

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A MEMORIAL VIGIL  
FOR THE LIFE OF

THERESA LEE  
July 15, 1958 - May 17, 2020



June 13, 2020  
12:30 pm

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins, Rector

Pelayo Parlade, piano  
Mike Owen, bass  
April Sloan-Hubert, vocalist

## 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.

The High Altar flowers are given in loving and respectful  
memory of an excellent and very dear woman by  
The Field Family

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

### PRELUDE

*Please stand as able.*

OPENING HYMN 671     *Amazing Grace*

### *Liturgy of the Word*

#### PRAYER FOR A VIGIL

##### *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 Theresa, that she may rest from her labors, and enter into the light of God's eternal sabbath rest.

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.

#### A COLLECT FOR BURIAL

*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  
Theresa 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 for ever.

**People**         **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

A Reading from Isaiah.

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 broken-hearted, 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 121

Reader: Ernie Davis

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;  
is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your  
coming in,  
from this time forth for evermore.

Reader: Nicole Waligora-Davis

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians.

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.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

**People**            **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

- 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 annointest 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.

AT THE SEQUENCE      I'll Fly Away      April Sloan-Hubert, soloist

THE HOLY GOSPEL      John 14: 1-6

*Officiant*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**People**      **Glory 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."

*Officiant*      The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

REMEMBRANCES

THE HOMILY      The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins, Rector

THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**People** **And also with you.**

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

ANTHEM

You'll Never Walk Alone  
April Sloan-Hubert, soloist

*Please stand as able.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

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

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 Theresa.**

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

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

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 Theresa.**

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

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

*Silence*

Almighty God, our Father in heaven, before whom live all who die in the Lord: Receive our sister Theresa into the courts of your heavenly dwelling place. Let her heart and soul now ring out in joy to you, O Lord, the living God, and the God of those who live. This we ask through Christ our Lord. **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.

**People**            **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL

Remember Me  
(from the movie Coco)  
April Sloan-Hubert, solo

*Officiant*            Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People**            **Thanks be to God.**

## A HISTORY OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Trinity Episcopal Church of Houston has existed as a house of worship and a center of its community for over a century. As such, it has adapted to the changing nature of the city. With a congregation that grew from a few founding members in the 1890s to several thousand parishioners at its peak, Trinity is an example of how spiritual people have contended with the challenges presented during a period of urban development.

Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street and Holman Avenue. That structure, designed by Ralph Adams Cram of Boston and William Ward Watkin of Houston became an architectural landmark constructed in the neo-Gothic style with Texas limestone and a 97 foot bell tower.

While our neighborhood has gone through many changes, the parish has remained steadfast, and actively ministers to a diverse congregation and to the poor in its midst. As the Midtown Houston neighborhood began redeveloping, starting in the early 2000s, Trinity Church has rededicated itself to its spiritual mission, and has become an active part of the Midtown area for music and other creative art expressions.



*Officiant*

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

*Music*

*April Sloan-Hubert, vocalist*

*Pelayo Parlade, piano*

*Mike Owen, bass*

*Readers*

Caroline Levander

Nicole Waligora-Davis

Ernie Davis

*Trinity Episcopal Church*

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