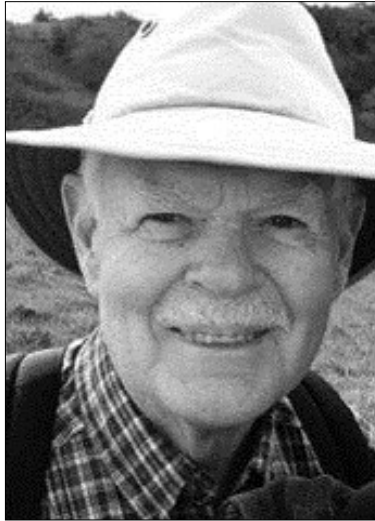


*Memorial Service in Celebration of the Life of*

**MEL BLEVENS**

1932 — 2020



St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church  
January 18, 2020  
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** Alle Breve in D major  
Aria in G  
Hymn Prelude on *Holy, holy, holy*

*J.S. Bach  
Flor Peeters  
Healey Willan*

*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 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 ourselves,  
and none becomes 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 Mel.  
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 WORD OF GOD

*All are seated.*

**Isaiah 61:1—3**

Read by Jonathon Freer

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 broken-hearted,  
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.

**Reader** The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 84 *Quam dilecta!***

- 1 **H**ow dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; \*  
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O Lord of hosts, \*  
happy are they who put their trust in you!

**Revelation 21:2—7**

Read by Ollie White

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.’

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

*All stand.*

**Gradual Hymn 525** The Church’s one foundation

*Aurelia*

**John 14:1—6**

Priest 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.’

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Homily** *All are seated.*  
*After the homily a brief silence is kept.*

The Rev. John Saville

**Remembering Mel**

Alex Blevens

**The Apostle's Creed** *All Stand.*

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

People **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** *All stand.*

Leader For Mel, 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.**

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 Mel eternal life.

**People Hear us, Lord.**

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

**People Hear us, Lord.**

Leader Mel 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 us in our sorrows at the death of Mel,  
let our faith be our consolation and eternal life our hope.

**People Hear us, Lord.**

Priest Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother Mel, who was reborn by  
water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your  
victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father’s  
love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where  
you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

## **The Peace** *All stand.*

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you**

*The people exchange the peace with one another.*

*All stand.*

**Offertory Hymn** Goin' Home

*Antonín Dvořák*



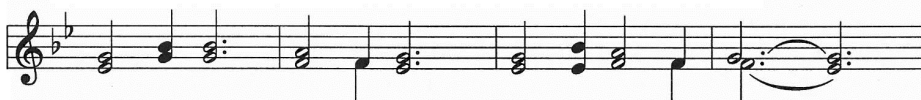
1 Go - in' home, go - in' home, I'm a go - in' home;  
2 Morn - ing star lights the way, Rest - less dream all done;



1 Qui - et like some still day, I'm just go - in' home.  
2 Shad - ows gone, break of day, Real life just be - gun.



1 It's not far, just close by, Je - sus is the Door;  
2 Ev - 'ry tear wiped a - way, Sick - ness, sor - row gone;



1 Work all done, care laid by, Goin' to fear no more.  
2 Wide a - wake, with a smile, Go - in' on and on.



1 Moth - er's there, spect - ing me, Fa - ther's wait - ing too;  
2 Go - in' home, go - in' home, I'm a - go - in' home;



1 Lots of folks gath - ered there, All the friends I knew.  
2 Go - in' home, go - in' home, I'm just go - in' home.



# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

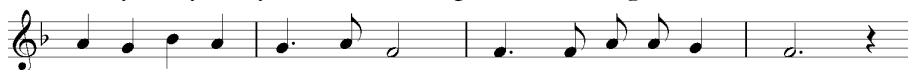
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Priest 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:

**Sanctus S125** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

*Richard Proulx*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel.*

Priest **H**oly and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People** **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

Priest **W**e celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

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

**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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Priest **Alleluia!** Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### ***All are welcome to receive the Holy Communion.***

The bread is received in the open palm. The wine, if desired, may be taken from the cup by drinking (guide the chalice gently to your lips by the base) or by dipping the bread.

Those who do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

If you have a wheat sensitivity, you may ask the priest for a gluten-free wafer.

# Communion Hymns The Old Rugged Cross

*George Bennard*



1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross,  
 2. Oh, that old rug - ged cross so de - spised by the world,  
 3. In the old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,  
 4. To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true,



1. The em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame; \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me; \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. A won - drous beau - ty I see; \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. Its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear; \_\_\_\_\_



1. And I love that old cross where the dear - est and best  
 2. For the dear Lamb of God left His glo - ry a - bove,  
 3. For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,  
 4. Then He'll call me some day to my home far a - way,



1. For a world of lost sin - ners was slain. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. To \_\_\_\_\_ bear it to dark Cal - va - ry. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. To \_\_\_\_\_ par - don and sanc - ti - fy me. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share. \_\_\_\_\_



So I'll cher - ish the cross, the old rug - ged cross,



Till my tro - phies at last I lay down; \_\_\_\_\_



I will cling to the cross, the old rug - ged cross,



And ex - change it some day for a crown. \_\_\_\_\_

# Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

*Negro Spiritual;*  
arr. R. Nathaniel Dett



Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, — Com - ing for to car - ry me home.



Swing — low, sweet char - i - ot, — Com - ing for to car - ry me home.



1. I looked o - ver Jor - dan, and what did I see —
2. If you get — there be - fore — I do, —
3. The bright - est day that — ev - er I saw —
4. I'm some - times up and — some - times down, —



1. Com - ing for to car - ry me home. A band — of an - gels
2. Com - ing for to car - ry me home. Tell all — my friends I'm
3. Com - ing for to car - ry me home. When Je - sus wash'd my
4. Com - ing for to car - ry me home. But still — my soul feels



1. com - ing af - ter me, — Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
2. com - ing too, — Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
3. sins a - way, — Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
4. heaven - ly bound, — Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,

## **The Post-Communion Prayer** *All stand.*

Priest Let us pray.

**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** *Remain standing.*

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 Mel. 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**

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.**

**Closing Hymn 376** Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

*Hymn to Joy*

*Please join us in the columbarium for the interment of ashes followed by a reception in Brock Hall.*

**Postlude** Now thank we all our God

*Sigfried Karg-Elert*

## 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 Mel. 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.**

**R**est eternal grant to him, O Lord;  
And let light perpetual shine upon him.

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

**T**he God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant:  
Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which  
is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever  
and ever. **Amen.**

*Officiant*

The Rev. Marcia M. Lockwood

*Celebrant & Preacher*

The Rev. John Saville

*Readers*

Jonathon Freer & Ollie White

*Chalice Bearers*

Joe Heston & Rodger Langland

*Crucifer*

Joe Heston

*Ushers*

George Lockwood & Grace Merrill

*Organist & Director of Music Ministries*

Steve Denmark

*Grand Tetons, May 2019*

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