

**A Service of Witness to the Resurrection
In Praise of God and In Memory of
Mark Daniel Bray
January 18, 1955—December 17, 2020**

PRELUDE Brother James' Air arr. Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 136 The Rev. David Slyter

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
People: for the Lord's steadfast love endures forever.
 Leader: O give thanks to the God of gods,
People: for the Lord's steadfast love endures forever.
 Leader: O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
People: for the Lord's steadfast love endures forever.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ILLUMINATION

PSALM OF AFFIRMATION

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?
People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Leader: One thing I have asked of the Lord, that I will seek after,
People: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the Lord's temple.

Leader: For the Lord will shelter me in times of trouble;
People: the Lord will conceal me under the cover of grace, the Lord will set me high upon a rock.

Leader: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage.
People: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord.

HYMN #630 “Fairer Lord Jesus” Crusaders’ Hymn

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Psalm 121; Matthew 5:3-9; John 14:1, 27;
Romans 8:38-39; John 1:1-5; Psalm 23 (unison)

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz

HYMN #108 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” Divinum Mysterium (verses 1, 2, and 6)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from “A Brief Statement of Faith”

*In life and death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.
We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God . . .
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world
God raised Jesus from the dead . . .
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to eternal life.
We trust in God.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image . . .
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
God is faithful.
We trust in the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and sustainer of life . . .
The Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior . . .
to work with others for justice, freedom and peace.
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF AND FOR THE PEOPLE INCLUDING LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #819 “Be Still, My Soul” Finlandia

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “For All the Saints” arr. Aurthur Hutchings

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.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

Participating in the service today are:
The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz, Pastor
The Rev. David A. Slyter, Associate Pastor
Clinton Bray, Organist
Laura Bray, Soloist



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