flat /F F F/A B \flat C \sharp sus C

B \flat (9)/D B \flat F(9)/A B \flat (9) F/C C7 sus F

You raise me

cresc.

Chorus:
Dm C/B \flat B \flat F/A C(9)/E Dm C/B \flat B \flat F/C C \sharp sus C

up so I can stand on moun-tains. You raise me up to walk on storm-y seas. I am

F B \flat (9)/D F/C F/A B \flat (9) F/C C7 sus C7 F B \flat /F

strong when I am on your shoul-ders. You raise me up to more than I can be.

mf

The Apostles' Creed

All stand.

Priest In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

Priest I believe in God, the Father almighty,
and creator of heaven and earth.
People 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 Prayers

Reader—Georgia Byrne

Leader For our brother Ray, 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
for Ray, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

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

People **Hear us, Lord.**

Leader You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

Leader You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

People Hear us, Lord.

Leader Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

People Hear us, Lord.

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

People Hear us, Lord.

Leader Comfort all who mourn, especially: his wife, Sheila; his children David, Steven, Emily and Douglas; their spouses Christina, Kevin and Kelly; his grandchildren Kyle, Ola, Kelsey, Laurel, Sienna and Will, and spouses Sarah and Nick; his great-grandchildren Oscar and Harper; his sister Carol and her husband John; his nieces and nephews and former students and friends watching this service around the world. Let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Priest Father of all, we pray to you for Ray, 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.

Welcome *All are seated.*

Traumerei

*Robert Schumann
Fred Burgomaster, organist*

The Commendation *All stand.*

Priest Give 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 Ray.
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.**

Air on a G String

*Johann Sebastian Bach
Fred Burgomaster, organist*

All process to the columbarium for the Committal.

The Committal

(At the Columbarium)

Priest God of power and mercy,
you hold the universe in your hands
and all that breathes has life from you.
We commend to you, Ray, whose faith is known to you
and whose heart's prayers you have heard in life.
We give honor to his body, which was marvelously made,
to all the relationships that held him, and to those who mourn him.
We trust that all whom you have created will never be lost to you,

God whose names are many, whose mystery is vast, and whose love endures
forever, keep Ray, who we now lay to rest, in the company of your saints,
and at the last, raise him up to share with all the faithful
the endless joy and peace that comes from you and you alone. **Amen.**

Priest As our savior Christ has taught us, let us pray:

People **O**ur 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 Blessing

Priest **T**he peace of the ocean wave be with you,
The peace of the ocean breeze surround you.
The peace of the quiet earth be in you.
The peace of the night stars cover you.
And the deep peace of the son of Peace be always with you. **AMEN**

All are invited to join the reception in the Parish Hall following the conclusion of the service.

Life is Short

By Ray Hiebert

Fifty years of letters from my friends
are carefully saved
in twenty library boxes
in my basement.

I brought the boxes to my study recently
to organize, alphabetically and chronologically.

I reread the letters, slowly, deliciously.
They were all so open and intimate and literary.

My friends have come and gone, but it seems
they're all crowded into my study now,
looking over my shoulder as I read
And I hug each one as if nothing has changed.

Presider

The Rev. Laurel Coote

Crucifer

Mystery Chastain

Readers

Sienna Hiebert, Nick Hiebert, Melanie Rosen

Eulogists

David Hiebert

Steven Hiebert

Brian Hoey

Intercessor

Georgia Byrne

Greeter

Helen Grady

Ushers

Star Reiersen and Georgia Byrne

Guitarist

Anthony DeMers

Organist

Fred Burgomaster

Florals & Catering

St. Dunstan's Altar Guild

Baum & Blume

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church celebrates God's diverse creation

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

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