



**Celebration of the life of
Edward Steponaitis
June 10, 1941 – November 17, 2025**



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PRELUDE “All Nature Sings—Organ Music Celebrating The Joy of Creation” Alfred V. Fedak
Pastorale: Fair Are the Meadows
Hearts Unfold Like Flowers
Let All Things Their Creator Bless
For the Beauty of Each Hour
Like the First Bird

Please stand as able.

Celebrant 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.

OPENING HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
For that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

--Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864

THE OPENING PRAYER

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray... O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Ed, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-3

Lector A reading from Isaiah, chapter 61...

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 121

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 forevermore.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

(stanza 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.

THE GOSPEL

John 14:1-6

Please stand as able.

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Celebrant Jesus said, "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 be to thee, O Christ.**

HOMILY

The Rev. Whitney Burton

Please be seated.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand.

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

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

Please sit, stand or kneel, as you choose.

- Lector* In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace.
- People* **Amen.**
- Lector* Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.
- People* **Amen.**
- Lector* Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.
- People* **Amen.**
- Lector* Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind.
- People* **Amen.**
- Lector* Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love.
- People* **Amen.**
- Lector* Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.
- People* **Amen.**
- Lector* Grant us grace to entrust Ed to thy never failing love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people.
- People* **Amen.**
- Lector* Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom.
- People* **Amen.**
- Lector* Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
- People* **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Please stand as able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE *Please be seated.*

OFFERTORY HYMN H-662

Abide with Me

EVENTIDE

(stanzas 1, 3)

**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.**

**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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Celebrant says a proper preface

Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

People **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel or stand, as you choose.

Celebrant All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to receive the Sacrament. If you would like to receive wine you may do so by sipping from the chalice or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to intinct (dip) the wafer for you. If you desire a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION

Morning Has Broken

Charles Callahan

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Almighty God, we thank thee that in thy great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast given unto us a foretast of thy heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be unto 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 thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE COMMENDATION

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

Celebrant Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All **Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant Ed with thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Celebrant Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Ed. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

All **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE SENDING HYMN

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

(stanzas 1, 4, 6)

**For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy Name, O Jesus, be for ever blessed. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
in praise of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Please stand as able.

Celebrant announces the blessing.

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

For All the Saints

Robert A. Hobby



SERVING US TODAY, FRIDAY DECEMBER 5, 2025

Celebrant

Rev. Whitney Burton

Organist/Choirmaster

Tom Huffman