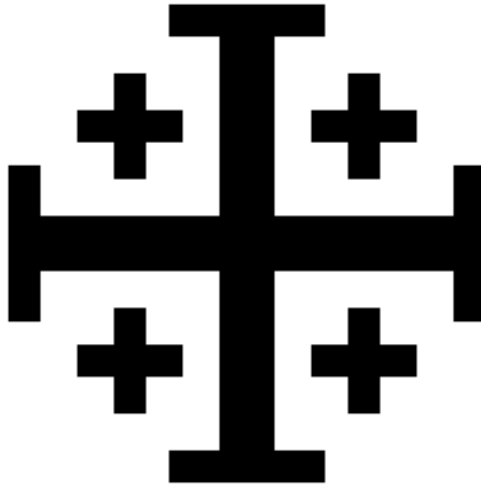


# THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL



WILLIAM JULIUS CHAMPION III

JUNE 9, 1954 – AUGUST 1, 2025

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025

ELEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

CHRIST CHURCH GROSSE POINTE

## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

### VOLUNTARY

SCHMÜCKE DICH, O LIEBE SEELE, BWV 654

*Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)*

### INTROIT

GOD BE IN MY HEAD

*John Rutter  
(b. 1945)*

God be in my head, and in my understanding.  
God be in my eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in my heart and in my thinking.  
God be at my end and at my departing.

*The people are invited to stand.*

### RESURRECTION ANTHEMS

*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.

### WELCOME

The Reverend Andrew Van Culin



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

## THE COLLECT

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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

*People* **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

## THE FIRST READING

ECCLESIASTICUS 44:1-7

read by: Erik Dillman

Let us now sing the praises of famous men, our ancestors in their generations. The Lord apportioned to them great glory, his majesty from the beginning. There were those who ruled in their kingdoms and made a name for themselves by their strength; those who gave counsel because they were intelligent; those who spoke in prophetic oracles; those who led the people by their counsels and by their knowledge of the people's lore; they were wise in their words of instruction; those who composed musical tunes or put verses in writing; rich men endowed with resources, living peacefully in their homes—all these were honored in their generations and were the pride of their times.

The Word of the Lord.

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

## PSALM 46

chant: *Martin Luther*

God is our refuge and strength, \*  
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, \*  
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

Though its waters rage and foam, \*  
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

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

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, \*  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her;  
 she shall not be overthrown; \*  
     God shall help her at the break of day.  
 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; \*  
     God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.  
 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
     the God of Jacob is our stronghold.  
 Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, \*  
     what awesome things he has done on earth.  
 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.  
 “Be still, then, and know that I am God; \*  
     I will be exalted among the nations;  
     I will be exalted in the earth.”  
 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
     the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**THE SECOND READING**

2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

read by: John Chapman

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand for the hymn and remain standing for the Gospel.*

For all the saints, who from their la - bors rest, who  
 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might:—  
 But lo! there breaks a yet more glo - rious day; the  
 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through  
 thee— by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy  
 thou, Lord, their Cap - tain in the well - fought fight;—  
 saints tri - umph - ant rise in bright ar - ray; the  
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host—  
 Name, O— Je - sus, be for ev - er blessed.  
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, the one true Light.  
 King of— glo - ry pass - es on his way.  
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## THE GOSPEL

John 5:24-27

*Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life.

"Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. "

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The people are seated at the invitation of the Celebrant.*

EULOGY

Bill Robinson

HOMILY

The Reverend Andrew Van Culin

*The people are invited to stand.*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

*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.**

*Leader* For our brother Bill, 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 Bill, and dry the tears of those who weep.  
Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend;  
comfort us in our sorrow.  
Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

You raised the dead to life;  
give to our brother eternal life.  
Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

You promised paradise to the thief who repented;  
bring our brother to the joys of heaven.  
Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

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

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

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

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

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

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Silence may be kept.*

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

*People* **Amen.**



## THE PEACE

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

*People* **And also with you.**

*The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.*

## THE OFFERTORY

*The people remain seated while the altar is prepared.*

## ANTHEM

WIE LIEBLICH SIND DEINE WOHNUNGEN,  
FROM *EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM*, Op. 45

*Johannes Brahms*  
(1833-1897)

*Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen, Herr Zebaoth!  
Meine Seele verlangt und sehnet sich nach den Vorhöfen des Herrn;  
mein Leib und Seele freuen sich in dem lebendigen Gott.  
Wohl denen, die in deinem Hause wohnen, die loben dich immerdar!*

How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts!  
For my soul, it longeth, yea fainteth for the courts of the Lord:  
My soul and body crieth out, yea for the living God.  
O blest are they that dwell within thy house; they praise thy Name evermore!

*Psalm 84*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The people stand.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

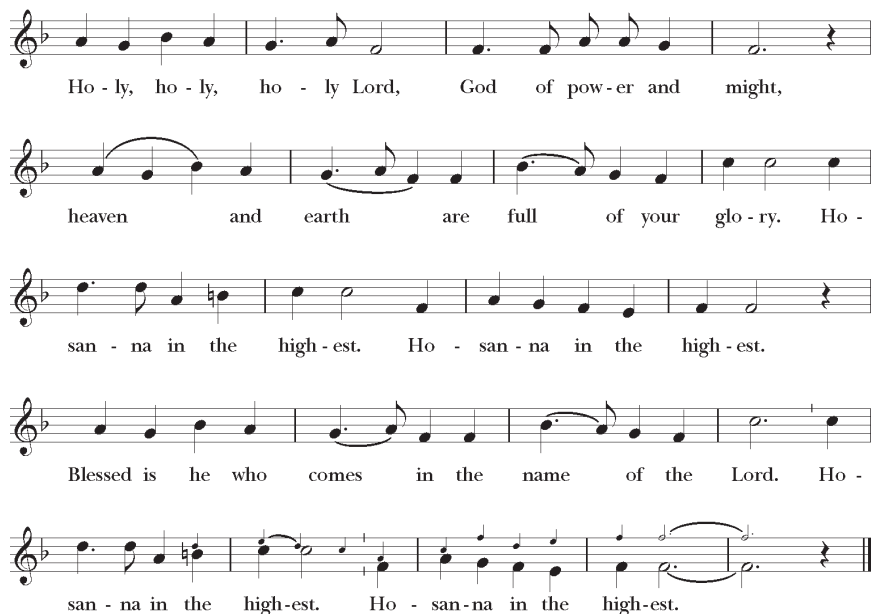
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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 Bill, and to all 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 & BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*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:

*People*     **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.

*People*     **AMEN.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has 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.**

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

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

## THE INVITATION

*The people are seated.*

*To receive Communion, come to a Communion Station at the direction of the ushers. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than Communion, cross your arms over your chest—this will alert the priest of your request. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

## ANTHEM

### CROSSING THE BAR

*Charles H. H. Parry  
(1848-1918)*

Sunset and evening star, and one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar, when I put out to sea.  
But such a tide as, moving, seems asleep, too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell, and after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell when I embark;  
For, though from out our bourne of time and place the flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face when I have crost the bar.

*Alfred Tennyson  
(1809-1892)*

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*The people stand.*

*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.**



All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us  
 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our  
 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your



sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing  
 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and  
 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that



sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,  
 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:  
 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:

*Refrain*

O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## 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.**

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.**

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

## THE BLESSING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to live with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Go in the comfort and peace of Christ.

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

## RESURRECTION ANTHEMS

*Celebrant* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and giving life to those in the tomb.

The Sun of Righteousness is gloriously risen, giving light to those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

The Lord will guide our feet into the way of peace, having taken away the sin of the world.

Christ will open the kingdom of heaven to all who believe in his Name, saying, Come, O blessed of my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you.

Into paradise may the angels lead you. At your coming may the martyrs receive you, and bring you into the holy city Jerusalem.

## VOLUNTARY

FUGUE IN C MAJOR, BWV 547

*J. S. Bach*

**PARTICIPANTS**

**CELEBRANT**

The Reverend Andrew Van Culin  
*Rector, Christ Church Grosse Pointe*

**CONCELEBRANT**

The Reverend Maureen L. Martin  
*Associate for Parish Life and Community Engagement, Christ Church Grosse Pointe*

**PALLBEARER**

Mickey Champion

**MUSICIANS**

Scott Hanoian  
*Director of Music and Organist, Christ Church Grosse Pointe*

Jackson Merrill  
*Assistant Director of Music and Organist, Christ Church Grosse Pointe*

The Christ Church Choir

**MEMORIALS AND CONTRIBUTIONS MAY BE MADE TO:**

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Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236

The Players Club  
13710 East Eight Mile Road  
Detroit, Michigan 48205



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