



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

PAMELA HUMPHREY

JULY 31, 1945 — JUNE 22, 2025

Saturday, September 13, 2025

10 AM

Trinity Church
in the City of Boston
206 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA 02116
617-536-0944 + trinitychurchboston.org



About the Liturgy

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.

- Book of Common Prayer, p.507

Prelude 'Rhosymedre'

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

'Elegy'

George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

GATHERING

Anthem

Celebrant 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! how sweet the sound'

A - maz - ing that grace! how sweet the sound, that
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Collect

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister, Pamela.

We thank you for giving her to us, her 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Lesson Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39

Reader For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For 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 creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

We will pray the Psalm in unison.

Psalm 23

Reader 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.**

Reading "I Am Standing Upon The Seashore" by Henry Van Dyke

I am standing upon the seashore.
A ship at my side spreads her white
sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean.

She is an object of beauty and strength.
I stand and watch her until at length
she hangs like a speck of white cloud
just where the sea and sky come
to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says;
"There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"
Gone from my sight. That is all.

She is just as large in mast and hull
and spar as she was when she left my side
and she is just as able to bear her
load of living freight to her destined port.
Her diminished size is in me, not in her.

And just at the moment when someone
at my side says, "There, she is gone!"
There are other eyes watching her coming,
and other voices ready to take up the glad shout;
"Here she comes!"
And that is dying.

Gospel John 14:1-6

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


Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.



The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.



Hymn 'Shepherd show me how to go'




1. Shep-herd, show me how to go O'er the hill-side steep, How to gath-er,
2. Thou wilt bind the stubborn will, Wound the callous breast, Make self righteous-
3. So when day grows dark and cold, Tear or triumph harms, Lead thy lambkins



how to sow, How to feed Thy sheep ; I will list - en for Thy voice,
ness be still, Break earth's stupid rest ; Strangers on a bar - ren shore
to the fold, Take them in Thine arms ; Feed the hun-gry, heal the heart,



Lest my footsteps stray, I will fol-low and re - jice All the rug-ged way.
La'bring long and lone — We would en-ter by the door, And Thou know'st Thine own ;
Till the morning's beam ; White as wool, ere they depart — Shepherd, wash them clean.



TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

Remembrances

Anthem ‘The souls of the righteous’
Geraint Lewis (b. 1958)

The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God,
And the pain of death shall not touch them.
To the eyes of the foolish,
They seemed to perish,
But they are in peace.

Homily

The Apostles’ Creed

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

I believe in God,
All **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.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant 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, Pamela,
that she may rest from her labors, and enter into the light
of God’s eternal sabbath rest.

Intercessor Receive, O Lord, your servant, for she returns to you.
All **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister, Pamela.**

Intercessor Wash her in the holy font of everlasting life, and clothe
her in her heavenly wedding garment.
All **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister, Pamela.**

Intercessor May she hear your words of invitation, “Come, you blessed of
my Father.”
All **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister, Pamela.**

Intercessor May she gaze upon you, Lord, face to face, and taste the blessedness of perfect rest.
All **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister, Pamela.**
Intercessor May angels surround her, and saints welcome her in peace.
All **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our sister, Pamela.**
Celebrant Almighty God, when our mortal body lies in death, you prepare for us a dwelling place eternal, and, to your faithful people, life is changed and not ended; therefore, receive your servant Pamela into your courts: let her heart and soul now ring out in joy to you, O Lord, the living God, and the God of those who live.
All **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Anthem ‘Peace I leave with you’
 Amy Beach (1867-1944)

Peace I leave with you,
 My peace I give to you.
 Not as the world giveth give I unto you.
 Let not your heart be troubled.

Please note that our use of the BCP text may vary slightly to incorporate gender-neutral language when appropriate.

Though the Presider’s posture (standing, sitting, or kneeling) will cue many in the pews, we invite you to participate as you are able and as your piety prefers.

Eucharistic Prayer A from the Book of Common Prayer begins on p. 361.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, the 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.
All **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus, your only and eternal Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of Jesus, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus, for by Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Breaking of the Bread

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

Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Trinity Church and The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts welcome all to Holy Communion. If instead of the sacrament in either kind you prefer to receive a blessing in the name of God, cross your arms over your chest. With that cue, a priest will offer a short prayer.

To receive the sacrament, come to the altar rail; stand or kneel (as you are able or as your piety prefers); and extend your hands, one inside the other. In turn, the priest will place a consecrated wafer in your open palm. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please request one from the priest offering Communion.

A Eucharistic Minister will follow with the wine; to receive, help guide the chalice to your lips. The server wipes the chalice's rim after every sip.

For those who find it easier to remain in their pew, please signal an Usher, and a priest will bring the sacrament to you.

Communion of the People

Anthem 'O for a closer walk with God'

Charles V. Stanford (1852-1924)

O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heav'nly frame;
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy Dove, return!
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

TEXT: WILLIAM COWPER (1731-1800)

SENDING

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

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.**

Celebrant Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Pamela. 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.

People **Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn 287 'For all the saints'



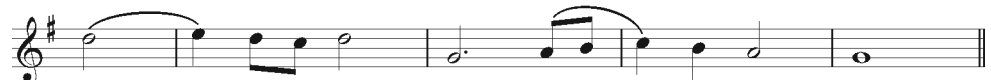
1 For all the saints, who from their la - bors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might:____
 3 O may thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,____
 4 O blest com - mun - ion, fel - low - ship di - vine!____



thee____ by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
 thou, Lord, their Cap - tain in the well - fought fight;____
 fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old, and
 We feeb - ly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet



Name, O____ Je - sus, be for ev - er blessed.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, the one true Light.
 win, with____ them, the vic - tor's crown of gold.
 all are____ one in thee, for all are thine.



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

Dismissal

Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude 'Toccata from Symphonie V'

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

About the Reception

Pamela's family invites all to a reception in her honor, immediately following the service at the Chilton Club, 152 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02116.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Readers

Caroline Humphrey Clifford
Joanna Humphrey Flynn
Victoria Humphrey

Eulogists

Nancy Q. Gibson
Hadley P. Lord
Jill B. Goldweitz

Celebrant

The Rev. Kit Lonergan, *Priest for Parish Care*

Music

Colin Lynch, *Director of Music*

PAMELA HUMPHREY

Pamela Dennison Petri Humphrey, a visionary civic leader and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on June 22, 2025, at her home in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, with bird song and ocean breezes drifting through her windows. Pamela was born on July 31, 1945, to businessman Henry Law Petri and Alaska-born artist Avalo Brown Petri. She and her sister, Stephanie, were raised in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, where she developed a love for swimming, horseback riding, ski trips, a good book, and a great party.

Her educational journey was lifelong: she attended Bradford College, the Carroll School Garside Institute, and earned her BA from Simmons College School of Management in her 70s, a testament to her determination and relentless pursuit of knowledge. She was also a certified Orton-Gillingham tutor, using scientific insights to bring the joy of reading to a broad range of students, including second language and neurodivergent learners.

Pamela's early career brimmed with purpose and fearlessness. She started working on President Spiro Agnew's campaign in the late 1960s, and then for Pan Am Airlines beginning in 1971, where she served as a trailblazing flight supervisor and lead crew member on the first 747 nonstop flight from New York to Tokyo in 1976. She never missed an opportunity to explore: from frequent sailing trips to the Caribbean and Europe to more far reaching locales like Africa, Asia, and scaling Machu Picchu.

She always had a sharp eye for a good investment, and was the spark behind many of her family's business and real estate successes, including restoring the historic 131 Commonwealth Avenue, known affectionately as "One-thirty-one-derful," which she and her husband John transformed into their family home and a hub of activity for over 40 years, holding countless business meetings, nonprofit fundraisers, milestone celebrations, and philosophical conversations over long candlelit dinners. Her parties and events, hosted with exuberance, warmth, and generosity, were heralded as spectacularly decorated gatherings for family, friends, and civic and cultural leaders from around the globe.

Pamela's daughters remember her as a mother who was tenacious, sophisticated, daring, and who fostered in them a love of learning, travel, and good grammar! She was a champion for children's moral and intellectual education and a mentor to many, urging all who came to her for advice to boldly pursue their goals, often saying, "The answer is always no if you don't ask."

Pamela was known around Boston as the "Silver Fox" for her iconic white hair, and described by friends and colleagues as unstoppable, especially when it came to a good cause. She went to the mat for the things she believed in: people, politics, good manners, and keeping salad dressing long past its expiration date.

Pamela was both a founding and honorary member of the New England Aquarium, pivotal in developing its board and mission. Her love for the arts was notorious; she was a well-known “balletomane,” serving as a Trustee of the Boston Ballet for decades, helping shape it into one of the country’s premier cultural institutions. Pamela is one of very few to have served on all three Boston Ballet boards: Trustees, Advisors, and Emeriti. When her daughters began dating new potential suitors, Pamela would say, “Don’t bring him home if he doesn’t like the ballet.” She also served on the boards of the Max Warburg Courage Curriculum, the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, and the Dean’s Council at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Pamela greatly enjoyed meeting friends at the Chilton Club, and was a tireless supporter of Trinity Church, Red Cloud Indian School, and countless other organizations.

Pamela had a singular ability to engage others, indefatigable in her advocacy, she inspired friends and colleagues to join her in making Boston a better, more vibrant city. Pamela’s legacy is one of courage, character, and boundless love. She leaves behind her cherished family, a grateful community, a city forever changed by her vision and devotion, and, inevitably, a few in-process home renovation projects.

As we take a moment now and in the days and years ahead to remember her: wind in her hair, book in hand, gazing out at the world beckoning just beyond the sparkling horizon, may we all be inspired to live with her unstoppable energy, authentic spirit, and fierce love. In the words of one of her favorite authors Marianne Robinson, “We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It’s not just in some of us; it’s in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we give other people permission to do the same.” Shine she did, as did all those around her, upheld by her love and unshakeable faith in our best selves and a better world.

Pamela is survived by her daughters, Victoria Humphrey, Joanna Humphrey Flynn (Bryan), Caroline Humphrey Clifford (Christian); grandchildren, Grayson and Henry Flynn and Charlotte and Camille Clifford; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, John William Humphrey; and sister, Stephanie Petri Lord.

