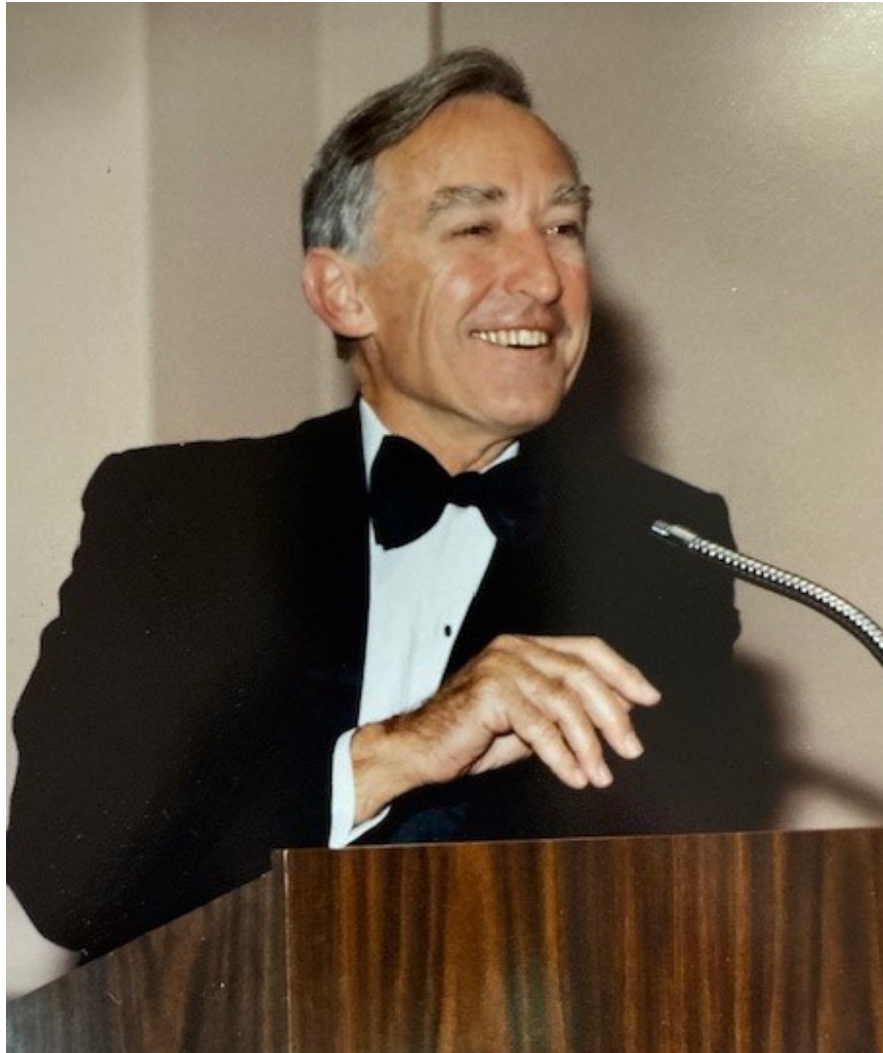


A Celebration of the Life of
George C. Hering, III
December 7, 1930—December 14, 2024



Trinity Episcopal Parish
Wilmington, DE
January 18, 2025
10:30 am

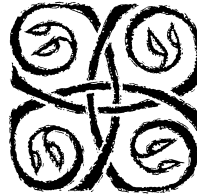
CONCERNING FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES

From the *Book of Common Prayer*

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.



PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

The Reverend Patricia Downing—*Rector, Trinity Episcopal Parish*

Conrad Olenik—*Organist*

William Gregory—*Trumpet*

Richard Reese, Brent Reese, James Bray—*Ushers*

Robbie Smith—*Audiovisual*

Kennard Brown—*Server*

Lindsay F. Foster, Susan H. Foster-Gager—*Oblation Bearers*

David C. Linton—*Eulogist*

Clayton M. Hering, Sadie F. Leigh, Camden H. Harrison, Terence H. Brown—*Lectors*

A Celebration of the Life of George C. Hering, III

Prelude (Organ and Trumpet)

“Rondeau”
Jean-Joseph Mouret

Knell: the tolling of the bell *It is tradition that the lowest bell be played once for every year in celebration of the person’s life.*

The Officiant begins with these words, those who are able standing

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, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant George, 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.***

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 90. Music: *St. Anne*, melody att. William Croft (1678-1727), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading *(Read by Clayton M. Hering)*

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And God will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; God will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of the people God will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited so that God might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 23 King James Version *(Read by Sadie F. Leigh)*

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.

Psalm 121 *(Read by Camden H. Harrison)*

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.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Gradual Hymn TH 293

I Sing A Song Of The Saints Of God



1 I sing a song of the saints of God, _____
 2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and _____
 3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past, there are



pa - tient and brave and true, who _____ toiled and _____ fought and _____
 his love _____ made them strong; and they fol - lowed the right, for _____
 hund - reds of thou - sands still, the _____ world is _____ bright with the



lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And _____
 Je - sus' sake, the _____ whole of their good lives long. And _____
 joy - ous saints who _____ love to do Je - sus' will. You can



one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, and one was a shep -
 one was a sold - ier, and one was a priest, and one was _____ slain
 meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains,



herd - ess on the green: they were all of them saints of
 by a fierce wild beast; and there's not an - y rea - son -
 or in shops, or at tea, for the saints of God are just



God— and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.
 no, not the least, why I should-n't be one too.
 folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

Words: Lesbia Scott (1898-1986), alt. Music: *Grand Isle*, John Henry Hopkins (1861-1945).

The Holy Gospel

John 14:1-6

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

The Gospel of the Lord. ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

Eulogy

David C. Linton

Homily

The Reverend Patricia Downing

After which follows, all standing who are able, the Officiant first saying

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

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 of the People

The Leader says

For our brother George, 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 George, 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 brother eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

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

Hear us, Lord.

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

Hear us, Lord.

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

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Silence may be kept.

The Officiant continues

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother George, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father’s love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

The Peace

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

The Holy Communion

All are invited to join in receiving Communion.

Offertory Hymn TH 657

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.
We lift them to the Lord.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

***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.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: 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 Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father 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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. 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 your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. 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 through your Son Jesus Christ. 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**

Celebrant 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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Celebrant

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.

All are invited to join us in receiving Communion.

Musical Offering (Organ and Trumpet)

“Panis Angelicus”
César Franck

Communion Hymn TH 376

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

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.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: 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

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

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 unto dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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, George. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. ***Amen.***

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn TH 688

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side,
 do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed
 bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours

of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing; for still our an - cient foe
 the man of God's own choos - ing; dost ask who that may be?
 his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,
 through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,

doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
 Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:

and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king - dom is for ev - er.

The Hering family sincerely thanks the Trinity Parish community for four generations and years of friendship, support, and pastoral care.

*Laura and Benjamin Leigh; Nate and Sadie
Clark and Beverly Hering; Clayton, Tanner, and Flinn
Marnie Harrison-Kramer and Randy Kramer; Corbin and Camden Harrison
Susan Foster-Gager and Joe Gager; Lindsay Foster
Heather and Doug Brown; Trevor, Randy, Terence, and Craig*

If you wish to offer condolences to the Hering family, please join them in the foyer.
A private committal will take place following the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in memory of George C. Hering, III to:

Dickinson College Scholarship Fund
(<https://our.dickinson.edu/gift>)

Tower Hill School Scholarship Fund
(<https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/33294/donations/new>)

The Kalmar Nyckel Foundation
(<https://www.signup82north.com/kalmarnyckel/donate>)



Fairfax and George Hering