

A Service of Thanksgiving

for the Life of

Burr Noland Carter III

March 18, 1953 – December 27, 2025



Friday, April 17, 2026
10:30 a.m.

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

The Burial of the Dead

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.

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

Opening Anthems

The Book of Common Prayer, page 491

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.
Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die.
And everyone who has life,
and has committed himself to me in faith,
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.
After my awaking, he will raise me up;
and in my body I shall see God.
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him
Who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,
and none becomes his own master when he dies.
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,
and if we die, we die in the Lord.
So, then, whether we live or die,
We are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord!
So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

Hymn 671 Amazing grace! Sung by all.

New Britain

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother, Burr. We thank you for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Remembrances *Please sit.*

Blair Carter, David Branch

The Reading 2 Cor. 4:16–5:19

Read by Edward Carter

Following the reading, the reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 482 Lord of all hopefulness *Sung by all, standing.*

Slane

Homily

The Rev. William S. Stanley

The Lord's Prayer

Please stand, as you are able.

Officiant and People

**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 Commendation

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

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

Officiant 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.

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

Officiant Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Burr. 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

Paraphrase of Henri Frederic Amiel

Officiant Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who are traveling the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 618 Ye watchers and ye holy ones

Sung by all.

Lass tuns erfreuen

*As the cross processes out, you are invited to join the family in the Garden of the Holy Spirit
for the committal of ashes.*

The Committal

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.
He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead

will also give new life to our mortal bodies
through his indwelling Spirit.
My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

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

Celebrant Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord.

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

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

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

“An Old Prayer and A New One” by Don Blanding

Long ago I made a prayer, “Let me keep wonder in my heart.”
I pray now, “Let me be aware, To know and love a thousandth part
Of all the wonder of each hour, The pageantry of every day,
To use each sense and super-sense, To contact life in such a way
That I may see a simple flower, And know its color, shape and scent
As though I were part of it, And feel the Ultimate Intent
That forms each small exquisite part, To serve its small important place
To see a golden pollen grain, Or planet circling through space
And that know that each in its own way, Is part of such a vast design
That human mind can never grasp, The whole of it nor trace the line
That leads the seeking human heart, Along the hidden purposed course.
Oh, may I walk with perfect trust, The path that leads me to the Source.
I hold this wonder in my heart, And try each hour to be aware
To give my thanks and live my thanks, Articulate in act and prayer.



Following the service, all are invited to a reception at 1207 Rothesay Circle, Richmond, VA 23221

Participants: *Clergy:* The Rev. William S. Stanley; *Remembrances:* Blair Carter, David Branch; *Reader:* Edward Carter; *Organist:* Diana Chou; *Crucifer:* Barbara Massey

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St. Stephen's Episcopal Church + 6000 Grove Ave. Richmond, Virginia 23226 + 804.288.2867
ststephensRVA.org