

A Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration
for the Life of

Ruffin Marion Crow

15 February 1934 — 29 November 2022



29 December 2022 ✕ 2:00 PM

The Reverend Theophus “Thee” Smith, Ph.D., *Celebrant*
David Brensinger, *Organist*

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND I AM THE LIFE

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.

From The Book of Common Prayer, page 507



A LITURGY FOR THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

Voluntaries

O Jesus Christ, my life's light
Prelude on St. Columba
A mighty fortress is our God
Andante tranquillo (from Capriol Suite)
Voluntary on Old 100th

Paul Manz (1919-2009)
Robin Milford (1903-1959)
J.G. Walther (1684-1748)
Peter Warlock (1894-1930)
Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

The Procession

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.

All stand to sing.

Hymn 450

music: Coronation, Oliver Holden (1765-1844), alt.; desc. Michael E. Young (b. 1939)
words: Edward Perronet (1726-1792), alt.

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels pros-trate
2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, who from his al - tar
3 Hail him, the Heir of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did
4 Ye heirs of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed of the
5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the

1 fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and
 2 call: praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and
 3 call, the God in - car - nate, Man di - vine, and
 4 fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and
 5 gall, go, spread your tro - phies at his feet, and

1 crown him Lord of all! bring forth the roy - al
 2 crown him Lord of all! praise him whose way of
 3 crown him Lord of all! the God in - car - nate,
 4 crown him Lord of all! hail him who saves you
 5 crown him Lord of all! go, spread your tro - phies

1 di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 2 pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!
 3 Man di - vine, and crown him Lord of all!
 4 by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 5 at his feet, and crown him Lord of all!

6 Let every kindred, every tribe,
 on this terrestrial ball,
 to him all majesty ascribe,
 and crown him Lord of all!

The Opening Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother, Marion. 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.

The Lesson

Isaiah 25:6-9
Read by Grant Crow

Reader A Reading from The Book of Isaiah.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Said in unison.

Psalm 139:1-7

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

The Epistle

Romans 8:35, 37-39
Read by Brian Crow

Reader A Reading from The Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing.

The Sequence: Hymn 493 music: Azmon, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)
words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

The Holy Gospel

John 10:27-29

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Remembrances

Wende Crow
Brian Crow

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Thee Smith

Said by all, standing.

The Apostles' Creed

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 Prayers

The People respond to every petition with "Amen."

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Loving God, you have knit together your people in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord. Grant, we pray, to your whole Church in paradise and on earth your light and your peace. **Amen.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die daily to sin and rise to newness of life, and that we, with our Redeemer, may pass through the grave and gate of death to our joyful resurrection. **Amen.**

Grant to us who are still on our earthly pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **Amen.**

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind. **Amen.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your tender mercy, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love. **Amen.**

Give courage to all who are bereaved, that in the days ahead they may hold fast to the comfort of a holy hope, and 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 Marion to your never-failing care and love. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, and remember him according to the favor you bear for your people. **Amen.**

Grant that, increasing in the knowledge and love of you, he may go from strength to strength in a new life of perfect service in your heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory, and, with Marion and all your saints, to receive the crown of life which you promise to all who share in the victory of your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Celebrant says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All

And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory


All sing.

The Offertory Hymn: 325

music: *Let Us Break Bread*, Afro-American spiritual;
arr. and harm. David Hurd (b. 1950)
words: African-American spiritual




1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____




3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____



let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

All stand.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B, *The Book of Common Prayer* (BCP), p. 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Said in unison.

The Sanctus and Benedictus

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Communion

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

The Postcommunion Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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.**

Celebrant Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Marion. 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.**

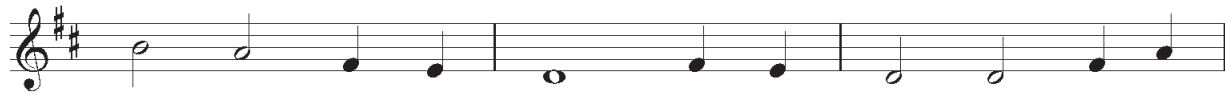
The Blessing

All sing.
Hymn 686

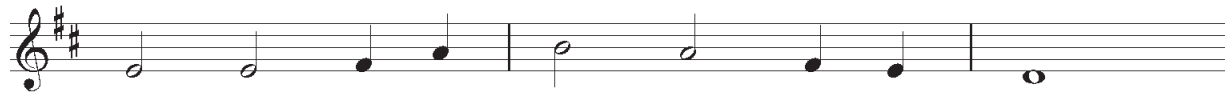
music: Nettleton, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813*;
harm. Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)
words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt.



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



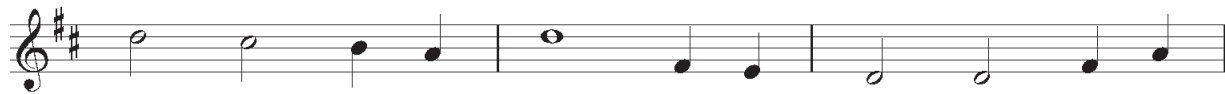
heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



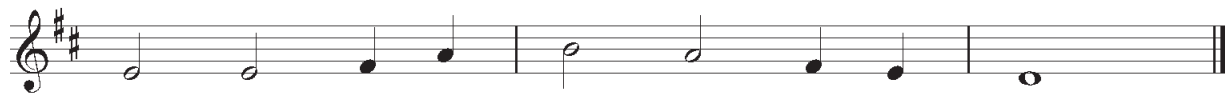
ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The Dismissal

Celebrant
People

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

The Processional

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

J.G. Walther (1684-1748)



The committal follows in the Memorial Garden.



For additional information, please visit: everloved.com/life-of/ruffin-crow/obituary/

*In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Wounded Warrior Project
(woundedwarriorproject.org) in his honor.*



The Committal

Everyone 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.

Celebrant In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother, Marion and we commit his body to the ground; 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'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.**

Celebrant Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord;

People **And let light perpetual shine upon *him*.**

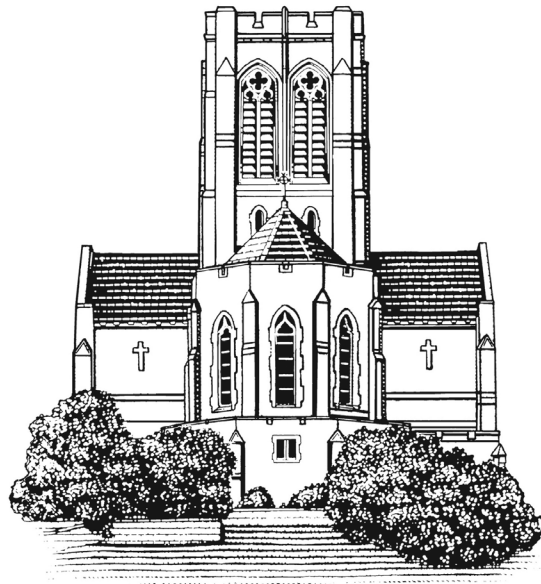
Celebrant May his soul, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**



The CATHEDRAL *of*
ST. PHILIP
SERVING ATLANTA AND THE WORLD

All music is reprinted by permission under ONE LICENSE (license number A-717455).



THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PHILIP

The Very Reverend Samuel G. Candler, *Dean*

Dale Adelman, Ph.D., *Canon for Music*

The Reverend Lauren R. Holder, *Canon for Community and Education*

The Reverend George M. Maxwell, Jr., *Vicar*

The Reverend Julia B. Mitchener, *Canon for Mission*

The Reverend Catherine Zappa, *Canon for Liturgy and Pastoral Care*

The Reverend Deacon Juan Sandoval, *Deacon for Hispanic Ministries*

The Reverend Theophus "Thee" Smith, Ph.D., *Priest Associate*

Mr. Ward Bondurant, *Senior Warden*

Mr. Samuel T. Wilmoth, *Junior Warden*

2744 Peachtree Road, NW · Atlanta, GA · 30305-2920 · (404) 365-1000

www.cathedralATL.org

