

## THE ENTRANCE RITE

### Voluntary

### Tower Bells

**The Burial Anthem** (*Stand*)..... **BCP 491**

### The Collect

 (*Remain standing*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

#### The Celebrant says

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Greg, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### A Reading from Isaiah

*Read by Whitney Langston Fason*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. [Isaiah 61:1-3]

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 46

 (*Prayed in unison*)

- 1 God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,
- 3 though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
The holy habitation of the Most High.
- 5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.
- 6 The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice; the earth melts.

- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 Come, behold the works of the Lord;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
- 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.
- 10 "Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations;  
I am exalted in the earth."
- 11 The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

### A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Corinthians

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For our slight, momentary affliction is producing for us 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 further clothed with our heavenly dwelling, for surely when we have been clothed in it we will not be found naked. For while we are 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. The one who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a down payment.

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 be pleasing to him.

[2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9]

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### Alleluia, alleluia! give thanks

 (*Stand*)..... **Hymn 178**

### The Gospel

 (*Remain standing*)

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place 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 Burial of the Dead and Celebration of the Holy Eucharist



St. John's Episcopal Church Tallahassee, Florida

## In Thanksgiving for the Life Gregory William VanDercreek

September 27, 1955 – July 19, 2023

*Please turn off all cell phones before the service.  
BCP refers to the Book of Common Prayer.  
Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982.*

11 August 2023  
Three o'clock in the afternoon

the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” [John 14:1-6]

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Homily .....The Reverend Lonnie Lacy**

**The Apostles’ Creed (Stand)**

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 of the People (Kneel)**

For our brother Greg, 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 Greg, and dry the tears of  
those who weep.  
*Hear us, Lord.*

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

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.  
*Hear us, Lord.*

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our  
brother to the joys of heaven.  
*Hear us, Lord.*

Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed  
with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.  
*Hear us, Lord.*

He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a  
place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.  
*Hear us, Lord.*

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

*The Celebrant concludes*

Father of all, we pray to you for Greg, 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 & Announcements**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* And also with you.

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Offertory Hymn 490 (Stand) ..... I want to walk as a child**

**Eucharistic Prayer A (Remain standing) ..... BCP 361**

**The Lord’s Prayer ..... BCP 364**

**The Communion**

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion at St. John’s.  
Approach the priest in a double line in the center aisle to receive the  
Bread in your hand. A Eucharistic minister stationed near the outside  
aisle will offer you the Wine. You may sip directly from the chalice or  
have your Bread dipped for you. If you do not wish to receive the Bread  
or Wine for any reason, fold your arms across your chest, and the priest  
will give you a blessing instead.*

**Communion Hymn 662 ..... Abide with me**

**The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant and People*

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**

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

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

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.

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

*The Celebrant says*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your  
servant Greg. 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 and Dismissal**

*The Celebrant blesses the people, saying*

Remember that life is short, and we have but little time to  
gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us; so  
be quick to be kind and swift to love; and the blessing of  
God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be  
upon you this day and forever more. *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.

**Lift high the cross (Stand) ..... Hymn 473**

**Voluntary**

**Tower Bells**

*All are invited to greet the family  
at a reception in Alfriend Hall  
immediately following the service.*

**St. John’s  
Episcopal Church**

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