

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF  
MARTHA M. ESKRIDGE  
APRIL 2, 1925 – NOVEMBER 16, 2018



NOVEMBER 24, 2018  
10:00 A.M.  
SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
680 CALDER  
BEAUMONT, TEXAS

## Organ Prelude

### Solemn Anthems

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.

*The Celebrant says the following Collect, first saying*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray. (*Standing*)

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Martha. We thank you for giving her to us, her 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.*

### **A Reading from the Book of Wisdom (3:1-5,9)**

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seem to have died, and in their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

*Reader*                    Here ends the reading.

### **Psalm 23 (unison)**

The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
    I shall not be in want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
    and leads me beside still waters.  
He revives my soul \*  
    and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.  
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
    for you are with me;  
    your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
You spread a table before me in the presence of those  
    who trouble me; \*  
    you have anointed my head with oil,  
    and my cup is running over.  
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days  
    of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### **A Reading from the Book of I Corinthians (15:20-26,35-38,53-58)**

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

*Reader*                    Here ends the reading.

**The Holy Gospel: John 11:21-27***(All stand)*

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

Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

*Celebrant*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Homily**

Father Tony Clark

**The Apostles’ Creed** *(please stand)*

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** (*please stand*)

For our sister Martha, 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 Martha, and dry the tears of those who weep.

*Hear us, Lord.*

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

*Hear us, Lord.*

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life.

*Hear us, Lord.*

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

*Hear us, Lord.*

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

*Hear us, Lord.*

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

*Hear us, Lord.*

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

*The Celebrant concludes with a collect.*

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

*People* And also with you.

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*The people stand. The Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

### *Celebrant*

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 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:

### *Celebrant and People say together*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### *The people stand.*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

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. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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 Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To receive the Bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed. When receiving the Wine, please guide the chalice as it is offered. If you prefer, you may leave the Bread on your palm for the person administering the chalice to dip into the Wine and place on your tongue.*

*Anyone may come forward for a prayer for God's blessing in lieu of receiving Communion. Please indicate your desire for a prayer for God's blessing by crossing your arms on your chest. Ladies are encouraged to blot lipstick before receiving Communion. Ushers will direct the congregation to receive communion.*

### **Postcommunion Prayer** (*Celebrant and people, please stand*)

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.*

**Vocal Solo**

“Into Paradise May the Angels Lead You”

Plainsong

Tim Foster, Tenor



**The Commendation** *(please stand)*

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

*The celebrant continues*

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.

*Celebrant and people*

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

*Celebrant*

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

**The Blessing**

**Hymn 376**      “Joyful, joyful, we adore thee”      *Hymn to Joy*

**The Dismissal**

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

**Organ Postlude**





***Martha M. Eskridge***, 94, of Beaumont, Texas, formerly of St. Louis, Missouri, died Friday, November 16, 2018, at Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas, Beaumont. She was born on April 2, 1924, in Springfield, Illinois, to Margaret Ida Norris and Percy Elmer Mason. Martha was a former active member of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Webster Grove, Missouri, and had been a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Beaumont, since 2012.

She is survived by her son, William Mason Grace, of Beaumont; daughters, Lin G. Richers and her husband, David M.; and Brittany Ann Grace; and grandchild, Cordney B. Richers, all of Denver, Colorado.











**Pallbearers**

William Mason Grace  
David Richers

*Her interment will take place at Valhalla Cemetery in  
St. Louis, Missouri, under the direction of  
Hoffmeister Colonial Funeral Home, at a later time.*



Please sign Mrs. Eskridge's guest book and share your memories at  
**[broussards1889.com](http://broussards1889.com)**