



*A celebration
of the life of
The Rev. David Lee Thomas*

Saturday, April 27, 2024

11:00 a.m.

**St. John's Episcopal Church
Oklahoma City**

Clergy

The Right Reverend Poulson Reed

The Reverend Robert Trammell

The Reverend William Font

The Reverend Jaron Hill

Organist

Richard Jobe

Readers

Dr. Steven Orwig

The Reverend Sean Eckberg

Speaker

David Brown

Soloist

Barbara Fox DeMaio

Lay Assistants

Troy Vance

Xander Rodgers

Patricia Riden

**A Service of Thanksgiving
For the Life of
The Reverend David Thomas**

September 5, 1954

April 10, 2024

Prelude

Processional

The Hymnal, #287

Please stand as you are able for the Procession

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 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 David Lee Thomas, 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.**

(Please be seated.)

The First Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me

to bring good tidings to the afflicted;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 139 (*People and Celebrant*)

O LORD, thou hast searched me out, and known me. *
Thou knowest my down-sitting and mine up-rising;
thou understandest my thoughts long before.
Thou art about my path, and about my bed, *
and art acquainted with all my ways.
For lo, there is not a word in my tongue, *
but thou, O LORD, knowest it altogether.
Thou hast beset me behind and before, *
and laid thine hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful and excellent for me; *
I cannot attain unto it.
Whither shall I go then from thy Spirit? *
or whither shall I go then from thy presence?
If I climb up into heaven, thou art there; *
if I go down to hell, thou art there also.
If I take the wings of the morning, *
and remain in the uttermost parts of the sea;
Even there also shall thy hand lead me, *
and thy right hand shall hold me.
If I say, Peradventure the darkness shall cover me, *
then shall my night be turned to day.
Yea, the darkness is no darkness with thee,
but the night is as clear as day; *
the darkness and light to thee are both alike.

The Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed every day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of

glory beyond all comparison, because we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Here indeed we groan, and long to put on our heavenly dwelling, so that by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we sigh with anxiety; not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

So we are always of good courage; we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. We are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

The Hymnal, #690

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

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

The Gospel

John 14:1-6

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Personal Reflections

David Brown

Solo

No One is Alone
Dr. Barbara Fox DeMaio, Soloist

Stephen Sondheim

Homily

The Reverend Robert Trammell

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

The Apostle's Creed *(The people stand and say together)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 The third day he rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
 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 congregation may stand or kneel. The People respond to every petition with Amen)*

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 David 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 David 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.**

(Please stand.)

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

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Offertory Anthem

**I know that my Redeemer Liveth
Dr. Barbara Fox DeMaio, Soloist**

G. F. Handel

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer I *(The people stand. The Celebrant 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.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

(Celebrant and people)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: The Hymnal, S114

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 people kneel or stand. The Celebrant continues)

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son

Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *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.

Agnus Dei

The Hymnal, S158

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant him eternal peace.**

(The Celebrant and People now say this prayer together)

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The family of the deceased first comes to the Altar rail, followed by those members of the congregation who desire to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. All baptized Christians regardless of denomination are welcome to receive communion.

(Please stand as you are able.)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Post Communion Prayer *(All together say)*

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

Celebrant: Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,

**People: where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Celebrant: 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.

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

Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant David. 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 glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

All are invited to join in the procession to the Columbarium for the Committal

THE COMMITTAL

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.
He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead
will also give new life to our mortal bodies
through his indwelling Spirit.
My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

As the ashes are placed in the columbarium, the Officiant says:

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother David, and we commit his body to this resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord make his face to shine upon him and be gracious to him, the Lord lift up his countenance upon him and give him peace. **Amen.**

The Officiant may offer additional prayers

Celebrant: Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord;

People: And let light perpetual shine upon him.

Celebrant: May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Recessional

The Hymnal, #688

Postlude

*The family thanks you for your prayers and presence
and invites you to join them for a luncheon served
in Wade-Dalton Hall just following the service.*

The Life of Rev. David Lee Thomas

David Lee Thomas was born in 1954 in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and was confirmed at St. John's Episcopal Church, Oklahoma City, in 2016. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1978. He was a well-respected attorney who practiced law in Oklahoma City since his graduation.

He was a faithful member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Oklahoma City when he heard the call to the priesthood. In 2022, he graduated from the IONA School in the Diocese of Oklahoma and was ordained to the priesthood in June of that year at St. Paul's Cathedral.

He served as a Priest Associate at Resurrection Episcopal Church in Oklahoma City as well as a supply priest to many congregations in the Diocese.

In 1997, he married his loving wife, Amy. He was preceded in death by his son Hunter and is survived by his two children, Michael and Alexandria, as well as his grandchildren.