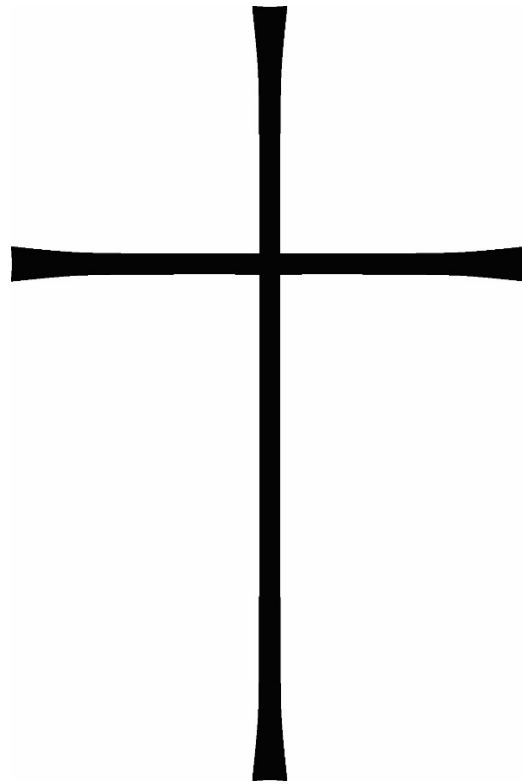


A Service of Thanksgiving
for the Life of

Stephanie Ewalt Coleman

September 12, 1945 – February 12, 2025



February 19, 2025
Eleven o'clock

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Richmond, Virginia

Greetings and welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

The Episcopal 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." Thus, the color for the altar hangings and vestments is white, the color of Easter and celebration of new life.

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian or unacknowledged. 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 bear the grief and pain of mourning.

The Burial of the Dead: Rite One

*In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayer,
please observe silence upon entering the worship space and ensure that electronic devices have been silenced.
All hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982, the **blue book** in your pew rack.*

Prelude

The Lord's Prayer
Ave Maria

Albert Hay Malotte
Franz Schubert

Anthems *Please stand as you are able.*

The Book of Common Prayer, page 469

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.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy Spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray. *A period of silence is held.*

Prayer Book, page 470

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Stephanie, and grant her 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.**

Hymn 287, v.1-4 For all the saints *Sung by all standing.*

Sine Nomine

The First Reading Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 *You may be seated.*

Following the reading, the reader says
The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 *King James Version* *Prayed in unison, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 476

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.

The Gospel John 6:37-40

Please stand, as able.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Following the reading, the reader says,

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Homily

The Rev. John Jenkins

Hymn 671 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

Sung by all, standing as able.

New Britain

The Apostles' Creed

Prayer Book, page 96

Officiant and People

**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 Lord's Prayer

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy Spirit.**

Officiant Let us 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**

Please be seated.

The Prayers *Please stand, as able.*

Prayer Book, page 480

Leader 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 Stephanie to thy never-failing love; receive her into the arms of thy mercy, and remember her according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. **Amen.**

We thank thee, O God, for the saints of all the ages; for those who in times of darkness kept the lamp of faith burning; for the great souls who saw vision of larger truth and dared to declare it; for the multitude of quiet and gracious souls whose presence has purified and sanctified the world; and for those known and loved by us, who have passed from this earthly fellowship into the fuller light of life with thee; through the resurrected life of Jesus Christ. **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 Stephanie 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 General Thanksgiving

Prayer Book, page 58

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.**

**We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world
by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace,
and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end.
Amen.**

Please be seated.

Cello solo Sure on this shining night

Samuel Barber

Commendation *Please stand, as able.*

The ministers take their places at the body.

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 Stephanie. Acknowledge, we humbly
beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming.
Receive her into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious
company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

Blessing

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

Dismissal

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 376 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee *Sung by all, standing.*

Hymn to Joy



*Immediately following, all are invited to follow the motorcade procession to
Westhampton Memorial Park for a brief Committal service.*

10000 Patterson Ave, Richmond, VA 23238



Participants

Officiants: The Rev. John W. A. Jenkins and the Rev. Cate Anthony

Crucifer: The Rev. Barbara Massey

Musicians: Diana Chou, *piano and organ*; Ryan Tibbetts, *bass*; Peter Greydanus, *cello*

The Committal

In the midst of life, we are in death,
of whom may we seek for succor,
but of thee, O Lord,
who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty,
O holy and most merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;
shut not thy merciful ears to our prayer;
but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty,
O holy and merciful Savior,
thou most worthy Judge eternal.
Suffer us not, at our last hour,
through any pains of death, to fall from thee.

Then, while earth is cast upon the coffin, the Officiant says,

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Stephanie; and we commit her body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord make his face to shine upon her and be gracious unto her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy Spirit.**

Officiant Let us 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.**

Officiant Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of all comfort: Deal graciously, we pray thee, with all those who mourn, that casting every care on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Remember thy servant, Stephanie, O Lord, according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people; and grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, she may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord:

People **And let light perpetual shine upon her.**

Officiant May her soul, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

6000 Grove Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226 | 804.288.2867 | ststephensRVA.org