

A Celebration of the Life of Frances Perry McRae



June 4, 1940 - August 24, 2026

Christ Episcopal Church, Valdosta Georgia

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all 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, nor principalities, 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."

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 Frances has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

Burial of the Dead and the Holy Eucharist:

Rite One

Saturday, September 26, 2026

All stand.

ENTRANCE HYMN— *Amazing Grace*

H (67I)

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
* 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.

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 Frances, and grant her 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, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading **Isaiah 61:1-3**

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN *How Great Thou Art*

H (475)

1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der Con - sid - er
2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me

1. all the worlds* thy hands have made, — I see the stars I hear the roll - ing*
2. birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, — When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
3. die, I scarce can take it in, — That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
4. home, what joy shall fill my heart! — Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -

1. thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played.____
 2. gran - deur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze.____
 3. bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin.____
 4. ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my God how great thou art.____

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee:____ How great Thou
 art,____ how great Thou art!____ Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to
 Thee:____ How great Thou art,____ how great Thou art!____

The Epistle **Revelation 21:2-7**

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN *It is Well with My Soul*

H (439)



1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my
 2. Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should
 3. My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be

1. way, When sor - rows like sea - bil - lows roll;
 2. come, Let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol,
 3. thought— My sin— not in part, but the whole—
 4. sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,

1. What - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 2. That Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
 3. Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
 4. The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

1. say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 2. taste, And has shed His own blood for my soul.
 3. more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 4. scend, "E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul, It is well with my

— It is well, it is well with my soul.
 soul,

The Gospel

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

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

The Gospel **John 14:11-6**

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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.** 7

The Homily– *The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly*

The Apostles' Creed

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

**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

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.
Amen.

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. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. **Amen.**

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, with 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. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

OFFERTORY *What Wondrous Love This Is*

Unison



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll

caused the Lord of bliss to lay a-side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy-ful be, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to lay a-side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

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

Celebrant and 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.

The people kneel or stand.

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. **AMEN.**

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

People and Celebrant

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

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.

The Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 foretaste 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

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

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.

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

The Celebrant, facing the body, says

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

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

EXIT HYMN O, When the Saints Go Marching In

1. O, when the saints go marching in,
O, when the saints go marching in.
Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.
2. O when the sun refused to shine,
O when the sun refused to shine,
Lord, I want to be in that number
when the sun refused to shine.
3. O when they gather 'round the throne,
O when they gather 'round the throne,
Lord, I want to be in that number
when they gather 'round the throne.
4. O when they crown Him Lord of all,
O when they crown Him Lord of all,
Lord, I want to be in that number
when they crown Him Lord of all.
5. And on that hallelujah day,
And on that hallelujah day,
Lord, I want to be in that number
on that hallelujah day.

The Committal

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. He that raised up Jesus from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies, by his Spirit that dwelleth in us.

Wherefore my heart is glad, and my spirit rejoiceth; my flesh also shall rest in hope.

Thou shalt show me the path of life; in thy presence is the fullness of joy, and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Frances; and we commit her body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord make his face to shine upon her and be gracious unto her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace. **Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O Almighty God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, who by a voice from heaven didst proclaim, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: Multiply, we beseech thee, to those who rest in Jesus the manifold blessings of thy love, that the good work which thou didst begin in them may be made perfect unto the day of Jesus Christ. And of thy mercy, O heavenly Father, grant that we, who now serve thee on earth, may at last, together with them, be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In place of this prayer, or in addition to it, the Celebrant may add additional Prayers.

Then may be said:

Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord:

And let light perpetual shine upon her.

May her soul, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Serving Today.

Clergy: The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly and The Rev'd Walter Hobgood

Crucifer: Martha Leake

Lectors: Tom McRae, III, Joan McRae Kleinlein

Eucharist Ministers: Martha Leake, Sheri Gravett

Organist: Sue Ellen Rumstay

Ushers: Jerry Byrd, Rita Waters

A/V Crew: Ken Rumstay, Julius Ariail



Mission Statement: As followers of Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we share God's love, grace and mercy through worship, prayer and service, respecting the dignity of all.

The Rt Rev'd Frank Logue, Bishop of Georgia
All Christ Church Families & Friends are Ministers.

The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly, Rector

The Rev'd Nancy Sartin, Deacon

Bobby Yarbrough, Sr. Warden

Ed Mistick, Jr. Warden

Patricia Gatchell, Interim Administrative Assistant

Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper

Krystle Black, Treasurer

Jeri-Lyn Flowers, Director of College Ministry

Elise Sandbach, Director of Preschool & PMO

Kylee Creasy, Children's Ministries Leader

Ellie Copeland & Katie Wisenbaker, Youth Ministers (EYC)

Issa Young, Choir Director

Sue Ellen Rumstay, Director of Music

Nancy Lutsko, Verger

The 10:00 service is livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook

www.facebook.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA

www.youtube.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA

The church office is located at 103 East College Street.

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