



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
Lake Jackson, Texas

A Celebration
in
Thanksgiving for the Life
of



Jim Halbert

March 24, 1952 – February 27, 2025

March 8, 2025
10:30 a.m.

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. Your part is in bold print.

Prelude

Amazing Grace

Bonnie McDaniel, Organist

The Service Begins *(all stand)*

The Burial of the Dead: Rite Two

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 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 may address the congregation, acknowledging briefly the purpose of their gathering, and bidding their prayers for the deceased and the bereaved.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

Celebrant: O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Jim, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with Jim'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.**

Eulogy

Read by Reverend Robin Reeves-Kautz

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-3

Adrian Pritchett

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.

After the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 (*read responsively by whole verse*)

Adrian Pritchett

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

²**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

³He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

⁵Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

**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.***

The Gospel: John 14:1-6

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

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

The Gospel passage is read.

“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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily (*sit*)

The Reverend Robin Reeves-Kantz

The Apostles’ Creed (*stand*)

[BCP 496]

Celebrant: 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 (*People respond after each prayer with "Hear us Lord"*)

Celebrant: For our brother, Jim, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Celebrant: Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Jim, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Celebrant: You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Celebrant: You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Celebrant: You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Celebrant: Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Celebrant: He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

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

Silence is kept.

Concluding Prayer

Celebrant: Father of all, we pray to you for Jim, 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

Celebrant: 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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

How Great Thou Art

Andrea Hutchison, Soloist

1. O Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made I see the stars
I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r thro'out
The universe displayed

Refrain:

Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

2. And when I think
That God His son
Not sparing
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross my burden
Gladly bearing He bled and died
to take away my sin ***Refrain***

3. When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art ***Refrain***

Adrian Pritchett brings forward offerings of bread & wine.

The Great Thanksgiving *(stand)*

Eucharistic Prayer A

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.**

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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:

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

The Celebrant 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.

People: **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant 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.

The Ministration of Communion

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 Celebrant just before you receive communion.

Communion Hymns:

Hymn #379 (*Blue Hymnal*) (*all sing*)

God Is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him

Hymn #482 (*Blue Hymnal*) (*all sing*)

Lord Of All Hopefulness

Post Communion Prayer (*kneel or stand*)

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

[BCP 499]

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

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

The Celebrant, facing the body, says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Jim.
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

Celebrant: The 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.

People: **Amen.**

Note: The congregation is asked to stay in your pews as the family leaves the church to go inter Jim's ashes.

Recessional Hymn (*standing, all sing*) *I'll Fly Away* Albert E. Brumley
Jay and Cathy Richardson

1. Some bright morning when this life is over
I'll fly away
To that home on God's celestial shore
I'll fly away

Chorus:

I'll fly away, oh glory
I'll fly away in the morning
When I die, Hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away

2. When the shadows of this life have gone
I'll fly away
Like a bird from these prison walls I'll fly
I'll fly away **Chorus**

3. Oh, how glad and happy when we meet
I'll fly away
No more cold iron shackles on my feet
I'll fly away **Chorus**

4. Just a few more weary days and then
I'll fly away
To a land where joys will never end
I'll fly away **Chorus**

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*Family members will gather for a private service of Committal
immediately following in Grace Garden.
They will join us shortly in the Parish Hall.*

*Please join us in celebrating Jim's life with
his family and friends in the Parish Hall.*



Order of Procession

Acolytes

Gary Jones
Angela McCabe
Eli McLeod
Mary Young

Chalice Bearer

Charles Collins

Celebrant

The Reverend Robin Reeves-Kautz

Reader

Adrian Pritchett

Ushers

Dalton Fox
Fran Hammond
Mel McKey
Rich Tillman

Music

Bonnie McDaniel, Organist
Andrea Hutchison, Soloist
Jay and Cathy Richardson

Sound Technician

Jon Cox

Videographer

Bailey Fox

James M. Halbert (Jim)

James M. Halbert, known to friends and family as Jim, was born on March 24, 1952, in Norton, Kansas. He passed away peacefully at his home in Brazoria, Texas, on February 27, 2025, with his loving husband, James Kimbrough, and stepdaughter, Jana Kimbrough Temple, by his side.

Jim was the only child of Ted M. Halbert and Jesse L. Dawes Halbert.

After being diagnosed, with Acute Myeloid Leukemia, a blood cancer, Jim bravely fought through six months of treatment in the hospital and eventually was in remission.

In 2003, Jim met James Kimbrough, and they became life partners. On April 6, 2021, they celebrated their love in a beautiful wedding ceremony in the garden of their home at 2J's Farm LLC in Brazoria, Texas, a place they had moved to in 2008 and envisioned as their retirement haven. Jim and James cleared part of their 25 acres of land, where they raised baby chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese, miniature donkeys, a wild pig, and many cats and dogs that became their beloved children. In 2020, they decided to build an RV park on their land, which they named RV Park at 2J's Farm, where Jim ran both the farm and the RV park.

In 2022, Jim faced another health challenge when he was diagnosed with Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), another blood cancer that is currently incurable. Despite this, Jim continued to inspire those around him with his strength and resilience. He often reflected on his life as fun, adventurous, and exciting, and he credited his husband, James Kimbrough, for being his unwavering support throughout his journey.

Jim is survived by his loyal and faithful husband, James Kimbrough; stepdaughter, Jana Temple, and her husband, Shawn Temple, of Aubrey, Texas, and their four children, Lexie, Madison, Brock, and MaKenzie Temple; brother-in-law, Aubrey Kimbrough; sister-in-law, Charlene Terry of Crooked Oak, Alabama; nieces Linda Terry, Jade Bragwell, Kimberly Vandiver, and two great-nieces of Crooked Oak, Alabama; aunt and uncle Howard and Ethel Halbert of Denver, Colorado; aunt Helen Karles of Oberlin, Kansas; and many cousins on all sides of his family, including the Halberts, Dawes, and Rays. He is also remembered fondly by many friends and members of The Empire of the Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star in Houston, Texas, and Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church in Lake Jackson, Texas.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Ted and Jesse Halbert; mother-in-law Velma Ruth Kimbrough; father-in-law H.N. Kimbrough; grandparents Raymond and Ema Halbert, Iven and Martha Ray, John and Martha Dawes; sister-in-law's Martha Kimbrough and Estelle Vandiver; and best friend, Daniel O'Day of Kearney, Nebraska, along with many other cherished friends.

Jim's spirit will live on in the hearts of all who knew him.