

**A Service of Thanksgiving
for the Life of
John Anderson Luke, Jr.**

November 24, 1948 – March 14, 2026



**Thursday, March 26, 2026
2:00 p.m.**

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Richmond, Virginia**

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

Following the reading, the reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 *King James Version* **Read responsively, with congregational parts in bold.**

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 Second Reading John 14:1-6

Hope Luke Hetherington

‘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.’

Following the reading, the reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 287 For all the saints (*verses 1-6*)

Sine Nomine

Words of Remembrance

Elizabeth (“Betsy”) Luke Mooney

Lindsay Luke Gates

John A. Luke III

The Homily

The Rev. John Rohrs

The Apostles' Creed

Please stand.

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

All **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.**

The Prayers of the People

You may stand or kneel.

Prayer Book, page 480

Leader In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **Amen.**

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind. **Amen.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on you, they may know the consolation of your 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.**

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. **Amen.**

Grant us grace to entrust John to your never-failing love; receive him into the arms of your mercy, and remember him according to the favor you bear for your people. **Amen.**

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of you, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in your heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all your saints, to receive the crown of life which you promise to all who share in the victory of your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A period of silence is kept.

Officiant Father of all, we pray to you for John, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Commendation

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.**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant John. 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

Hymn 376 Joyful, joyful we adore thee

Hymn to Joy

Dismissal

Retiring procession Amazing Grace

David Ross, bagpipes

*Please join the family for a reception at the Commonwealth Club, 401 W. Franklin Street,
immediately following the service.*



Officiants: The Rev. John Rohrs and the Rev. Cate Anthony

Remembrances: Elizabeth (“Betsy”) Luke Mooney, Lindsay Luke Gates, and John A. Luke III

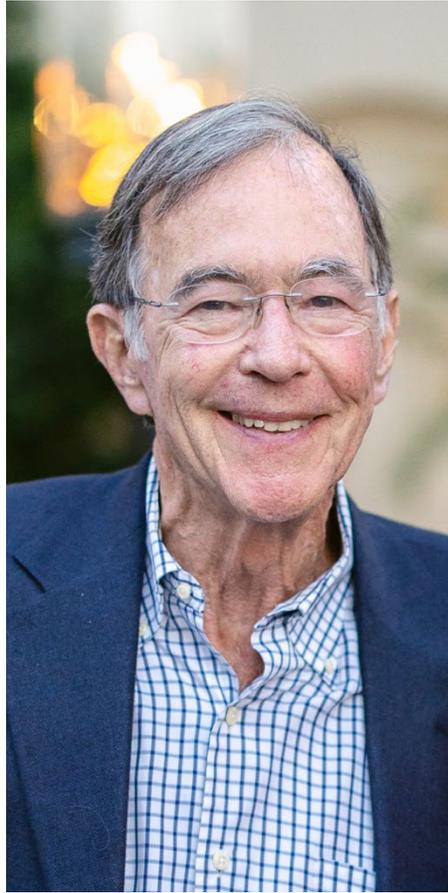
Readers: William H. Luke and Hope Luke Hetherington

Crucifer: Andy Luke

Organist: Robert McCormick

Bagpipes: David Ross





Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord;
And let light perpetual shine upon him.
May his soul, and the souls of all faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

