



A Celebration of Life

Virginia Risteau Lyon

January 11, 1928 – January 10, 2020

Saturday, May 22, 2021

11 am

**Sherwood Episcopal Church
Cockeysville, MD**



Jesus Christ

He is the gift we are given

He is the love we show

He is the song we sing

He is the hope we cherish

-- Requested by Presh

Welcome

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Tolling of the Bell

Jason Howard

THE OPENING SENTENCES

BCP pg. 491

Please stand as you are able. The Celebrant says the following anthem.

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 forever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

After my awakening, 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 of us 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.

1 Shall we gather by the river,
Where bright angels' feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain:

*Yes, we'll gather by the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.*

2 Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

Refrain

THE COLLECT

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Virginia. 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 those who mourn 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.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Lamentations 3: 22-26, 31-33

The Rev. Frieda Malcolm

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139:1-12

Read responsively by whole verse

Anne Wismer

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

²**You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

³You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴**Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.**

⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

⁷Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

⁹ **If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"

¹² **even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**

THE SECOND READING:

Revelation 21:2-7
Raven Elizabeth Covington

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Lord, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN – 671

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

4 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:37-40

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

Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

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

The people are seated at the invitation of the Celebrant.

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

THE APOSTLES' CREED

BCP pg. 496

The people stand as they are able. The celebrant says the following

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

Celebrant and 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 OF THE PEOPLE

The Rev. Frieda Malcolm

For our sister Presh, 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 Presh, 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 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 Presh; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers with the following collect

Father of all, we pray to you for Presh, 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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

THE OFFERTORY

The people are seated while the altar is prepared for the celebration of Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SOLO

What wondrous love is this

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please remain seated in your per and Mother Nancy will come to you during the Eucharist. If you would prefer a blessing in lieu of Communion, please cross your arms on your chest.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A – BCP pg. 361

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The celebrant offers thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available in Christ, and in response the people sing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS – Agnus Dei S130

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 Celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prayers over the bread and wine.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic prayer and at the conclusion says

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 forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

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

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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant offers an invitation to Holy Communion. The people are seated.

COMMUNION HYMN – 335, v. 1 & 4

I am the bread of life

1 I am the bread of life;
they who come to me shall not hunger;
they who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me
unless the Father draw them.

*Refrain: And I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up on the
last day.*

4 I am the resurrection,
I am the life.
They who believe in me,
even if they die,
they shall live for ever.

Refrain

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP pg. 498

Please stand as you are able.

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.

HYMN – 719 v. 1

O beautiful for spacious skies

1 O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.

THE COMMENDATION

BCP pg. 499

The Celebrant says the following anthem

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

You only are immortal, the creator 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 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 Presh.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, 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 your saints in light. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant pronounces a blessing over the people, and the people respond, **Amen.***

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL – 562

Onward Christian soldiers

1 Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus
going on before!
Christ, the royal Master,
leads against the foe;
forward into battle,
see, his banners go.

*Refrain: Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus
going on before!*

2 At the sign of triumph
Satan's host doth flee;
on, then, Christian soldiers,
on to victory!
Hell's foundations quiver
at the shout of praise;
Christians, lift your voices,
loud your anthems raise.

Refrain

3 Like a mighty army
moves the Church of God;
Christians, we are treading
where the saints have trod;
we are not divided,
all one body we,
one in hope and doctrine,
one in charity.

Refrain

4 Crowns and thrones may perish,
kingdoms rise and wane,
but the Church of Jesus
constant will remain;
gates of hell can never
'gainst that Church prevail;
we have Christ's own promise,
and that cannot fail.

Refrain

5 Onward, then, ye people,
join our happy throng;
blend with ours your voices
in the triumph song:
glory, laud, and honor,
unto Christ the King;
this through countless ages
we with angels sing.

Refrain

*Please join us walking behind the family as the cremains are
processed outside for The Committal.*

Participants in today's service:

Officiant: The Rev. Nancy Hennessey

Participating Clergy: The Rev. Frieda Malcolm

Music Director & Organist: Greg Seseck

Cantor: Sydney McNabb

Acolyte: Anne Wismer

Readers: Raven Elizabeth Covington, Anne Wismer, The Rev. Frieda Malcolm

Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts

Ushers: Bill & Karyn Galetto

Sherwood Episcopal Church

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Sunday Worship at 10 am

Services are recorded and/or photographed

Join us virtually on Facebook Live at 10 am and on YouTube after the service.

Parish Staff:

Rector: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey – sherwoodrector@gmail.com

Music Director and Organist: Greg Seseck – gregseseck@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: Carey Mednick – sherwoodparish@gmail.com