



# A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

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Mark Collin Davis

*July 13, 2021*

2:00 PM

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# Burial of the Dead, Rite I

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PRELUDE *God be in my Head*

Henry Walford Davies

OPENING ANTHEMS

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## About the Liturgy

*The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised.*

*The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that 'neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.'*

*This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.*

*Officiant* 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.

HYMN 686 Come, thou fount of every blessing

- 1 Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace!  
Streams of mercy never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it,  
mount of God's unchanging love.
- 2 Here I find my greatest treasure;  
hither, by thy help, I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,  
seal it for thy courts above.

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Officiant* O God of grace and glory, we remember before thee this day our brother Mark Collin Davis. We thank thee for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In thy 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 thy call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Lessons

THE FIRST LESSON Lamentations 3: 22-26, 31-33

*Lector* 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 for ever. 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.

NRSV

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

*All* The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul;

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his

Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of

mine enemies;

thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days

of my life,

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

KJV

## THE SECOND LESSON Romans 8: 14-19, 34-35, 37-39

*Lector* For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; who is to condemn?

It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

NRSV

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## HYMN 645 The King of Love my Shepherd is

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
and he is mine for ever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.

## THE THIRD LESSON John 14: 1-6

*Lector* 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 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? 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.'

NRSV

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**A Time of Remembrance**

Mary McDonald  
Troy Utz

**The Homily**

The Rev. Stanford Adams, *Senior Associate*

ANTHEM *The Lord's Prayer*

Albert Hay Malotte

**The Apostles' Creed**

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

*All* 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, dead, and 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

*Intercessor* 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.

*People* Amen.

*Intercessor* 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.

*People* Amen.

*Intercessor* 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.

*People* Amen.

*Intercessor* Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind.

*People* Amen.

*Intercessor* 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.

*People* Amen.

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

*People* Amen.

*Intercessor* 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 our brother, 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.

*People* Amen.

### HYMN 671 *Amazing Grace*

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
was blind but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!
- 3 The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

## The Commendation

- Officiant* Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,  
*People* where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.
- Officiant* 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.
- Officiant* Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Mark.  
 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.
- People* Amen.

## The Blessing

HYMN 657 Love divine, all loves excelling

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
 fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
 Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
 visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.
- 2 Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
 suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
 Thee we would be alway blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
 pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
- 3 Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;  
 let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:  
 changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
 till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

## The Dismissal

- Intercessor* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

*You are invited to greet the family at  
 Tarry House, 3006 Bowman,  
 immediately following the service.*

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## Leaders of the Service

- Officiant* The Rev. Stanford Adams  
*Assisting Clergy* The Rev. Marcea Paul  
*Lectors* Sarah Utz  
 Garrett Davis  
 Tracy Sage  
*Eulogists* Mary McDonald  
 Troy Utz  
*Soloist* Cassidy Wallace

## The Obituary

Mark Collin Davis died on Thursday, July, 8, 2021, at home after a brief illness.

Mark was a man who loved life. He was born in Gatesville, TX on June 18, 1961 to Thelma and Curtis A. Davis, Sr. He was raised in a wonderful Christian home and forever loved his family, his friends and the town of Gatesville. Mark attended The University of Texas and then went on to a successful career as a land developer, broker and ranch expert.

In 2004, Mark married Rebecca Nelson of Austin whom he loved and cherished until his death. His affection for her was inspiring to all who knew them. They shared a love of Labradors, the outdoors, travel, music and entertaining. They also shared many fun adventures including South Texas bird hunts, fly fishing trips on the Texas coast and summers in Montana.

Mark's career in real estate spanned 40 years. When he looked at a ranch or any other piece of land, it seemed like it spoke to him. He observed "the dirt," the flowers, the trees, the cattle, the birds ... whatever was there. Then he started to share – quietly but with the authority and knowledge that years of experience and study bring – as he laid out what the property's future could and should be. His vision always left the honor and integrity of the land intact while its evolution would be part of its natural destiny. He loved the land of Texas. And, like so many others, it loved him back.

Mark's special gift and passion were his friends. He was charismatic, loyal and a true friend to untold numbers. A born communicator, he was not interested in texts or email; he wanted to hear your voice and talk to you either in person or on the telephone. He was direct and not shy about offering his opinion. Mark loved to plan festive events, gather friends, have lunch, and tell long hilarious stories, all while lighting up a room with his warm smile and cheerful personality. He had a gift with children and made them feel like they were the center of the world. When he got tickled a whole room could find themselves laughing. He was the camp director and the ring leader, and kids and adults alike were the beneficiaries.

He also knew how to be with friends in their times of need. He understood tough times, was unwavering and was always there to listen and offer a broad shoulder to lean on.

Mark was honest and offered leadership and vision to his business partners and associates. He was generous, kind and devoted to his family, friends and community. He will be missed beyond measure and will endure in our hearts forever.

In addition to his wife, Rebecca, Mark is survived by his brother Gary J. Davis and his wife Sherri, his mother-in-law Carol Corley Nelson, his brothers-in-law Tom E. Nelson III and John C. Nelson and wife Kristen, many nieces, nephews, cousins and his beloved dogs, Jud and Duke.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Curtis A. Davis, Jr.

May he rest in Peace.