

**A Celebration of the life of
Shirley Ann Ackerman
August 30, 1926 – January 31, 2021**

I · AM · THE
I know that my
RESURRECTION
Redeemer liveth,
AND THE LIFE
and that he shall

SAITH · THE LORD · HE · THAT
stand at the latter day upon the earth;
BELIEVETH · IN · ME · THOUGH
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall
HE · WERE · DEAD · YET · SHALL · HE

I see God, whom
LIVE · AND
I shall see for myself,
WHOSOEVER
and mine eyes
LIVETH · AND
shall behold, and
BELIEVETH
not as a stranger.
IN · ME · SHALL

John 11:25-26; Job 19:25-27^{xx}

NEVER · DIE.



**Welcome to San Jose Episcopal Church
Jacksonville, Florida
February 21, 2021 1:00 p.m.**

*Please silence electronic devices. The bell signals the beginning of the service.
Please observe a period of stillness during the prelude.*

Prelude

Abide with me
Eventide

Arr. Lynn L. Petersen

The Word of God

BCP p.491

Please stand.

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.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Shirley. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthy 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.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Shirley's family and friends in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 *Please be seated.*

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 for ever. Although we suffer grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130 *Said by all.*

Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *

let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *

O LORD, who could stand?

For there is forgiveness with you; *

therefore you shall be feared.

I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *

in his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the LORD,

more than watchmen for the morning, *

more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, wait for the LORD, *

for with the LORD there is mercy;

With him there is plenteous redemption, *

and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

The Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

How great thou art
Swedish Folk Melody

Arr. J. Wayne Kerr

Gospel Reading: John 10:11-16 *Please stand for the Gospel reading.*

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

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

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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Homily

The Rev. Stephen C. Britt

The Apostles Creed *All stand and speak in unison.*

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 of the People *Lector and People pray responsively.*

For our sister Shirley, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life." Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Shirley and dry the tears of those who weep.

Hear us, Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, Lord.

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope. *(Silence)*

Celebrant: Father of all, we pray to you for Shirley, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen**

The Peace *All stand and greet one another in the name of Christ.*

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

People: **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory

He Lives

Alfred H. Ackley

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p.361

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 him 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 say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

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.

Eucharistic Prayer A continues on page 362. The people may stand or kneel.

Memorial Acclamation

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Lord's Prayer

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 Fraction Anthem

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Communion Hymn

Amazing Grace
New Britain

Arr. Philip Gehring

Postcommunion Prayer

Priest: Let us pray.

All: 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 Shirley. 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 Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Old 100th

Arr. Johann Pachelbel

+ + +

You are invited to join the family for a reception at

11927 Nicobar Court, Jacksonville, FL 32223

Take San Jose Blvd. South and turn left on Loretto Rd. Turn right on Curlew Way, left on Sheldrake, right on Nicobar Ct., and arrive at the blue house on the left.

In Loving Memory of Shirley Ann Ackerman

Shirley Ackerman passed away peacefully, with her daughter by her side, on January 31st at 12:35 pm, at Harbor Chase of Mandarin, Jacksonville, FL., where she resided. She was 84 years old.

Shirley was born in Burnham, Maine, the only daughter of George and Helen Webber. She attended and graduated High School from Maine Central Institute, in Pittsfield, Maine and went on to meet and marry the love of her life, George Ackerman on September 3rd, 1960. George was stationed at Dow Air Force Base in Bangor, Maine at the time. After a couple of military relocations they resided in Pittsfield, Maine until they moved to Morgantown, W.VA. and then one final move to Jacksonville, FL after the birth of their first and only grandchild. Through the years Shirley was active in many philanthropic organizations, but her greatest passion was caring for her family. Never has there been a kinder, gentler more devoted Wife, Mother and Grandmother. Her sense of humor, and ability to laugh at herself was so refreshing. Words cannot possibly capture how much you will be missed. You will forever be in the hearts of so many that you have touched during your beautiful life.

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Stephen C. Britt, Rector
The Rev. Joseph G. Hodsdon, Curate
Brandon Michael Smith, Director of Music
Susan Beaudin, Parish Administrator
Janice Waters, Parish Nurse
Melissa Spediacci, Children's Ministry
Caroline Bennett, Youth Ministry
Katie Bennett, Communications & Hospitality
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San Jose Episcopal Church is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida.

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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