

SOLEMN FUNERAL MASS
IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

STEPHEN RICHARD STEGICH III

(MARCH 17, 1942-- AUGUST 19, 2021)



SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
THE REVEREND CARL F. TURNER, *RECTOR*

FRIDAY, THE TWENTY-SEVENTH OF AUGUST
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-ONE
AT TEN O'CLOCK



GOD'S love and power extend over all creation. Every life, including our own, is precious to God. Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life, and that there is new life in Christ over death.

EVEN those who share such faith find that there is a real sense of loss at the death of a loved one. We will each have had our own experiences of their life and death, with different memories and different feelings of love, grief and respect. To acknowledge this at the beginning of the service should help us to use this occasion to express our faith and our feelings as we say farewell, acknowledge our loss and our sorrow, and to reflect on our own mortality. Those who mourn need support and consolation. Our presence here today is part of that continuing support.

PRELUDE

from Clavierübung III
Christe, aller Welt Trost BWV 670
Vater unser im Himmelreich BWV 682

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

SETTING

Messa a tre voci

Antonio Lotti
(1667-1740)

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand as the procession enters.

THE PROCESSION

Please stand as the procession enters. The Choir sings the Burial sentences.

William Croft
(1678-1727)

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 after my skin, worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

WE brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

THE WELCOME AND BIDDING

The Celebrant welcomes the People, then says this bidding

WE meet in the name of Jesus Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father. Grace and mercy be with you.

We have come here today to remember before God our brother, Stephen, to give thanks for his life;
to commend him to God our merciful redeemer and judge;
to commit his body to be buried, and to comfort one another in our grief.

Let us pray.

The people remain standing.

GOD of all consolation,
your Son Jesus Christ was moved to tears
at the grave of Lazarus his friend.
Look with compassion on your children in their loss;
give to troubled hearts the light of hope
and strengthen in us the gift of faith,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

HYMN

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

CHRIST is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

3 To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with thy wonted loving-kindness
hear thy servants as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls away.

2 All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

4 Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee, for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People **His mercy endureth for ever.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Celebrant says

SEEING that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus
the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may
obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16*

The Celebrant then says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Please kneel. Silence is kept.

People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we earnestly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

THE Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Sung by the Choir

KYRIE eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

THE COLLECT

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

ALmighty God, we remember this day before thee thy faithful servant Stephen; and we pray that, having opened to him the gates of larger life, thou wilt receive him more and more into thy joyful service, that, with all who have faithfully served thee in the past, he may share in the eternal victory of Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

read by Emily Stegich

Lector

A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah.

THE steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

After the reading, the Lector says

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121

read by Joshua and Olivia Stegich

I WILL lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in: from this time forth
for evermore.

Please sit.

THE EPISTLE

Romans 12:9-16
read by Diana Stegich

Lector

A reading from the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Romans.

LET love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

After the reading, the Lector says

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Cantor

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor

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.

People

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:37-40

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

People

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

JESUS said, “Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.”

After the Gospel, the Minister says

People

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Please sit.

REMEMBRANCES

Desmond T. Barry, Jr.
Stephanie Stegich
Erich Stegich

HYMN

HYFRYDOL

LOVE divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be alway blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without
ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

HOMILY

The Reverend Tom Newcomb
Rector Emeritus, St. James the Less, Scarsdale, NY

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

read by Father Moretz*Please kneel.**Reader*

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.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

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.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

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.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

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.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant us grace to entrust Stephen to thy never-failing love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray.

The Celebrant says

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Saint Thomas 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 LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Please stand.

THE PEACE

The Celebrant says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

People

AT THE OFFERTORY, HYMN

ROYAL OAK

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.*

EACH little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colors,
he made their tiny wings. *Refrain.*

2 The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky. *Refrain.*

3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one. *Refrain.*

4 He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well. *Refrain.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand. The Celebrant sings

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People
It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant continues with the preface.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS *Sung by the Choir*

SANCTUS, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Sabaoth.
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Benedictus qui venit
In nomine Domini
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Blessed is he that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest*

Please kneel.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Celebrant concludes the Eucharistic Prayer saying

...by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost,
all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty,
world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant

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

The People and Celebrant say

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. Silence is kept.

Then is said

People

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

AGNUS DEI

Sung by the Choir

AGNUS Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins
of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins
of the world, grant us thy peace.*

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

BEHOLD the Lamb of God.
Behold him that taketh away the sins of the World.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People

**Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof,
but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.**

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.
Gluten free hosts are available; please ask the priest at the altar rail.*

AT THE COMMUNION, SOLO

*J. S. Bach arr. Charles Gounod
(1818-1893)*

AVE MARIA,
Gratia plena,
Dominus tecum,
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
Et benedictus fructus
Ventris tui, Iesus.
Sancta Maria, Sancta Maria,
Maria, ora pro nobis,
Nobis peccatoribus,
Nunc et in hora
Mortis nostrae,
Amen.

*Hail Mary,
Full of grace,
The Lord is with thee
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit
Of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Maria, Holy Maria
Maria, pray for us,
Us sinners,
Now and in the hour
Of our death,
Amen.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please kneel. The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

ALmighty God, we thank thee that in thy great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast given unto us a foretaste of thy heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be unto 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 thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Please stand.

THE COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

Please stand. The Deacon says

DEARLY Beloved, before we part let us bid farewell to our brother, Stephen, and may this greeting expressed here for the last time bear witness to our love, lighten our sorrow, and strengthen our hope. For one day we will greet him again in a place where Christ wipes away all tears and puts an end even to death itself.

*The coffin is sprinkled with Holy Water as a reminder of Stephen's baptism and honored with incense as a reminder of the worship of the Church in heaven.
Meanwhile this anthem is sung*

ANTHEM

Kontakion

Kiev Melody

GIVE rest, O Christ,
to thy servant with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more;
neither sighing, but life everlasting.
Thou only art immortal,
the Creator and Maker of man;
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,
and, weeping o’er the grave we make
our song:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Give rest, O Christ,
to thy servant with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more;
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

The Deacon says

INTO thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Stephen. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

Deacon

Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord:

People

And let light perpetual shine upon him.

Deacon

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

Please stand. As the body is borne from the church this hymn is sung

HYMN

ODE TO JOY

JOYFUL, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
field and forest, vale and mountain,
blooming meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY Fugue in Eb (from Clavierübung III) BWV 552/ii *J. S. Bach*



The Reverend Matthew Moretz, *Celebrant*
The Reverend Tom Newcomb, *Deacon*
The Reverend Mark Brown, *Subdeacon*
Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *Organist & Music Director*
Aaron Koch, *Vergers*