

In Celebration
of the life of
James R. Colee



October 11, 1938– March 22, 2024

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church

St. Augustine, Florida

April 20, 2024

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. (*Book of Common Prayer, page 507*)

Participants

The Rev. Jim Dannals – Celebrant
Clerene Romeo – Crucifer, Psalm, Prayers, Chalice
Kathleen VandeBerg – Organist
Lanny Ballard – Soloist
AJ Oakman, Kristen Grigorescu - Readers
Zach Oakman, Ashley Oakman- Greeters

Prelude

“Hymn to Joy” from Beethoven’s 9th Symphony

Callahan/Hopson

All Stand. The Celebrant then begins with

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 (Please stand as able)

"Amazing Grace"

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

The Celebrant says the following Collect, first saying

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 Jim, 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.**

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for 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. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills; *
from whence cometh my help?
My help cometh even from the Lord, *
who hath made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved, *
and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord himself is thy keeper; *
the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, *
neither the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; *
yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

Second Reading

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Family Reflections

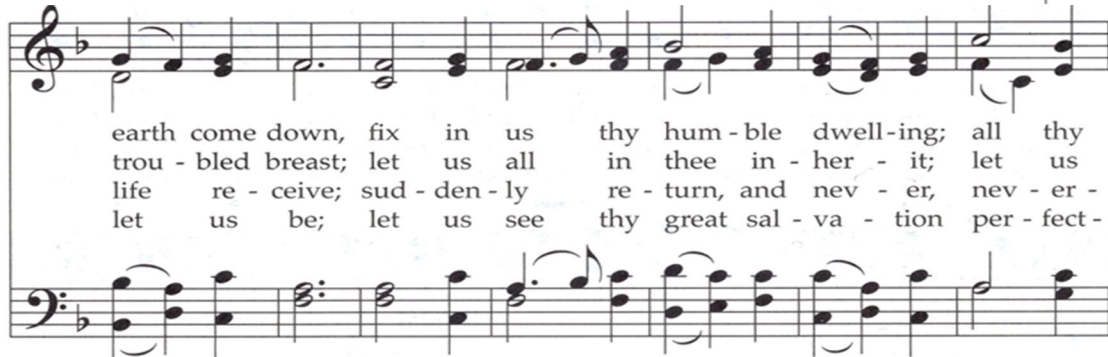
Missy Colee

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Hyfrydol



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
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 -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways 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
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
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.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

The Gospel

John 14:1-6

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

'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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Homily

The Rev. Jim Dannals

The Prayers of the People

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who has knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant to your 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.**

Grant us grace to entrust Jim 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, Jim 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 Cyprian 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.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Solo At the Offertory

"Ave Maria"

Schubert

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Gracious God, 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.**

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious God: 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 Mother 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 and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption 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, Gracious Father, now and for ever. **AMEN!**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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

Celebrant Alleluia. We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are invited and welcome to receive Holy Communion.

The Celebrant will dip the bread wafer in the wine and place it in the palm of your hand.

Communion Hymn (Please stand as able)

"Here I am, Lord"

Here I am



1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est



made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

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 Celebrant then says

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

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

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.

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

The Celebrant then says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Jim. 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.**

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst us, and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Closing Processional Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

Refrain

Descant

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

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

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name. *Fine*

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

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
 your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

to Refrain

Postlude

"O God Our Help in Ages Past"

Fleischer

Please join us for a reception celebrating Jim's life.
 We will process next door to the Voorhees Mission House after the Closing Hymn.
 The congregation will be released by row after the family.

James Richard Colee

James (Jim) Richard Colee, 85, passed away peacefully at the Bailey Family Center for Caring in St. Augustine on March 22, 2024 after a long battle with Parkinson's, with his family by his side. Jim was born October 11, 1938, in St. Augustine. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Jerry and sister, Jean.

Jim grew up in St. Augustine and attended Orange Street Elementary School and graduated from Ketterlinus High School in 1956. It was at Ketterlinus where he met his future wife, Barbara. They were high school sweethearts who enjoyed going to the beach, hanging out with friends at the A&W, and dancing at Teen Town. They were married in June, 1960, embarking on a journey of love and a partnership that lasted 63 years. They moved to Tallahassee where Jim graduated from Florida State University. While living in Tallahassee their daughter, Missy was born. Their next move was to Fort Lauderdale where Jim earned a Master's of Education from Florida Atlantic University and earned a Doctorate of Education from Nova University.

James had a very successful career as an Educator. He brought his strong work ethic and unwavering dedication to educational excellence to every school he worked for during his 40-year career. He was the Principal of American Heritage in Hollywood, and the Headmaster at American Heritage in Plantation. In 1986, he became the Headmaster at St. Mark's Episcopal School. When he arrived, there were 150 students. When he retired 20 years later, there were 600 students and 100 employees. He was loved and respected by everyone. At St. Mark's, there is the "James R. Colee" building where his dedication to educational excellence is forever present for posterity. Two of the proudest moments in his career life are earning the title of Dr. Colee and again when he was named Educator of the Year.

In Fort Lauderdale his greatest personal joy was watching Missy's tennis matches and basketball games. He loved being a Dad, and one of his most exciting "Dad" moments was escorting Missy as she was crowned Homecoming Queen. Jim loved movies, concerts, theater, playing tennis and traveling. Family trips were his favorite, especially the summer trips to North Carolina and the trips abroad. He loved to laugh and make others laugh.

Jim's faith was a very important part of his life. In Fort Lauderdale, he was a member of St. Benedict's Episcopal Church where he met many of his lifelong friends with whom he shared his faith and fellowship. He was active in many facets of the church including serving as the Senior Warden.

Jim and Barbara moved back to St. Augustine in 2010. He and his brother Jerry were given the gift to share times of brotherly love. During his retirement in St. Augustine, Jim enjoyed volunteering at the St. Frances House and the museum at the Mission Nombre de Dios. He enjoyed working in his yard and going to the gym.

Jim will be remembered as a good listener who always had time for everyone. He was a leader, a man of high character who was full of integrity and extremely supportive and encouraging to everyone who knew him.

Jim loved all his friends and caregivers at Silver Treasures, and they loved him! They took very good care of him.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara and daughter, Missy (Elizabeth Etheridge), Sisters-in-law, Florence Shaer and Michele DiChiara, and his many nieces and nephews who he loved and cherished.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, April 20 at 11:00 am at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church in St. Augustine. A private burial will be held at San Lorenzo Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research online at <https://www.michaeljfox.org/>.