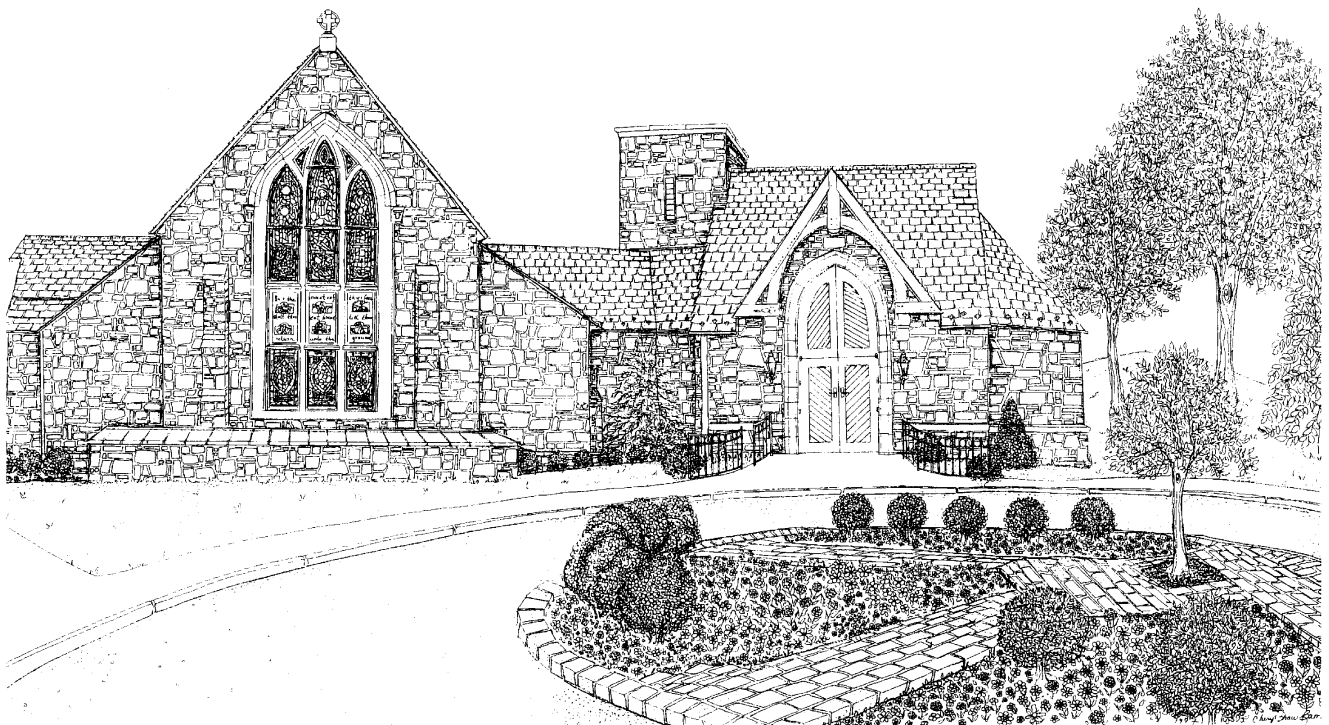




The Burial of the Dead Rite I  
*Saturday, December 27, 2025, 1:00 p.m.*

Charles B. Nelson, Jr.  
October 15, 1931 - December 8, 2025



## THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

### From the *Book of Common Prayer*

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 Lazarus. 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.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### PRELUDE

*The people stand.*

### THE OPENING ANTHEM

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.

### OPENING HYMN 175

#### Hail Thee Festival Day

*Refrain*

Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! blest day that art hal-lowed for -

ev - er, day where-on Christ a - rose, break - ing the

*First time only* | 2

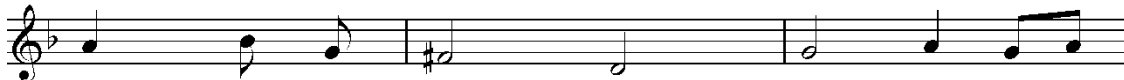
king - dom of death. death.

1 Lo, the fair beau - ty of earth, from the death of the


3 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the

5 God the cre - a - tor, the Lord, who — rul - est the

7 Spi - rit of life and of power, now — flow in us,



win - ter a - ris - ing! Ev - ery good  
glo - ry of blos - som; hea - ven her  
earth and the hea - vens, guard us from  
fount of our be - ing, light that dost




*Repeat Refrain*

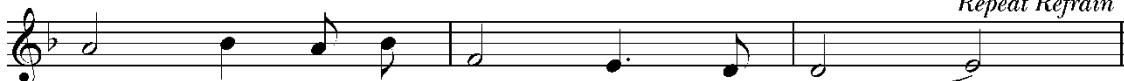
gift of the year now with its Mas - ter re - turns:  
gates un - bars, fling - ing her in - crease of light:  
harm with - out, cleanse us from e - vil with - in:  
light - cn all, life that in all dost a - bid:



2 He who was nailed to the cross is Lord and the  
4 Rise from the grave now, O Lord, who art au - thor of  
6 Je - sus the health of the world, en - light - en our  
8 Praise to the Giv - er of good! Thou Love who art



ru - ler of na - ture; all things cre - a - ted on  
life and cre - a - tion. Tread - ing the path - way of  
minds, thou Re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -  
au - thor of con - cord, pour out thy balm on our



*Repeat Refrain*

earth sing to the glo - ry of God:  
death, life thou be - stow - est on all:  
preme, on - ly - be - got - ten of God:  
souls, or - der our ways in thy peace:

*The refrain may be sung once by choir alone and repeated by all. The stanzas may be sung by choir alone, alternately by contrasted groups, or by all.*

Words: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (540?-600?); tr. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Salve festa dies*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

## THE COLLECT

*Celebrant* 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 Charles, 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.**

*The people are seated.*

## REMEMBRANCES

Jason Berry

*Lector* A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121 (*In Unison*)

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and  
your coming in, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

*The people stand.*

*Descant*

4 My soul, bear thou thy part, tri - umph in God a - bove: and

1 Ye ho - ly an - gels bright, who wait at God's right hand, or  
 2 Ye bless - ed souls at rest, who ran this earth - ly race and  
 3 Ye saints, who toil be - low, a - dore your heaven - ly King, and  
 4 My soul, bear thou thy part, tri - umph in God a - bove: and

with a well - tuned heart sing thou the songs of love! Let all thy

through the realms of light fly at your Lord's com - mand, as - sist our  
 now, from sin re - leased, be - hold the Sa - vior's face, God's prais - es  
 on - ward as ye go some joy - ful an - them sing; take what he  
 with a well-tuned heart sing thou the songs of love! Let all thy

days till life shall end, what - e'er he send, be filled with praise.

song, for else the theme too high doth seem for mor - tal tongue.  
 sound, as in his sight with sweet de - light ye do a - bound.  
 gives and praise him still, through good or ill, who ev - er lives!  
 days till life shall end, what - e'er he send, be filled with praise.

Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691); rev. John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862). Music: *Darwall's 148th*, melody and bass John Darwall (1731-1789); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.; desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947).

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

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

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

*The people are seated.*

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Dr. Anne M. Turner

*The people stand.*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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

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.**

Grant us grace to entrust Charles 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 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 with thy spirit.**

*The people are seated.*

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The people stand.*

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

*Celebrant*                      *People*

The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

*Celebrant*                      *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

*Celebrant*

Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

*People*

It is meet and right so to do.

*The celebrant continues.*

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 doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie 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,

#### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Hymnal S-117

*Unison or harmony*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and

earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo-ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: James McGregor (b. 1930), after *Verbum caro factum est*, Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612). Copyright © 1976 James McGregor.

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for 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 to thee, he broke 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 this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, 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, we thy people do celebrate and make, 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; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.



Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in 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 hath taught us, we are bold to say:

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*W.H. Plant, Hymnal Back Cover*

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hal-lowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our dai - ly bread, And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who tres-pass a - gainst us.  
And lead us not in - to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e - vil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glo-ry,  
For ev-er and ev-er, A - men.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

#### THE FRACTION ANTHEM

*Hymnal S-165*

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy  
on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy  
on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Eucharist. If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.*

*At communion, gluten-free wafers are available by request.*

*To request the bread only, please put out both hands, palm up, with one hand crossed over one another.*

*To request a wafer that has been dipped in wine, please put out one hand only.*

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

**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.**

*Celebrant* Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Charles. 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. **Amen.**

*All stand.*

## CLOSING HYMN 618

### Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

*Unison*

1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - apts, cher - u -  
2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the  
3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and  
4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems

*Harmony* *Unison*

bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry  
 ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou  
 pro - phets blest, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ye  
 ech - o - ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To

out, do - min - ions, prince-doms, powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'  
 bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the  
 ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the  
 God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in

*Harmony*

choirs, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Lord, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 song, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 One, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

*Unison*

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: John Athelstan Laurie Riley (1858-1945). By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

## THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*People*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## THE CLOSING ANTHEMS

*Celebrant*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and giving life to those in the tomb.

The Sun of Righteousness is gloriously risen, giving light to those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

The Lord will guide our feet into the way of peace, having taken away the sin of the world.

Christ will open the kingdom of heaven to all who believe in his Name, saying, Come, O blessed of my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you.

Into paradise may the angels lead thee; and at thy coming may the martyrs receive thee, and bring thee into the holy city Jerusalem.

## VOLUNTARY

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### THOSE SERVING TODAY

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*Celebrant and Preacher*

The Rev. Dr. Anne M. Turner

*Musician*

Josh Harrington

*All printed hymns used by permission from Church Publishing Incorporated.*

# Charles Bryan Nelson, Jr.

*October 28, 1949 - April 29, 2025*



Charles Bryan Nelson, Jr. passed peacefully on December 8, 2025, after a brief illness. Charles was ready for Heaven and looked forward to his reunion with his beloved Father Charles B. Nelson, Sr. and his Mother Ruth Ellen Berry Johnson. Charles lived a full and blessed life filled with music, worldwide travel, ice skating, family events and the love he had for teaching college and high-school students in instrumental music. His true love was classical piano, and it was among these many activities that Charles made many life-long friends in America and several foreign countries.

Charles was born on October 15, 1931, in Marion, Virginia by his parents Charles (from Welch, WV) and Ruth (from Washington County, VA). Charles lived a rural life spending time in both southern West Virginia and Southwest Virginia where he developed a love for music early by playing in the band. He graduated from Marion High School in 1949, and his adventurous life was about to begin.

Charles had many educational achievements during his life. Charles studied Composition Music at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Class of 1952 where he won the Liszt Prize twice. He moved onto the Juilliard School of Music in New York City where he studied Piano Performance and graduated in 1953. In 1954 he went to the Manhattan School of Music to receive a master's in music. Charles finished his formal training with his Doctoral Studies in Piano Performance at Indiana University with a Doctor of Music in 1963. In 2024 Charles was most happy to create and endow, the Charles B. Nelson, Jr. Scholarship in Classical Piano with the Manhattan School of Music. He previously served on their Alumni Board of Directors.

Charles' career led him to different states and positions pursuing his passion to teach and play classical piano music. He was a faculty instructor of Piano & Music Literature at East Tennessee State College (now University) in Johnson City, TN from 1955-1957. From 1957 to 1964, Charles had various teaching positions with Copiah Lincoln Junior College, Bob Jones University and Associate Professor of Piano at the University of Dayton. His long-term employment as Director of Instrumental Music for Fairfax County, VA Public Schools ran from September 2, 1964, till his retirement on July 1, 1987.

In retirement, Charles enjoyed hosting friends, family and church members to his home in Alexandria for Sunday Brunch. He traveled to over 50 countries, loved to take cruises, and went ice skating weekly at the Mount Vernon rink. He made several trips yearly to his home in Port Charlotte, FL. He had great joy in attending the Annual Berry Reunion each summer at the Washington County VA Park on South Holston Lake. He loved visiting with his many cousins and sharing the Genealogy research he had done on the Berry family.

The Nelson family says a heartfelt thank you to the following groups and individuals that allowed Charles the opportunity to stay home and have the best possible life his last two years. Charles' daily care giving was provided by Independent you Senior Services with a special shout to Nurse Sonja and his "favorite" care-givers Olu & Chief. Charles appreciated the care and love that Olu & Chief provided him as they would take him to lunch and church, when he was up to the journey. Chief provided special love at the end, as he honored Charles' wish to leave the hospital and return home before his death. The family also thanks Dr. Oghenetega Nduka with Inova Primary, for her outstanding care, attention and love for Charles until the end.

Charles is honored to have cousins, family and care givers as pallbearers – John N. Berry of Abingdon, VA, Jonathan R. Berry of Abingdon, VA, Jason N. Berry of Abingdon, VA, W. Carr Blankenship of Abingdon, VA, Thomas Evans of Apex NC, Olufe Gbemibade of Alexandria, VA, Sa Gyasi Nimako of Alexandria, VA with honorary pallbearers Wesley N. Berry & John Daniel Berry of Abingdon, VA.

Visitation and service for Charles Nelson will be at Grace Episcopal Church in Alexandria VA on Saturday, December 27th starting at 12 pm and interment directly following at Mount Comfort Cemetery. The family is proud to have Everly-Wheatly Funeral Home providing services.





## Grace Episcopal Church

3601 Russell Road ♦ Alexandria, VA 22305

[www.GraceAlex.org](http://www.GraceAlex.org) ♦ 703.549.1980