



September 12, 2025



Troy "Kent" Slonaker, III
February 14, 1970 — July 18, 2025

The Burial of the Dead: Rite Two

All stand while the following anthem is said.

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.

Hymn 657

Love Divine, all loves excelling

Hyfrydol

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - mighty - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

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Hymn 657 Continued

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

The Presider then says

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother, Kent. 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.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Be gracious to Kent's family in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

The people sit.

The Lessons

A Reading from Lamentations

Lamentations 3:22-26,31-33

Karen Hardison

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans *Romans 8:14-19,34-35,37-39*

Malinda Collier

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

We do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is 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. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling-- if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to 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 confident; even though 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. Yes, we do have confidence, 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

All: **Thanks be to God**

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
 2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
 3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide:
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

The Gospel

John 14:1-6

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John
All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "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."

The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you Lord Christ.

(All seated)

Homily

The Rev. Benjamin R. Badgett

(All standing)

The Apostle's Creed

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

Presider and People

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.**

For our brother Kent, 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 Kent, and dry the tears of those who weep.

All: Hear us, Lord.

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

All: Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

All: Hear us, Lord.

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

All: Hear us, Lord.

Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

All: Hear us, Lord.

He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

All: Hear us, Lord.

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

All: Hear us, Lord.

Concluding Collect

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother Kent, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. **AMEN.**

The Peace

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

All: And also with you.

(Please stand as you are able. All greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

(Please be seated)

Words of Welcome

The Holy Communion

Offertory, Hymn 680

O God, our help in ages past

St. Anne

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

(All standing)

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where 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:

Sanctus

*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.*

Presider: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."

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Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All: We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Presider: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Kent and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: Let us pray together as our Lord Jesus Christ has taught us to pray:

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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

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

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **AMEN**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **AMEN**

The Holy Communion: *You are welcome to share in Communion.*

To Receive Communion, or a Blessing:

Come to the altar rail when directed by the usher. Once at the altar, either kneel or stand.

For Communion:

Receive the bread by placing both palms up, with one hand on top of the other.

You may either consume the bread, and then drink from the cup,
or hold onto the bread and dip it in the chalice—a custom known as Intinction.

Consuming either the bread or wine alone is full communion.

If you choose to drink from the cup, assist the bearer by guiding it to your mouth.

If you have any mobility difficulties, remain seated and the clergy will bring communion to you.

For a Blessing:

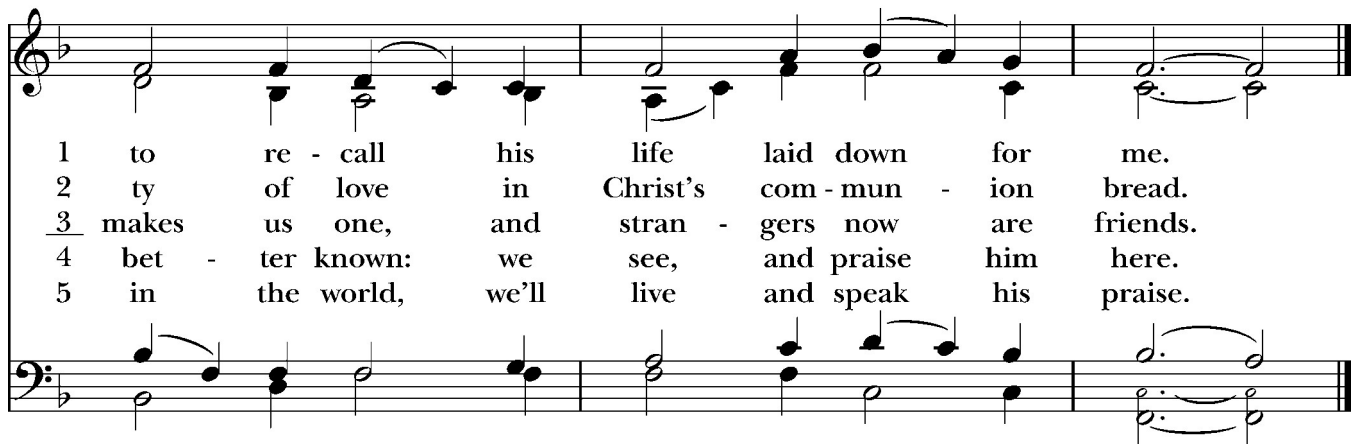
If you prefer a blessing instead of Communion, simply cross your arms over your chest.

Unison or harmony


1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll



1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple



1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

*(Please stand as you are able)***Post Communion Prayer**

All: 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.

The Commendation

The Presider and other ministers take their places.

Presider: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

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

Presider: You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.” All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Presider: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Kent. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **AMEN.**

The Blessing

Presider: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The Deacon dismisses the people, saying

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

(All stand)

Closing Hymn 473

Lift High the Cross

Crucifer

Descant



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim



till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.



till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

A



Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Repeat Refrain



the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.



A reception follows downstairs in the parish hall.

All are welcome to attend.

Following the reception, the internment will take place at Hollywood Cemetery. All are welcome to attend.

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.

Then, while the ashes are committed to the ground, the Presider says these words

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother Kent, and we commit his body to the ground; 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.**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

**All: 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,
forever and ever. AMEN.**

Presider: Rest eternal grant to Kent, O Lord;

***People:* And let light perpetual shine upon him.**

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

The Presider: dismisses the people with these words

Presider: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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Presiding Priest:

The Rev. Benjamin R. Badgett

Deacon:

The Rev. Florian Jones-Stamm

Music Director:

Amos Goldie

Verger and Crucifer:

Douglas D'Urso

Lector 1:

Karen Hardison

Lector 2:

Malinda Collier

Lector 3:

Ryn Kennedy

Intercessor:

Shannon Heady

Chalicers:

Amy Strite, Douglas D'Urso

Gospel Bearer:

Amy Strite

Ushers:

Harold Wright, Elam Jarrells, Mary Clark, Steve Clark

Zoom Host:

Malinda Collier



Troy "Kent" Slonaker, III 55, of Richmond, VA passed away, Friday, July 18, 2025.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Ann Waller Jackson Slonaker; maternal grandparents, Felix Cary Jackson and Ann Waller Moody Jackson; paternal grandparents, Troy Kent Slonaker, Sr. and Betty Ferguson Slonaker and Uncle, Celester Lee Slonaker.

Kent was a native of Richmond, and he was many things...a staunch liberal, an avid cyclist, a practitioner of the French language, an impeccable dresser, a fan of classic cars and all the while he never missed the opportunity to stop and pet a dog.

Kent was a cradle Episcopalian, having served as second generation of our family as a member of the All Saints Choir of Men and Boys. Additionally, he was an active member at St. Mark's Episcopal Church where he served numerous ministries and was a member of the vestry.

He was better known as "The Bike Minister" working with the local Rag & Bones.

A graduate of Douglas S. Freeman class of 1988, Kent then received his BA from Virginia Commonwealth University.

All that knew and loved him will miss his quick wit and sharp tongue.

He is survived by his father, Troy Kent Slonaker, Jr.; sisters, Susannah Fox Slonaker Gates (John Aumon Gates, III), Katherine Claiborne Slonaker Sherman (Daniel Edward Sherman); nieces, Elizabeth Britton Bagley and Cary Hartley Sherman; nephews, Troy Hunter Bagley, Daniel West Sherman, John Aumon Gates, IV and Brandt Ellis Gates; aunts and uncles, Felix Cary Jackson, III, Carol Laws Slonaker, Betty Ann Slonaker Chalkley (Robert Clyde Chalkley) and Garland Eugene Slonaker (Stacey Hanson Slonaker); as well as many first and second cousins.

A service will be held, 11am Friday, September 12, 2025, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church with a reception to follow. Interment will follow in Hollywood Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers please consider making a charitable contribution to St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

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.



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love is our tradition

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