



**A Celebration in Loving Memory of and  
Thanksgiving for the Life of  
Eric Thomas Warburton  
29 January 1929—7 August 2025**



**Saturday 20 September 2025, 1:00 p.m.**

## Music before the Service

### Greeting

*The Congregation stands for the hymn.*

**Hymn** Spirit of Gentleness

Spirit of Gentleness

*All Refrain* Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, Wind, Wind on the sea.

**You moved on the waters, you called to the deep;  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valley of sleep.  
And over the eons you called to each thing:  
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings. *Refrain***

**You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land.  
And when they were blinded with their idols and lies,  
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. *Refrain***

**You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still,  
and down in the city you called once again;  
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. *Refrain***

**You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams.  
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes;  
with bold new decisions your people arise. *Refrain***

*Text and Music: James K. Manley © 1975, CCLI Song # 101393, used with permission: CCLI License # 2281450*

### The Burial Sentences

*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.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **The Collect**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. *Silence.*

God of all consolation, in thine unending love and mercy, thou turnest the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Show compassion to thy people in their sorrow. Be our refuge and our strength to lift us from the darkness of grief to the peace and light of thy presence.

Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by dying for us, hath conquered death and by rising again, hath restored life. May we then go forward eagerly to meet him, and after our life on earth be reunited with all our brothers and sisters where every tear will be wiped away. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Congregation sits.*

### **Words of Thanksgiving and Remembrance**

#### **Psalm 23**

*Officiant* The Lord is my shepherd;

*All* **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.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## The Lesson

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Reader

The Lesson is written in the Book of Ecclesiastes, in the third chapter, beginning at the first verse.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; 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.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures for ever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

Here endeth the Lesson.

## Homily

*A brief silence for reflection follows the Homily.*

## Anthem

The Lord's My Shepherd

arr. by Arthur Trew

*The Congregation stands for the hymn.*

## Hymn

And Did Those Feet in Ancient Time

Jerusalem

*All*

**And did those feet in ancient time  
walk upon England's mountains green?  
And was the holy Lamb of God  
on England's pleasant pastures seen?  
And did the countenance divine  
shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here  
among those dark satanic mills?**

Bring me my bow of burning gold!  
Bring me my arrows of desire!  
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!  
Bring me my chariot of fire!  
I will not cease from mental fight,  
nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,  
till we have built Jerusalem  
in this our green and pleasant land.

*Text: William Blake; Music: Charles H.H. Parry; in the public domain*

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*Officiant* Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,  
*All* **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 Congregation may remain standing or sit for the Prayers.*

### **The Prayers**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*People* **Christ, mercy upon us.**

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy upon us.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*All* **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 them that trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## Versicles and Responses

*Officiant* O Saviour of the world,  
who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us;  
*All* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

*Officiant* Graciously look upon our afflictions, O Lord;  
*All* **Pitifully behold the sorrows of our hearts.**

*Officiant* Make thy servants to be numbered with thy saints;  
*All* **In glory everlasting.**

## Prayers of Commendation

*Officiant* Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful are in joy and felicity: We praise and magnify thy holy Name for all thy servants who have finished their course and kept the faith; and committing our brother Eric to thy gracious keeping, we pray that we with him, and with all those that are departed in the true faith of thy holy Name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*All* **Amen.**

*Officiant* O Almighty God, the God of the spirits of all flesh: Multiply, we beseech thee, to those who rest in Jesus, the manifold blessings of thy love, that the good work which thou didst begin in them may be perfected unto the day of Jesus Christ. And of thy mercy, O heavenly Father, grant that we, who now serve thee here on earth, may at the last, together with them, be partakers of the inheritance of the Saints in light; for the sake of the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.  
*All* **Amen.**

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

*Officiant* Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy Saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting; where thou, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father.  
*All* **Amen.**

## **The Committal**

*Officiant* O Father of all, we pray to thee for those whom we love but see no longer. Grant them thy peace; and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*Officiant* Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God of his great mercy to receive unto himself the soul of our dear brother Eric Thomas here departed: we therefore commit his body to its final resting place: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; in sure and certain hope of the Resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall change our mortal body, that it may be like unto his glorious body, according to the mighty working, whereby he is able to subdue all things to himself.

I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, From henceforth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord: Even so, saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labours.

*Officiant* Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.

*All* **Amen.**

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

*All* **Amen.**

*The Congregation stands.*

## **Nunc Dimittis**

*Choir* Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
to be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **The Blessing**

**Hymn** Jerusalem the Golden

Ewing

*All* Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blessed,  
beneath thy contemplation sink heart and voice oppressed.  
I know not, oh, I know not, what joys await us there;  
what radiancy of glory, what bliss beyond compare.

**They stand, those halls of Zion, all jubilant with song,  
and bright with many an angel, and all the martyr throng.  
The Prince is ever in them, the daylight is serene;  
the pastures of the blessed are decked in glorious sheen.**

**There is the throne of David, and there, from care released,  
the shout of them that triumph, the song of them that feast;  
and they who with their Leader have conquered in the fight,  
forever and forever are clad in robes of white.**

**O sweet and blessed country, the home of God's elect;  
O dear and future vision, that eager hearts expect:  
even now by faith we see thee, even here thy walls discern;  
to thee our thoughts are kindled; for thee our spirits yearn.**

*Text: Bernard of Cluny (12th. C., tr. John Mason Neale, alt.; Music Alexander Ewing; in the public domain*

## **Postlude**

*All are welcome to remain in the Guild Hall for a time of fellowship and refreshment.*