

# **A Celebration of Resurrection and Life Burial of the Dead**

**Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 2 PM**

Celebrant: The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Rector  
Organist: Karole Badgley, Director of Music Ministries



**Grace Carrington (Cosby) Edwards**

May 23, 1942 ~ February 22, 2024

**St. John's Episcopal Church, Wake Forest, North Carolina**

## The Liturgy of the Word

**Prelude**

Partita on 'St. Anne'

setting by Paul Manz

*All stand as able when the bell is rung.*

**Processional Hymn**  
**#376, The Hymnal 1982**

**Joyful, joyful we adore thee**

Words: Henry Van Dyke  
Music: Hymn to Joy

- 1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,  
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
blooming meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
call us to rejoice in thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living,  
ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:  
all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.

*The Celebrant says the burial anthem, "I am resurrection and I am life."*

### The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Grace, and grant her 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 forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**Welcome**

The Rev. Sarah H. Phelps, Rector

**A reading from the Prophet Micah (chapter 7, verse 7)**

Micah 7:7

*This verse is the origin of the unique name of Grace's grandson, Seven.*

But as for me, I will look to the Lord, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm Appointed for the Day: Psalm 121** (read in unison)

**I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
from where will my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.  
He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.  
The Lord is your keeper;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.  
The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.  
The Lord will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.  
The Lord will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and for evermore.**

**A reading from the Book of Revelation**

Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!” <sup>11</sup> And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” <sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” <sup>14</sup> I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup> For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup> They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup> for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Reader        The Word of the Lord.  
**People        Thanks be to God.**

*All stand as able.*

**Sequence Hymn**

**O God our help in ages past**

Words: Isaac Watts

**#680, The Hymnal 1982 vss. 1-3**

Music: St. Anne

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home:
- 2 under the shadow of thy throne  
thy saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is thine arm alone,  
and our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood,  
or earth received her frame,  
from everlasting thou art God,  
to endless years the same.

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

<sup>37</sup> Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; <sup>38</sup> for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> 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. <sup>40</sup> 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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sequence hymn continued.*

4 A thousand ages in thy sight  
are like an evening gone;  
short as the watch that ends the night  
before the rising sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly, forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the opening day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
be thou our guide while life shall last,  
and our eternal home.

*Please be seated for*

**The Homily**

The Rev. Sarah H. Phelps, Rector

**Remembrances of Grace**

Rebecca Dunn, friend of Grace  
Ann Williams, Grace's youngest sister

*All remain seated.*

**Hymn**

**Come thou fount of every blessing**

*See back page of bulletin for the hymn.*

*Please stand as able for*

**The Prayers of the People**

Celebrant Dear Friends: It was our Lord Jesus himself who said, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." Let us pray, then, for our sister Grace, that she may rest from her labors, and enter into the light of God's eternal sabbath rest.

Leader Receive, O Lord, your servant, for she returns to you.

**People** **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Grace.**

Wash her in the holy font of everlasting life, and clothe her in her heavenly wedding garment.

**Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Grace.**

May she hear your words of invitation, "Come, you blessed of my Father."

**Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Grace.**

May she gaze upon you, Lord, face to face, and taste the blessedness of perfect rest.

**Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Grace.**

May angels surround her, and saints welcome her in peace.

**Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Grace.**

Celebrant

Father of all, we pray to you for Grace 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**

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

All are seated as the Table is prepared for Communion.

## **The Holy Communion**

### **Offertory Music**

Meditation on 'Nettleton'

setting by Aaron David Miller

*At the family's request, memorial gifts may be made in Grace's name to the Music Fund at St. John's. Grace was an active and faithful member of St. John's vocal choir and often served as a substitute pianist over the years. There is a basket near the guest book in the narthex (lobby) if you'd like to leave a gift, or you may give online here: <https://onrealm.org/stjohnswf/give/GraceMemorialGift>*

*Please stand for*

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

p. 367 Book of Common Prayer , Eucharistic Prayer B

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....

...who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**All 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 stand or kneel (as able).*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself....

...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father....

...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.**

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:  
**All 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**

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

### **Invitation to Communion**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please come forward and fold your arms across your chest. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please extend your hands with palms facing down. At St. John's we receive the consecrated wine by intinction (dipping the wafer into the cup of wine.) Please hold the wafer in your hand until the cup of wine is offered.*

*All stand as able.*

### **The Postcommunion Prayer**

Celebrant Let us pray.  
**All 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 ministers move to the urn for the Commendation.*

### **The Commendation**

Celebrant Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your 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.

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

Celebrant Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Grace. 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.**

## **The Blessing & Dismissal**

Celebrant     The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace; and the blessings of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and forevermore. Amen.

Celebrant     Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
People        **Thanks be to God.**

**Dismissal Hymn**  
**#304, The Hymnal 1982**

**I come with joy to meet my Lord**

Words: Brian A. Wren  
Music: Land of Rest

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 I come with joy, a child of God,<br>forgiven, loved and free,<br>the life of Jesus to recall,<br>in love laid down for me,<br>in love laid down for me.      | 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,<br>each proud division ends.<br>The love that made us, makes us one,<br>and strangers now are friends,<br>and strangers now are friends. |
| 2 I come with Christians far and near<br>to find, as all are fed,<br>the new community of love<br>in Christ's communion bread,<br>in Christ's communion bread. | 4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,<br>unseen, but ever near,<br>is in such friendship better known,<br>alive among us here,<br>alive among us here.                                    |

**Postlude**

**Nunc Dimittis**

setting by Richard Hillert

**All are invited to join the family for a reception in St. John's Parish Hall  
immediately following the service today. Thank you to St. John's members for hosting.**

The fourth verse is just for Grace.

# Come, thou fount of every blessing

Hymn Tune: Nettleton

1. Come, thou fount of every blessing  
2. Here I find grace  
3. Oh, to ma's grace  
4. Ma - ma's grace

2  
bless - ing, sure; tune my heart to sing thy  
treas - ure; hith - er, by thy help, I've  
debt - or, dai - ly, I'm con - strained an - to  
ba - by, ma - ma's ba - by an - gel

4  
grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er  
come; and Let thy good  
be! child. Ma - ma's good - ba - by, sweet - est

6  
ceas - ing, call safe for songs of loud - est  
plea - sure, bind - ly my wan - der - ing - heart  
fet - ter, by, ma - ma's ba - by an - gel

8  
praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious  
home. Je - sus - sought me - der, a  
thee: to - lit - tle wan - ba - by, sweetest little  
child. Mama's lit - tle

10  
son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a -  
stran - ger, wan - der - ing from the fold of  
feel - it, by, Mama's lit - tle ba - by, God I  
ba - by, an - gel

12  
bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me  
God; he, to my res - cue, oh, take from  
love; here's Ma - ma's heart, oh, sweet - est  
child. Ma - ma's ba - by, an - gel

14  
on dan - it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
seal - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
ba - by, ma - ma's ba - by an - gel a - bove.  
child.