

*Celebrating the life of
David Allen Edwards*



September 19, 1945 - July 19, 2023

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Hymn: #287

For all the saints

Please stand & sing.



1 For all the saints, who from their la - bors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might:—
3 O may thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,—
4 O blest com - mun - ion, fel - low - ship di - vine!—



thee— by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
thou, Lord, their Cap - tain in the well - fought fight;—
fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old, and
We feeb - ly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet



Name, O— Je - sus, be for ev - er blessed.
thou, in the dark - ness drear, the one true Light.
win, with— them, the vic - tor's crown of gold.
all are— one in thee, for all are thine.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: William Walsham How (1823-1897). Music: *Sine Nomine*, Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958).

All continue standing while the following anthem is said by the priest.

Celebrant: 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.

Collect for Burial

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother David. 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.**

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

Please be seated.

Reader: A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah.

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 23

Read responsively by half verse.

Reader: The LORD is my shepherd;

People: **I shall not be in want.**

Reader: He makes me lie down in green pastures

People: **and leads me beside still waters.**

Reader: He revives my soul

People: **and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.**

Reader: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

People: **for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

Reader: You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;

People: **you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

Reader: Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

People: **and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

Reader: A reading from the first letter of John.

Reader: See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
 2 His law he en - for - ces, the stars in their cours - es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise, who fash - ioned and
 sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; the hills and the

made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who still guides us
 moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the deeps of the

on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, his
 o - cean pro - claim him di - vine. We too should be voic - ing our

light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the
 love and re - joic - ing; with glad a - dor - a - tion a song let us

Words: Katherine K. Davis (1892–1980) © 1966 E. C. S. Publishing Company, 138 Ipswich Street, Boston, MA 02215-3534. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Music: *The Ash Grove*, Welsh folk tune; harm. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship* (admin. Augsburg Fortress Publishers). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Gospel: John 6:37-40

Please stand to hear the Gospel.

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

Jesus said to the people, "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

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

Homily: The Rev. Chris Cole

Apostles' Creed

Please stand as you are able.

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

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

Please sit or kneel.

Celebrant: For our brother, David, 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 David, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

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

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Celebrant: You raised the dead to life; give to our brother, David, eternal life.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

Celebrant: You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

People: **Hear us, Lord.**

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

Celebrant: Father of all, we pray to you for David, 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.**

Peace

Please stand as you are able.

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

People: **And also with you.**

Greet one another in the name of Christ.

Offertory

Please be seated.

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Music:

Organ Voluntary

Tom Starnes, Organist

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer A)

Sursum Corda

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant: 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 & People: 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 or kneel. The Celebrant continues:

Celebrant: † 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 & People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant: 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.

Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: Now as our savior, Christ has taught us we are bold to say:

Celebrant & People:

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

At Grace Episcopal Church, all baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the usher if you need communion brought to you at your seat. IF you wish to receive the bread only, hold your palms upward, consume the bread, and cross your arms over your chest when the chalice bearer approaches. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are invited to come to the altar rail to receive a Blessing, indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest when the priest approaches.

Communion Hymn: #335

I am the bread of life



1 I am the bread of life;— they who
 2 (The) Bread that I will give— is my
 3 (Un-) less— you eat— of the
 4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion,
 5 (Yes,) Lord, we be - lieve— that—



1 come to me shall not— hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world,— and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of— Man— and—
 4 I— am the— life.— They who be -
 5 you— are the— Christ,— the—



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat— of this bread, they shall— live for
 3 drink— of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve— in me, e - ven— if they
 5 Son— of God who— has



1 me— un - less the— Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er.— they shall— live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 die,— they shall— live for ev - er.
 5 come— in - to— the— world.—



And I will raise them up, and I will raise them



And I will raise them up, and I will raise them



up, and I will raise them up on the



up, and I will raise them up on the



The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

Words: Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927), adapt. of John 6. Copyright © 1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Music: *I Am the Bread of Life*, Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928). Copyright © 1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant & People: **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.**

Blessing

Celebrant: The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: #225

Hail thee, festival day!

Please stand & sing.

Repeat Refrain

Lord fore - told sud - den - ly, swift - ly, de - scends:
ends of the earth Christ and his won - der - ful works:

2 Forth from the Fa - ther he comes with seven - fold
4 Praise to the Spi - rit of Life, all praise to the

my - sti - cal of - fering, pou - ring on all hu - man
fount of our be - ing, light that dost light - en

Repeat Refrain

souls in - fin - ite rich - es of God:
all, life that in all dost a - bide:

The refrain may be sung once by choir alone and repeated by all. The stanzas may be sung by choir alone, alternately by contrasted groups, or by all.

Words: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (540?-600?); tr. *English Hymnal*, 1906, alt. By permission of Oxford University Press.
Music: *Salve festa dies*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

David Allen Edwards

David Edwards passed away peacefully at home July 19th, 2023. He was born September 19, 1945 in Oklahoma City to D.D. "Eddie" Edwards and Willie Bernice Edwards. His family moved to Muskogee at a young age, and he made his home there the rest of his life. He graduated Muskogee Central High School followed by Northeastern State University in Talequah.



David met Linda Stratton in the fall of 1974 and they married in December of that same year. She supported him in his business endeavors and raising their three children, Anthony, Emily, and Stratton. Although a graduate of NSU, he quickly adopted Linda's alma mater of Oklahoma State University and was a rabid Cowboy fan the rest of his life.

Following college, David made his mark on a number of business in Muskogee, many of which he owned over his lifetime, most notably Quality Staffing. His involvement in the community went well beyond his work, and he was active in a number of civic organizations, including Green Country Girls Softball Association, the Boy Scouts, the Muskogee Chamber of Commerce, New Hope Ministries, and Grace Episcopal Church. When not active with those organizations David could be found at Wauhillau Outing Club along the Baron Fork River.

David was predeceased by Linda as well as his parents, his older brother Jon Edwards, and his daughter Emily Green. He is survived by his younger brother Stephen(Kory) of Okanogan Washington, his sons Anthony (Jane) of Silverton, CO, Stratton (Sharmili) of Fort Hunt, Virginia, son-in-law Jason Green (Stephanie) of Muskogee. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Paton and Amelia Edwards; Trapper, Phoebe, and Gabby Green, Jayden Rye and Josh Thompson; and Mina, Asha and Thatcher Edwards. His daughter-in-law Stephanie Green was particularly comforting to David as his health declined.

Services will be at Grace Episcopal Church on Friday, July 28th at 10 am. The service will also be available on Facebook.com/GraceMuskogee (<https://fb.me/e/19aKIDv2n>) for those who cannot attend in person. Those who can join in person are encouraged to wear orange.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Grace Episcopal Church Memorial Fund.



Grace Episcopal

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Ministers: All the People of God (BCP p. 855)

Priest in Charge: The Rev. Chris Cole

Sr. Warden: Alex Wilson

Jr. Warden: Audrey Stone

Deacon Emeritus: The Rev. Thomas A. Harrington

Organist/Choirmaster: Malcolm McGuire

Youth & Children's Director: Nancy Scott

