



Don Terrell James, Sr.

December 12, 1946 - January 19, 2017

Service of Witness to the Resurrection

Don Terrell James, Sr.

January 24, 2017 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. I was dead and behold I am alive forever and ever. . . Because I live, you also will live.

Rev. 21:6; Rev. 1:18; John 14:19

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come together in grief, acknowledging our loss.

May God grant us grace that in pain—we may find comfort, in sorrow—hope, and in death—resurrection. Dying, Christ destroyed our death.

Rising, Christ restores our life.

In baptism, Don was sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own forever.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Eternal God, we bless you for the great company of all those who have kept the faith, finished their race, and who now rest from their labor. We praise you for those dear to us. We thank you for Don James whom you have now received into your presence. Help us to believe where we have not seen, trusting you to lead us through our years. Bring us at last with all your saints into the joy of your home, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not always sought or done your will. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us and make us whole. Set us free from our sin, and restore to us the joy of your salvation now and forever . . .

Silent Prayers May be Offered

Declaration of Forgiveness

Hear the good news! Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR COMFORT AND ILLUMINATION

Most merciful God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the support of the weary, who does not willingly grieve your children, look down in tender love, we pray, on these your servants, whose joy is turned into mourning. According to the multitude of your mercies, uphold, strengthen, and comfort them, that they may not faint under this trial, but find strength and a refuge in you.

Almighty God, illumine us now through your Word, so that hearing your promises, we may be lifted out of darkness and distress into the light and peace of your presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

² **My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

³ He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ **He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵ The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore**

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

ISAIAH 40:28-31

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

READING OF THE GOSPEL

JOHN 14:1-6, 25-27

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² 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? ³ 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. ⁴ And you know the way

to the place where I am going.”⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you.

²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

The words of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

HOMILY

Julie Odle, Elder

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Lord’s Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn *How Great Thou Art*

COMMENDATION

O God, in the beginning you formed us from the dust of the earth and breathed into us the breath of life. So also, in the last days, you have promised to raise us from the dust, so we might assume a new body at the coming of your Son. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive. We thank

you for this hope, that Don James who has died, will be raised to life imperishable. Look down upon us with tender pity and compassion, grant each of us the comfort of your Spirit. Renew within us the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Now may the God of peace, who brought from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be and abide with you always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Don Terrell James, Sr., 70, of Beaumont, died Thursday, January 19, 2017, at Christus Hospital-St. Elizabeth, Beaumont. He was born on December 12, 1946, in Austin, and was a United States Army veteran having served during Vietnam.

Survivors include his son, Don James, Jr. of Atlanta, Georgia; daughter, Tina James and her husband, Zach Buus, of Houston; brothers, Joseph “Skip” James of Orange and Mark Hurst of West Palm Beach, Florida; sister, Lynda Saxton, of League City; grandchildren, Hunter James, Savannah Buus, Preslee Buus, and Cosette Buus.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Bettye and Cy Hurst.



A family commital was held
at Broussard's Crematorium.



Please sign Mr. James, Sr.'s guestbook and share your memories at
www.broussards1889.com