# A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Vinod Hopson

## January 24, 1975 - February 28, 2023



March 18, 2023 10:30 a.m.

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector The Reverend Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate

Alex Jones, Organist and Choirmaster

Making God's Presence Real By Sharing Christ's Life-Changing Love

### WELCOME TO TRINITY CHURCH

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church! We're glad that you are here to worship with us this morning. We follow the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (BCP) to guide our worship. In this leaflet, you'll find everything you need to follow along printed.

Whether you've been attending Trinity your whole life or this is your first time here, we invite you to participate in the service as fully as you feel comfortable doing.

If you're looking for a new church home, know that the Trinity family welcomes you. We would also appreciate your filling out a virtual visitors card, which can be accessed at this link:

https://forms.gle/dvuRW2FUDny2hpRz5

For more information, please visit our website: www.trinitymidtown.org For questions about how to connect with us, please email connections@trinitymidtown.org



VESTRY

Andy Durham, Senior Warden John Escoto, Junior Warden

Eric Beam Ben Blanding Pam Lawson Mary Matteucci Ann McCoy John Merullo Samantha Rainman Gladys Vallés David Villarreal Michele White

Teddy Adams, Chancellor Dana Gannon, Assistant Chancellor Larry Laubach, Treasurer Steve Lee, Assistant Treasurer Ben Blanding, Clerk of the Vestry Samantha Rainman, Assistant Clerk of the Vestry Officiants The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

> Readers Shaheed Sheikh, cousin Paul Hopson, father Revi Smith, nephew

Remembrances Veena Hopson, sister Eileen Maxson, friend

> Crucifer Leila Blanding

Lay Eucharistic Ministers David Villarreal David Theis

> Ushers Eric Beam Ben Blanding John Escoto Elmer Romero

> > Altar Guild Mark Goza

Funeral Coordinator Mary Cloud

> Sexton Robin Carroll

Security Sam Jones

The flowers at the High Altar are given in loving memory of Vinod Hopson by FotoFest.

## THE BURIAL SERVICE

The Liturgy for the Dead is an Easter liturgy. It 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 angels, principalities, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else 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. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

Family Members
Jennifer Ward, wife Aarya Zuzu Hopson, daughter Paul Hopson, father Dawn Hopson, mother Victor Hopson, brother Veena Hopson, sister Revi Smith, nephew Ben Smith, nephew Sean Paul Smith, nephew Michael Hopson, uncle Shaheed Sheikh, cousin Glenda Sheikh, cousin Glenda Sheikh, cousin Glenda Sheikh, cousin-in-law Kathy Ward, mother-in-law Della Klesel, grandmother Justin Ward, brother-in-law Bonnie Ward, sister-in-law Alaina Ward, niece

## Burial of the Dead Holy Eucharist Rite II

Preludes

Rhosymedre Ral "Andante Religioso" from Sonata No. 4 Enigma Variations, Op. 36, No. 9 "Nimrod"

Ralph Vaughan Williams Felix Mendelssohn d'' Edward Elgar

## Liturgy of the Word

Please stand as able

#### OPENING ANTHEMS

BCP, page 491

Celebrant I am the 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. 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.

Crucifer



#### A COLLECT FOR BURIAL

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother Vinod. We thank you for giving him to us, his 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.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

The First Reading

A Reading from Wisdom.

Wisdom 3: 1-9 Reader: Shaheed Sheikh, cousin

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; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever. 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

### People Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING A Reading from Romans. Romans 8: 31b-35, 37-39 Reader: Paul Hopson, father

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

(Continued on page 8)

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

#### People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

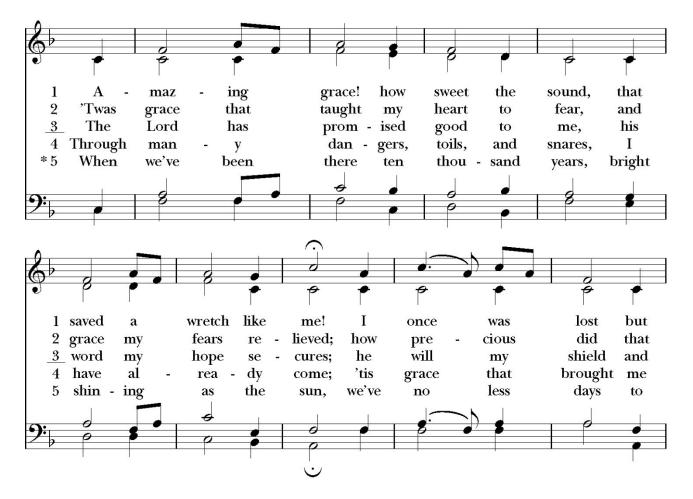
Reader: Revi Smith, nephew

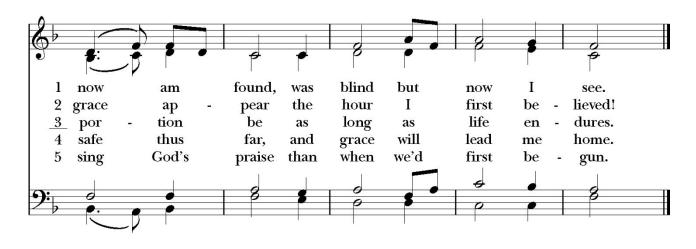
- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
- 5 Thou 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.

Please stand as able.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE 671 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

New Britain





Please remain standing, as able

The Holy Gospel

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. . .

John 14: 1-6

GospelerThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

"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. '

Gospeler <b>People</b>	The Gospel of the Lord. <b>Praise to you, Lord Christ.</b>		
	Please be seated.		
Remembran	CES		
	Veena Hopson, sister Eileen Maxson, friend		
Homily	The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector		
	Please stand as able.		
Apostles' C	REED BCP, page 496		
	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.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP, page 497

For our brother Vinod, 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 Vinod, 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 brother eternal life. **Hear us, Lord**.

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

#### Hear us, Lord.

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

#### Hear us, Lord.

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

#### Hear us, Lord.

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

Silence

Father of all, we pray to you for Vinod 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. **People** Amen.

THE PEACECelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

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

The congregation may be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

#### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

VIRTUAL OFFERING

**Online Giving** is available through AccessACS. Go to www.trinitymidtown.org and click the "Give" button on the top right, or click

:https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=156477

**Texting.** Send the message **heartofmidtown** to **73256**. The prompt will ask for a credit card number which can be kept on file.

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Rise Up, My Love

Healey Willan (1880-1960)

Rise up, my love, My fair one, and come away; For lo, the winter is past, The rain is over and gone; The flowers appear upon the earth; The time of the singing of birds is come;

Arise my love, My fair one, and come away; Come away, Away.

## Holy Communion

Please stand as able

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, page 361

Sursum	Corda	
Sursum	Corda	

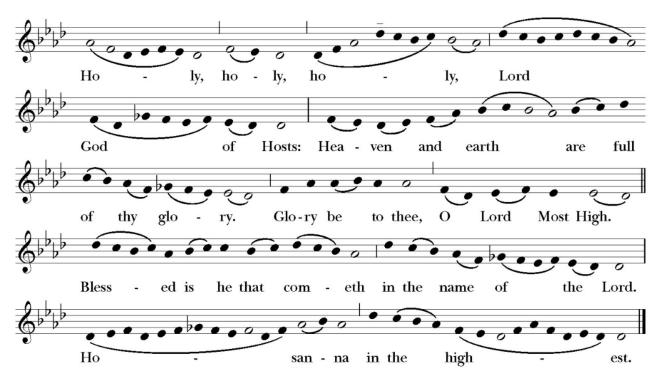
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## 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:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS \$115



Please kneel or stand as able.

#### The celebrant continues

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:

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

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 God, now and for ever.

#### People AMEN.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP, page 364 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.

#### FRACTION ANTHEM

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

AGNUS DEI \$159 Missa Marialis 0 Lamb of God, that ta kest a - way 20 the sins of the world, have mer cy 0 C Lamb Ο of God, up on us. that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have 0 0 cy up on Lamb of mer us. God, that kest a - way the sins of ta 0 oþ. the world, grant thy peace. us

#### INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

For the duration of the current pandemic we will continue to offer communion in one kind for those who wish to receive the bread only. Please come forward to receive communion from a priest at the chancel steps. If you are partaking of the chalice, please use the hand sanitizer before approaching the clergy and chalice bearer. Also, if you wish to partake of the chalice, you may do so by intinction. Intinction is done by dipping a host into the wine, and is completely optional. If you prefer, it is perfectly fine to continue receiving the host only.



We offer a gluten-free bread option for those with dietary restrictions who wish to receive communion. To receive a gluten free wafer, please clasp your hands with palms facing each other when the priest administering the bread approaches you.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

O Mensch bewein dein Sünde groß

Johann Sebastian Bach

BCP, page 498

BCP, page 499

Please stand or kneel as able.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Officiant Let us pray.

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.

Please stand as able.

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; 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 Vinod.
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 blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.



Dismissal	
Officiant	Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People	Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

"Prelude in a Classic Style"

Gordon Young

The congregation is invited to a lunch in Fellowship Hall, immediately following the service.

#### Memorials to honor Vinod's name may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. www.nationalmssociety.org, or follow this link directly to the donation page:

https://secure.nationalmssociety.org/site/Donation2?df\_id=55995&55995.donation=form1

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## Vinod Hopson

24 January 1975 ~ 28 February 2023 (48)

Vinod Hopson passed away on the evening of 28 February, after a brief illness, with his friends and family by his bedside.

Vinod was born 24 January 1975, on a very cold day in Hoboken, NJ, to Dawn (Miller) Hopson and Paul Hopson.

If you know and love Keith Jarrett's piano recording, "The Köln Concert", here's something special: the concert began in Germany approximately one hour after Vinod was born. We believe that the song is a celebration of his birth and life.

Vinod graduated from high school in Parsippany, NJ, in 1993. In 2005, he graduated-cum laude BFA (Photo/Digital Media), from University of Houston.

While at university, he became drawn to the work of FotoFest founders Frederick Baldwin and Wendy Watriss. He was hired at FotoFest, where he would spend the next 18 years overseeing communications and press.

From 2004 to 2007, Vinod also held positions at other Houston-area art organizations, including DiverseWorks and Aurora Picture Show. And most recently, he worked as the manager of Marketing and Creative Services at the School of Public Health at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.

Beyond work, Vinod's passion for history and storytelling was funneled into his project, *Those Who Desire*. Using detailed maps, interviews, and extensive research, he gave tours investigating Houston's forgotten and frequently troubled history. Tours concentrated on Downtown Houston, the Historic Freedmen's Town, and the Camp Logan Uprising (1917). His current research centered on the Brazos River and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Vinod was awarded The Idea Fund twice, in 2021 and 2016. He was frequently invited to participate in panels and various collaborative projects. He was a valuable resource to the arts and culture community in Houston.

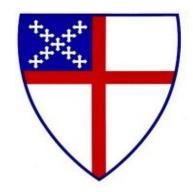
While working at FotoFest, he met his soulmate, Jennifer Ward. They married in 2010, and in 2018 they were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Aarya Zuzu Hopson, a most beautiful child and their pride and joy.

Vinod is survived by his wife, Jennifer Ward, and their daughter Aarya Zuzu Hopson. Additionally, he leaves his parents, Paul and Dawn Hopson; a brother, Victor Hopson; a sister, Veena Hopson, with sons Revi, Ben, and Sean Paul; a cousin, Shaheed Sheikh, and his wife Glenda; and his uncle, Michael Hopson. In his wife's family, he is survived by his mother-in-law, Kathy Ward; grandmother Della Klesel; and brother-in-law, Justin Ward, his wife, Bonnie and their daughter Alaina.

His parents named their son Vinod to reflect his mother's Indian heritage. The name is used in India and Nepal, meaning "delight," "enjoyment," "pleasure," "happiness." Vinod was the personification of his name. Wherever he went, he carried joy with him to light up the lives of those he met. He had a passion for cooking, trivia, music and pampering chickens. He was a wonderful son, a loyal brother, a loving husband and father. To the countless hearts he touched, Vinod leaves a legacy of love, hope and courage. He will be sorely missed.







#### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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Carver Mathis, Youth Missioner Youth@TrinityMidtown.org ext. 405

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