



IN CELEBRATION AND THANKSGIVING OF THE LIFE OF

Michael Thomas Hopkins

April 18, 1955 - April 19, 2025

Burial of the Dead, Rite I

Monday, May 5, 2025 at 3:00 pm



3601 Russell Road • Alexandria, VA 22305

gracealex.org • 703.549.1980

Burial of the Dead, Rite I

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 • 587

Rhosymedre

Ralph Vaughan-Williams

The people stand.

THE OPENING ANTHEM

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.

THE OPENING HYMN

THE COLLECT

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Michael, 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.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 25:6-9

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 23

Read in unison

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**
- 3 He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.**
- 4 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.
5 Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
6 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.

The people stand.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN • 671

Amazing Grace

New Britain

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 5:24-27

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life. Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people are seated.

EULOGIES

Frank Mankin, Eric Frazier, and Julie Hopkins

THE HOMILY

Father Santiago Rodriguez

The people stand.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing

**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

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 Michael 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 HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY HYMN • 358

Christ the Victorious, give to your servants

Russia

The people stand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

Celebrant 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.**

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 (*said in unison*)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts,
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 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

BCP, p. 364

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.**

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.
Please come forward to the altar rail at the direction of the ushers.
A full communion is made with the bread alone, but if you choose to receive the wine,
you may either drink from the cup, or you may offer your wafer to the person
holding the chalice, who will dip the bread in the wine for you.
If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.
Gluten free wafers are available; simply ask the priest.
If you do not wish to receive communion at the altar, please let an usher know,
and communion can be brought to you in your pew.*

COMMUNION SONG

Ave Maria

THE POST-COMMUNION 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

Officiant
Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,

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

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.

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, Michael. 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.**

The people stand.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

THE CLOSING HYMN • 618

Ye watchers and ye holy ones

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

VOLUNTARY • 397

Now thank we all our God

Johann Sebastian Bach

Please join us for a reception following the service in the

Merrow Hall Auditorium on the Third Floor.

The interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery

on a date to be determined.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Officiant & Preacher

Father Santiago Rodriguez

Organist

John C. Stowe

Soloist

Mary Kay Stirparo

Lectors

Chris Hovden & Amy Hovden

Acolyte

Barry Joyner

Michael Thomas Hopkins



Michael Thomas Hopkins died peacefully from heart and renal failure at Vitas Hospice in Philadelphia with his devoted wife, Julie, by his side, on April 19, 2025, the day after his 70th birthday. Mike was an only child and he was preceded in death by his parents, Christiane Hopkins and Retired Air Force MSGT Michael Hopkins. He was the only grandson of the colorful actress Miriam Hopkins, who was active on Broadway and in Hollywood for over four decades. Mike leaves behind his

stepson, Christopher (Amy) Hovden and loving grandchildren Grace, Reagan, Cameron, Archer and Elin Hovden, nephew Eric Frazier, many dear cousins in the Netherlands and France, and many devoted friends near and far.

Mike was born in Kenitra, Morocco on April 18, 1955, while his father was stationed at the US Air Force base. The family moved around the US and France before settling in Riverside, CA in 1965. Mike attended St. Thomas the Apostle School and Notre Dame High School, where he was active in track, football, and wrestling. He attended Riverside Community College and received a BA

from San Diego State University. Mike enlisted in the Navy in 1983 and served on submarines and aircraft carriers around the world. Mike was a Deckplate Leader aboard the USS Enterprise in the Persian Gulf on 9/11 and was intricately involved in the American response to the attacks on the World Trade Center. Mike was deeply committed to defending our country and our Constitution from enemies foreign and domestic, serving in the Middle East, Africa, Kosovo, the Arctic, Antarctic, and the Pacific Rim. His last duty station was at the US Embassy in London. Between active and civilian duty, Mike served the DoD for almost 35 years, was proud of his service to his country, and received 26 medals and commendations for his service. One of Mike's favorite songs was "Knock, Knock, Knockin' on Heaven's Door" because he felt he had knocked on heaven's door many times during his lifetime.

Mike was a man of many interests; he was an avid collector of coins, pocket watches, crystals, and antique British silver, much to his wife Julie's dismay. Mike loved football and his devotion travelled from the San Diego Chargers to the Washington Redskins and finally settled with the Green Bay Packers; he was thrilled to attend his first Packers game at Lambeau Field last September. Mike was passionate about history and world religions and studied the Bible, the Torah, and the Koran. He was a Living Historian with the Southern Grays of Virginia and traveled to National Park battlefields in MD, PA, VA, and WV to demonstrate Civil War soldier formations, rifle and cannon firing, and display wares from the Civil War period. He loved traveling and meeting people and could say "Hello, how are you" in about 10 languages. As a student of history, Mike loved nothing more than deep discussions with friends about history and the future of the world and humanity. His college friend Jim Hopkins (no relation) recently wrote to Mike "You bring so much personal interest and energy to every relationship and I am so happy to have you as my best and most wonderful friend."

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation.

From Michael's family:

The phrase "Fair winds and following seas. We have the watch." is a traditional sailor's farewell - one of honor, love, and final duty. The following poem captures the spirit of that farewell.

May it offer comfort and peace.

FAITH WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS

By Dave Kelly

Fair Winds and following seas, my friend,
As you journey's course you plot and tend.

May gentle breezes guide your way,
And calm waters greet you every day.

With sails full and hearts light,
May your adventures be pure delight.
Through sunlit days and starry nights,
May your path be bright with guiding lights.

Fair winds and following seas, dear soul,
May you reach each and every goal.
With strength and courage, ever free.
May your voyage bring you back to me.