

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
MARVIN KEITH GORDY
MAY 24, 1937 – NOVEMBER 13, 2022



MEMORIAL SERVICE
NOVEMBER 19, 2022
2:00 P.M.
SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
680 CALDER STREET
BEAUMONT, TEXAS

Organ Prelude

Solemn Anthems (*please stand*)

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall
he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me
shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth;
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God;
whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold,
and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself,
and no man dieth to himself.
For if we live, we live unto the Lord;
and if we die, we die unto the Lord.
Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord;
even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

The Celebrant says the following Collect, first saying

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 Marvin, and grant him 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.*

Hymn 287 (vs. 1-4) “For all the saints” *Sine Nomine*

A Reading from the book Lamentations (3:22-26,31-33)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

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.

A Reading from the book of Revelation (7:9-17)

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures,

and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

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.

The Holy Gospel: St. John 14:1-6

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

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.” Thomas saith unto him, “Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?” Jesus saith unto him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

Following the Gospel reading

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

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

The People, either seated or kneeling, respond to every petition with Amen. The leader says

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 grace to entrust Marvin to thy never-failing love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. *Amen*

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. *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 blessed Mark, and 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.

Instrumental Solo

“Amazing Grace”

Jimmy Simmons, Saxophone

The Great Thanksgiving

The people stand. The Celebrant faces them and says

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.

The Text of the Eucharistic Prayer may be found in the Book of Common Prayer on page 333.

At the place appointed Celebrant and People say together 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 Great Thanksgiving continues on page 334.

*The people kneel. At the conclusion of the Eucharistic
Prayer, the Celebrant continues*

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

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven...

The Breaking of the Bread (*said*)

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive the sacrament.

Music During Communion

Postcommunion Prayer (*Celebrant and people together*)

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 *(please stand)*

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

The celebrant continues

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.

Celebrant and people

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

The Celebrant says

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

The Blessing

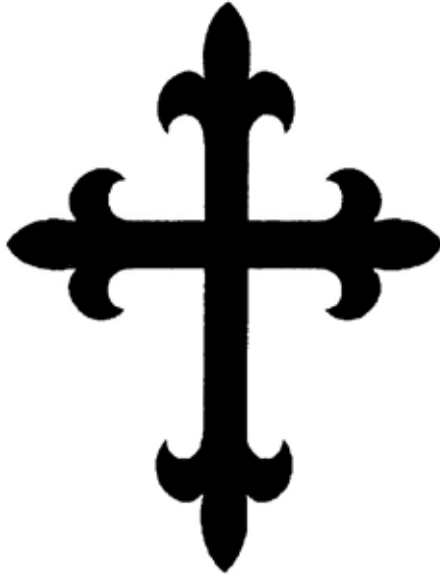
The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 562 “Onward, Christian soldiers” *St. Gertrude*

Postlude





Marvin Keith Gordy, 85, of Beaumont, died Sunday, November 13, 2022. He was born on May 24, 1937, to Opal Farris and Marvin Curry Gordy.

Friends have said:

“He was one of a kind.”

“They broke the mold after him.”

“What a character!”

“A fine gentleman.”

His sayings:

“Ride ‘em like you stole ‘em.”

“You’d make a freight train take a muddy road.”

“With God as my witness!”

“You can take a fork and gouge your eyes out boy, ‘cuz you’ve seen it all now.”

“Well, if that don’t tear the rag off a dead bush.”

Daddy was riding horses from the time he could walk. His horse ran away from Ashley Street when he was six. It was found in Port Acres and his father drove him there with a sack lunch, put him on the horse and told him, “I’ll see you at home after work”. Daddy rode that horse to Beaumont and had to get off to lead it across some water. An old guy sitting outside on College Street looked up and said, “Wouldn’t it be better if you were riding that horse?” That six-year-old boy looked at that old man and said, “Well, I would, but I can’t get back on it!”

Daddy’s determination and drive to complete a task would serve him well. Along with earning his Eagle Scout, Daddy received both The God and Country and The Order of the Arrow awards, two of the highest awards bestowed by the Boy Scouts of America.

Daddy served in the U. S. Army Reserves and truly loved his country.

His accomplishments include earning a B. A. and a B. S. in Architecture from Rice University with honors. He was awarded the M. N. Davidson traveling fellowship for graduating first in his class. He was a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow. He designed a number of landmarks around Southeast Texas, including the Downtown Beaumont Public and R. C. Miller libraries, the Dishman Art Gallery at Lamar University, and Sea Rim State and Beaumont's Riverfront Parks.

He took his 56 years of marriage vows to heart. He was a wonderful caregiver to his beautiful wife, Susan, who courageously battled cancer for 10 years.

Daddy decided to pick up a new hobby in his 40's. He became a player-member of the Houston Polo Club and United States Polo Association. After he hung up his polo mallets, he traded his string of polo ponies for hunter/jumpers and took up "riding to the hounds." He was a proud member and Joint Master of Kanada Foxhounds (with colors) TX, Honorary Lifetime Member of Bull Run Hunt (with colors) Culpepper County, VA, Rappahannock Hunt, VA, Honorary Master Birmingham Hunt, VA, and Member of Masters of Foxhounds Association of America.

Member of Texas Society of Architects, American Institute of Architects, Beaumont Rotary Club, Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, Beaumont Country Club, Tower Club.

Trustee of Beaumont Heritage Society, Jefferson Theater Preservation Society, Beaumont Rotary Club Foundation.

Past offices include President-Southeast Texas Chapter-American Institute of Architects, Vice President and Director of Gulf Coast Conservation Society, Elder-First Christian Church, President-Rice Alumni Association, Golden Triangle, Treasurer and Director, Southeast Texas Chapter of American Institute of Architects.

Daddy loved his dogs and horses and was in complete awe of all of God's creations. He worked tirelessly to make his beloved Dewdrop a showplace for friends and a tranquil place of solitude for his family and himself. He said, "If you don't believe in God, just look around."

His three girls could go on and on, but in the words of MKG, he was, "In short, a hell of a guy!"

He was preceded in death by the love of his life of 56 years, Susan Dunagan Gordy and his parents Opal Farris Gordy and Marvin Curry Gordy.

He is survived by his daughters Johanna Gordy Brown (Matthew), Jennifer Gordy, Sara Gordy and his grandchildren Harrison, Margeaux, Frances Brown, Catherine and Reid (Riley) Swantner, Blake and Baxter Ferguson.



To laugh often and much; To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children, to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you lived.

This is to have succeeded.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson



Honorary Pallbearers

Every single one of his dear friends who filled his life with laughter and love.

Memorial Contributions

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
General Fund
680 Calder Street
Beaumont, TX 77702

*Please join in celebrating Marvin's
life immediately following the service at
Amelia Farm, 8600 Dishman Road, Beaumont.*



Please sign Mr. Gordy's guest book and share your memories at
www.broussards1889.com