A Service in Celebration and
Thanksgiving
For the life of
Mary Orr Hayes
October 23, 1929 – March 5, 2020
Grace Episcopal Church
Asheville, North Carolina
Prelude

*Please stand*

**The Comfortable Words**

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.

*The Celebrant then says*

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 sister Mary. We thank you for giving her to us, her 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 Mary’s family 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.**

*The Congregation is seated.*

**A Reading from the Book of Lamentations**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.  
“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,  
“therefore I will hope in him.”

The Lord is good to those who wait for him,  
to the soul that seeks him.  
It is good that one should wait quietly  
for the salvation of the Lord.  
For the Lord will not reject forever.  
Although he causes grief, he will have compassion  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;  
for he does not willingly afflict  
or grieve anyone.

Reader The Word of the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 121** (seated, said in unison)

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved and he who watches over you will not fall asleep. Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep; The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand, So that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.
All stand.

Hymn
“The King of love my shepherd is”
Hymnal 645

The Holy Gospel
John 6:37-40

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“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 truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

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

Homily
The Rev. Dr. Gary W. Butterworth

Apostles’ Creed

All 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.

Prayers of the People

The Deacon then says

For our sister Mary, 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 Mary, 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 sister eternal life. Hear us, Lord.

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

Our sister Mary was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints. Hear us, Lord.

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

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

Celebrant

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

The Peace

All stand.

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

The Ministers and the People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Greetings & Welcome
Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

Jesus said to Thomas, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Offertory

Amazing Grace

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

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 him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

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 say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
   Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
   Hosanna in the highest.

The people remain standing. The Celebrant continues

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,

Celebrant and People
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues
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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mary and 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 him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

The Celebrant then continues
And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

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.

*Breaking of the Bread*

*A period of silence is kept.*

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

*The Celebrant says*

This is the Table of the Lord.
It is made ready for those who love and for those who want to love more.
    So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;
    you who have been here often and you who have not been here long;
    you who have tried to follow and you who have fallen short.
Come because it is the Risen Christ who invites you.
It is the Risen Christ who wants to meet you here.

*All persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. During the pandemic we receive in one kind (bread) via the paten on the table by the Baptismal Font.*

*Communion Hymns*

    “Alleluia, sing to Jesus”    Hymnal, 460
After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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

The Celebrant and other ministers take their places at the urn.

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

Thou 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 thou 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.

The Celebrant then says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Mary. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

O God of grace and glory, we give thanks this day for our sister Mary. We thank you for giving her to us, her 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.

Blessing

Dismissal

Deacon       Let us go forth in the name of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia.
People       Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Hymn          “How great thou art” FSB 40

Postlude

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.

Then, while the ashes are buried the Celebrant says these words

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ,
we commend to Almighty God our sister Mary, and we return her ashes to the ground;
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord
make his face to shine upon her and be gracious to her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace. Amen.

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.

Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord;  
And let light perpetual shine upon her.

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

The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words

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 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.
Celebrant
The Rev. Dr. Gary W. Butterworth

Deacon
The Rev. Dn. Michael Jenkins

Readers
Mark Silvers

Music
James Cassarino

+++  
The flowers are given to the Glory of God and  
in loving memory of Mary Orr Hayes  
by her Grace family.

+++  
The Family requests that memorials go to  
Grace Episcopal Church in support  
of their many ministries.