

# A Service to the Glory of God

*In Thanksgiving for the Life of*

**ELIZABETH “BETTY” HOHLT PECORE**

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December 6, 1937 - February 28, 2026



Saturday, March 21, 2026 - 11:00 AM

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**PALMER MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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. 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 Book of Common Prayer, page 507*

## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Celebrant . . . . .	The Reverend William Miller
Director of Music . . . . .	Dr. Brady Knapp
Organist . . . . .	Laura Smith
Vocalist . . . . .	Jordan Twadall, <i>soprano</i>
Trumpeter . . . . .	George Chase, <i>trumpet</i>
Reflection . . . . .	Elsa Pecore John Pecore Doug Pecore
Readers . . . . .	Hatch Hilliard Wilkin Pecore Emerson Hilliard Henry Pecore

# THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

Prelude

*The Celebrant invites the People to stand and says the following words during the procession into the church.*

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 686 "Come, thou fount of every blessing"

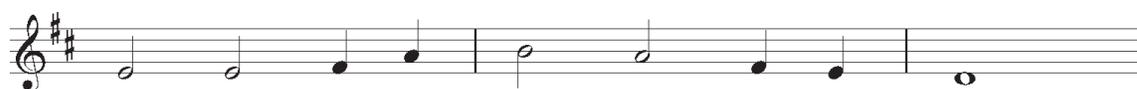
Nettleton



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my  
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er  
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good  
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by  
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering  
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me  
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from  
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Betty, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-3

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion--to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23, *King James Version*

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

1 John 3:1-2

*Reader* A reading from the First Letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 662 "Abide with me: fast falls the eventide"

*Eventide*

1 A - bid e with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;  
 2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;  
 3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
 4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid e:  
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?  
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bid e with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bid e with me.  
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bid e with me.  
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bid e with me.

*All remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.*

Gospel Reading

John 10:11-16

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away-- and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd."

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Reflections

Elsa Pecore, John Pecore, and Doug Pecore

## The Sermon

The Reverend William Miller

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

*Celebrant and People*

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

*Reader* Dear Friends: It was our Lord Jesus himself who said “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” Let us pray, then, for our sister Betty, that she may rest from her labors, and enter into the light of God’s eternal sabbath rest.

Receive, O Lord, your servant, for she returns to you.

*People* **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Betty.**

*Reader* Wash her in the holy font of everlasting life, and clothe her in her heavenly wedding garment.

*People* **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Betty.**

*Reader* May she hear your words of invitation, “Come, you blessed of my Father.”

*People* **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Betty.**

*Reader* May she gaze upon you, Lord, face to face, and taste the blessedness of perfect rest.

*People* **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Betty.**

*Reader* May angels surround her, and saints welcome her in peace.

*People* **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister Betty.**

*The Celebrant concludes*

Almighty God, our Father in heaven, before whom live all who die in the Lord: Receive our sister Betty into the courts of your heavenly dwelling place. Let her heart and soul now ring out in joy to you, O Lord, the living God, and the God of those who live. This we ask through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The Celebrant says this or another sentence of Scripture.*

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. *1 Chronicles 29:11*

*If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition, you are invited to receive communion with us after the Breaking of the Bread. The consecrated bread will be placed in your outstretched hands. When the chalice of consecrated wine comes to you, you may sip from the chalice, or carefully dip part of the consecrated bread into the wine, or decline it.*

*If you are not a baptized Christian, or your Christian tradition does not allow you to receive communion with us, we encourage you to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing from the priest. Simply cross your arms over your chest as the priest approaches with the bread, and they will know to give you a blessing instead of communion. In this way, everyone can participate in this part of the service.*

### Hymn 662 “The King of love my shepherd is”

*St. Columba*



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
 \* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 \* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my  
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port  
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.  
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.  
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.  
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!  
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**

**heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Celebrant 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 Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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.

Hymn 178 "Jesus is Lord of all the earth"

Alleluia No. 1

*Descant*

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

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

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.  
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.  
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

*Repeat Refrain*

He is the King of cre - a - tion.  
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -  
 Now we shall live for ev - er.  
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to 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 your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## THE COMMENDATION

*While the following hymn is sung, water is sprinkled over the remains by the priest as a reminder that Betty was baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

Hymn 482 "Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy"

*Slane*

1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,  
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our lab - ors, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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

*Celebrant* 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.**

*The Celebrant says*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Betty. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant then blesses the people, saying*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn 376 "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee"

*Hymn to Joy*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Postlude

*The family looks forward to greeting everyone in the church courtyard immediately after the service.*



**Elizabeth “Betty” Hohlt Pecore**, 88, of Houston, Texas, passed away on Saturday, February 28, 2026, following a sudden illness. She was born on December 6, 1937, in Houston, Texas, to Marion Wilkin Hohlt and Arthur Hohlt. She attended public school in Houston before continuing studies at Mount Vernon College in Washington D.C. Betty also attended the University of Texas at Austin. Except for the two years in D.C., she lived her entire life in Houston, spending her childhood in the Southampton neighborhood with her sister Joan and a tight band of friends. In Houston, she met Albert “Bert” Edison Pecore, Jr., and the couple married in 1960. She and Bert had three sons and spent many fun weekends at her family’s Old River Ranch outside of Brenham. As her sons got older, Betty took her natural talent for cooking and formed a catering business with friend and partner Marlene Schmidt.

They baked rum cakes that were sold by Jamail’s Grocery Store and catered many private events. She was also an involved member of Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church where she established a grief support group and funded a program providing affordable psychotherapy to the parish family. She had a lifelong interest in the arts and was an early supporter of Project Row Houses in the Third Ward in Houston. She served on the Board of Directors for ten years, and along with her sister Joan sponsored “Orchard House” and “The Hohlt Sisters House” during early Artists Rounds.

After her divorce from Bert, she met her companion of the last 34 years, Howard Hilliard. Together they designed and built a house, entertained family and friends, and traveled extensively. Betty was preceded in death by parents Arthur and Marion, sister Joan Hohlt Wich, and half-brother Richard Hohlt. Betty is survived by sons Daniel Arthur Pecore, Douglas Wilkin Pecore (wife Paige), and John William Pecore. She is also survived by her partner Howard Eldon Hilliard and his sons Howard Hatch Hilliard (wife Melissa) and Loftin Grier Hilliard. Lastly, she is survived by her grandchildren Hohlt Pecore, Elsa Pecore, Arthur Pecore, Phillippe Pecore, Wilkin Pecore, Henry Pecore, Brittany Taraba, (husband Jarrett Ward), and Emerson Hilliard, and great granddaughters Juliette and Sadie Taraba Ward.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Betty’s life by attending a service that will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, 6221 Main Street. Reception to follow. A family ceremony for the interment of ashes will be held at Prairie Lea Cemetery in Brenham, Texas at a date to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Betty’s name to Project Row Houses, Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, or the charity of your choice.



**PALMER MEMORIAL  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
— HOUSTON, TEXAS —

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