

A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

Jeffery Wilson Mullis

December 2, 1963 – February 8, 2025



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

February 14, 2025

10:00 AM

A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

Jeffery Wilson Mullis
December 2, 1963 – February 8, 2025

Rite II and Holy Eucharist

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE RITE

BCP P. 491

At the sound of the bell, all stand as they are able for the Entrance of the Ministers into the church.

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.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

A COLLECT FOR BURIAL

BCP P. 493

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Jeff, 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.**

OPENING HYMN

THE HYMNAL 1982 – 208

The strife is o'er, the battle done

Victory

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done,
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!

2 The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shout of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reader: A reading from the Book of Lamentations.

But this I call to mind,
 and therefore I have hope:
 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated.

PSALM 46

BCP P. 649

- 1 God is our refuge and strength, *
 a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
 and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;
- 3 Though its waters rage and foam, *
 and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.
- 4 The Lord of hosts is with us; *
 the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- 5 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
 the holy habitation of the Most High.
- 6 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; *
 God shall help her at the break of day.

7 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

8 The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

9 Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.

10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

12 The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

THE SECOND READING

2 TIMOTHY 4:6-8

Reader: A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy.

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Abide with me

THE HYMNAL 1982 - 662

Eventide

1 Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

2 I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

3 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

THE GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 11:25-30

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please sit.

REMARKS

HOMILY

THE REV. NANCY L.J. COX

Following the homily, we will have a time of quiet to consider Jeff's life as a gift to us.

APOSTLES' CREED

All stand.

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

**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

BCP P. 497

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

Leader: Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Jeff, 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 to our brother eternal life.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

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

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Our brother 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 our brother; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother Jeff, 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.**

All stand.

PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

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

MUSIC AT OFFERTORY

NEW BRITAIN

Amazing grace

Catalina Maria Mullis

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.

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

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

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

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.

St. James Music Press. Licensed permission. User ID #6813

HOLY COMMUNION

A note about receiving Holy Communion: In the Episcopal Church, we understand that Christ is "really present" in the bread and wine provided from God's table. All who claim Christ as Lord are always welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion in this church. Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of their parents. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Receive the consecrated wafer in the palm of your outstretched hand from the first person who comes to you. To receive a gluten-free wafer, please cross your hands palms down. You may drink from the larger cup/chalice which the next person will offer you. Receive the consecrated wine by guiding the offered cup to your lips and sipping, or by intinction: lightly dip the wafer into the wine. Those who distribute the wine will wipe the chalice with a food safe sanitizer and turn it for the next person after each person receives. You may also decide to take the wafer only. If you choose not to receive communion, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing as your presence is a blessing to all of us. Once you have been blessed or received communion, you may offer a short prayer and then return to your seat. If physical limitations make it difficult to come forward, please let an usher know that we may have the honor of bringing communion to you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP P. 361

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 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

**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.

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:

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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

Celebrant: 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

BCP P. 364

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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, the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM

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

HYMNS AT COMMUNION

LEVAS—188

It is well with my soul

1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like seabillows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain: It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

2 Though satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed His own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

4 My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*

5 And, Lord, hast the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
'Even so' it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP PG. 498

Celebrant: 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.

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

LEVAS – 106

Precious Lord, take my hand

1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light,
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me on.

2 When my way grows drear,
precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone;
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand, lest I fall,
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me on.

3 When the darkness appears
and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone;
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me on.

THE COMMENDATION

The Celebrant and other ministers take their places at the body, while the following anthem is said:

Celebrant: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with you saints,

People: **where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Jeff.

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.

People: **Amen.**

BLESSING

Celebrant: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S LITURGY

CELEBRANT

The Reverend Nancy L.J. Cox

ACOLYTE, READER, & CHALICE

Martin Ericson

REMARKS

Catalina Maria Mullis

USHERS

Fannie and Tom Dillard

ORGANIST

Brian Sapp-Moore, MM



525 Lake Concord Rd NE

Concord, NC 28025

(704) 782-2024

www.allsaintsconcord.org