

A Service of Thanksgiving
for the Life of
Malcolm Wellington Bates
December 12, 1946 – March 15, 2024



Monday, March 25, 2024
11:00 a.m.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Richmond, Virginia

The Burial of the Dead

*In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayer,
please observe silence upon entering the nave.*

Prelude

Opening Anthems

Please stand.

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.

Hymn 179 Welcome, happy morning!

Sung by all.

Fortunatus

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

A period of silence is kept.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother, Mac. 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. **Amen.**

Remembrance

Please be seated.

George Cameron Budd

The First Reading Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

Read by Isabel DeLeon Rigby

Psalm 121

Read in unison.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills;
from whence cometh my help?
My help cometh even from the LORD,

who hath made heaven and earth.
 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved,
 and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
 Behold, he that keepeth Israel
 shall neither slumber nor sleep.
 The LORD himself is thy keeper;
 the LORD is thy defence upon thy right hand;
 So that the sun shall not burn thee by day,
 neither the moon by night.
 The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil;
 yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
 The LORD shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in,
 from this time forth for evermore.

Hymn 482 Lord of all hopefulness *Sung by all, standing.* *Slane*

The Second Reading 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 *Please sit.* Read by Thomas Gardner Rigby

Homily *The Rev. William L. Sachs*

Hymn 688 A mighty fortress is our God *Sung by all, standing.* *Ein feste Burg*

The Apostles' Creed

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

<p> 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. </p>	<p> 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. </p>
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The Lord's Prayer

<p> 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. </p>	<p> 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. </p>
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The Prayers of the People

The Book of Common Prayer, page 497

Leader For our brother Mac, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said,
 "I am Resurrection and I am Life."
Leader Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Mac,
 and dry the tears of those who weep.
All **Hear us, Lord.**
Leader You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.
All **Hear us, Lord.**

Leader You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.
All **Hear us, Lord.**

Leader You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.
All **Hear us, Lord.**

Leader Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.
All **Hear us, Lord.**

Leader He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.
All **Hear us, Lord.**

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

A period of silence is kept.

Leader Father of all, we pray to you for Mac, 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. **Amen.**

The Commendation

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

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, Mac. 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. **Amen.**

Blessing Paraphrase of Henri Frederic Amiel
Officiant Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who are traveling the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

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

Hymn 376 Joyful, Joyful, we adore thee *Sung by all.* *Hymn to Joy*

The family invites all gathered to a reception in the Large Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.



Clergy: The Rev. John D. Rohrs, the Rev. William L. Sachs, the Rev. William S. Stanley;
Remembrance: George Cameron Budd; **Musicians:** Members of the St. Stephen's Choir; Brent te Velde, *organist*;
Readers: Isabel DeLeon Rigby, Thomas Gardner Rigby; **Crucifer:** John Wyatt Kimbrell