



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
Lake Jackson, Texas

A Celebration
in
Thanksgiving For The Life
Of



Dale Ennis Rasco
September 2, 1939 - August 25, 2023

October 14, 2023
10:30 a.m.
Reception to follow in the Parish Hall

This service today is an Easter liturgy. This rite 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 any thing 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. The living need our support and consolation. The whole congregation has an important part in giving this help and can do so by participating fully in the service, joining in those parts which are marked for the “People.”

You will find the entire service printed in this bulletin, except for the hymns, which may be found in the blue hymnal in the pew rack.

Prelude

Amazing Grace

Jon Cox, Bagpipes

Welcome

All stand while one or more of the following anthems are sung or said.

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.

Whoever has faith in me shall have life,
even though they 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.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence may be kept; after which the Priest says the following Collects.

Priest: 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 Dale, 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.**

Priest: Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with Douglas, Alexa, Sandra, Carolyn, and all of us who loved her in our 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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lesson: Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (*sit*)

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

After the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 139:1-11 (*said responsively by half verse*)

- 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.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.

The Epistle: II Corinthians 4:16-5:9

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for 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 clothed with our heavenly dwelling— if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still 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. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 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 please him.

After the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #482 (*Blue Hymnal*) (*all stand*)

Lord Of All Hopefulness

The Gospel: John 14:1-6

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel passage is read.

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 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 (*sit*)

The Reverend Robin Reeves-Kautz

Priest 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 for a Departed Daughter of the King

Leader: Father of all mercies, giver of all comfort, Dales's life was knit together with ours as we worked to fulfill your will on earth through prayer, service and evangelism. Thank you for the time we shared with her as sisters in the Order of the Daughters of the King®. *Bestow your gracious mercy and strength on all who mourn her passing. Let us cast every care on you that we may know the consolation of your love through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Leader: God of love, our sister Dale, worked faithfully for the extension of your kingdom. Together with Daughters who have gone before, may she enter into the land of light and joy, and the fellowship of all the saints.

Leader: Jesus, Lamb of God,
All: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

All: **Have mercy on us.**

Leader: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

All: **Give us your peace.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

Let us observe a moment of silence for our dear sister Dale.

Leader: Dear Heavenly Father, we bless you for all those who have departed this life in your faith and fear, especially your Daughter Dale, who daily prayed for others and served cheerfully in fulfillment of her vows. May her faith and example inspire all to greater and more faithful service for you. Grant that the light of your presence and the glory of the life beyond be her great and everlasting reward. **Amen.**

Silence is kept.

Concluding Prayer

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister, Dale, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her 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

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings

Johannes Brahms,
arr. Julian Elloway

Offerings of bread and wine are brought forward.

Doxology (*The people stand*) (*all sing*)

Hymn 380, vs. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving (*stand*)

All baptized Christians are welcome to come to the altar and receive the bread and wine of communion. Others are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest just before you receive communion.

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 him 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:

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 kneel or stand.

Priest: Holy 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Priest continues

We 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Priest and 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be said

Priest Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Facing the people, the Priest says the following Invitation

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.

At Communion:

Hymn #335 (*Blue Hymnal*)

I Am The Bread Of Life

Hymn #304 (*Blue Hymnal*)

I Come With Joy

Post Communion Prayer (*kneel or stand*)

Priest 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 Celebrants take their place at the cremains.

Priest: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, Dale, 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.**

The Officiant, facing the body, says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Dale. 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 the saints in light. **Amen.**

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain in the pews until the family has left.

Recessional Hymn #473 (*Blue Hymnal*)

Lift High The Cross

After the service, all are invited to the Parish Hall for a reception in celebration of Dale's life.

The family and Daughters of the King will join the reception following the Committal.

Postlude

Lasst uns erfreuen / Easter Song

Rebecca Groom Tevelde

Flowers Of The Forest

Jon Cox, Bagpipes

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Timothy's at 200 Oyster Creek Drive,
Lake Jackson, TX 77566.

Order of Procession

Acolytes

Mary Young
Margaret Jones

Chalice Bearer

Gary Jones

Officiant

The Reverend Robin Reeves-Kautz

Readers

Denis James
Dave Mayberry

Ushers

Sondra Griner
Mel McKey

Videographer

Margaret Dodson

Sound Technician

Don Kaus

Music

Bonnie McDaniel, Organist
Jon Cox, Bagpipes

Honorary Pallbearers

Daughters of the King: Char Aslakson, Beth Corbett, Sharon Devereaux, Margaret Dodson, Linda Henson, Carolyn Hinderer, Judi James, Angela McCabe, Maria Niswander, Emily Osborn, Amelia Poore-Bone, Hannah Poore-Pekar, Rev. Robin Reeves-Kautz, Cathy Richardson, Sandra Weir, Suzy Wilson, and Lorna Witt