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DIOCESAN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF THE RIGHT REVEREND BARBARA CLEMENTINE HARRIS

(JUNE 12, 1930 - MARCH 13, 2020)

JUNE 12, 2022



Portrait in oil, 2002, by Simmie Knox / Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

LEADERS OF WORSHIP

Presider – The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates, Bishop Diocesan Assisting Bishop – The Right Reverend Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragan Preacher – The Reverend Canon Ed Rodman Deacon of the Mass – The Reverend Bob Greiner Gospeller – The Venerable Pat Zifcak Organist – Stephan Griffin Choir Director - Bro. Dennis Slaughter Soloist – Sarah Coffman Sub-deacon — Julia Slayton Crucifer – Charles Knight Torch Bearers – William Boyce & Eva Ortez Readers - Suzette Phillips & Byron Rushing Intercessors – Brother Curtis Almquist, SSJE & The Reverend Nan Peete Oblation Bearers – Pamela Pleasants & The Reverend Spencer Hatcher Assisting Priests – The Very Reverend Amy McCreath & The Very Reverend John P. Streit, Jr. Assisting at Communion – The Reverend Zenetta Armstrong, The Reverend Ran Chase & The Very Reverend Sandye Wilson Greeters – Bob Lomasney, Chris Nourse, Charlie Walker, & Jim Woodworth Altar Guild – Louise Gant & Diane Grondin *Livestream Minister* – Roger Lovejoy

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Not surprisingly, Barbara Harris left clear instructions about what she wanted in her memorial service. The planning team has been as faithful as possible to her vision in terms of place, liturgy, music, personnel. It is the custom of the church at funerals and memorial services to refer to people by their baptismal names, rather than their ordained titles.

Practice varies widely in the church right now regarding how best to offer communion, as we continue to navigate Covid-19 health and safety concerns. Today at the cathedral we will bless bread and wine, but we will only be distributing bread. All are welcome to receive the blessed bread, or if you would prefer, to cross your hands over your chest to receive a blessing.

On behalf of all who loved Barbara in our diocesan community, a wreath was laid on her grave in Philadelphia today.

After the service today, those at the cathedral are welcome to stay for drinks and desserts, which will be available in the sanctuary and Sproat Hall. Weather permitting, tables will be set out on the front porch for those who would like to sit and chat. Or you are welcome to come to Sproat Hall, where Dean Emeritus Jep Streit will host a time of sharing stories and remembrances of Barbara Harris.

Special thanks to the staff and people of parishes hosting regional gatherings today, helping us extend the table, the prayer, and the blessing of our community in Christ:

Christ Church, Cambridge Grace Chapel, Brockton St. Peter's Church, Weston St. Peter's/San Pedro, Salem

PRELUDE

God's Time is Best, JS Bach (Cantate 106) Sheep May Safely Graze, JS Bach

OPENING HYMN

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

LEVAS, #88 Lowell Mason (1792-1872)



WELCOME The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates

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 Barbara Clementine Harris. 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.**

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING read by Suzette Phillips Isaiah 61:1-3

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord my God my shepherd is (Psalm 23)



SECOND READING read by Byron Rushing

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

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God...

Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL

John 14:1-6

The Gospel of our Savior according to John.

Glory to you, O Christ.

[Jesus said,] "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 Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Canon Ed Rodman

MUSICAL RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

"Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood. 1996, Zomba Music, Inc.

Bro. Dennis Slaughter, Piano Junie Joseph - Drums Lionel Girardeau - Electric Bass

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

the forgiveness of sins

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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,

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

read by Br. Curtis Almquist, SSJE & Nan Peete

For our sister Barbara, 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 Barbara, 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.

Our sister Barbara was an instrument of Jesus' liberation of the oppressed; bring her to the joys of heaven. **Hear us. Lord.**

Our sister Barbara 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.

COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Barbara, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her 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 Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The People greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS The Very Reverend Amy McCreath

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Today's offering will be given, in thanksgiving for the Cathedral Church of St. Paul and the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center. Checks should be made out to EDOM (Episcopal Diocese of MA) with "BCH memorial" in the memo. Or you can give online using this QR code. In the drop-down menu of special designations, choose "Bishop Barbara Memorial Gift."



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Oh Rest in the Lord," Felix Mendelsohn (1809 – 1847)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP (Expansive Language)

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

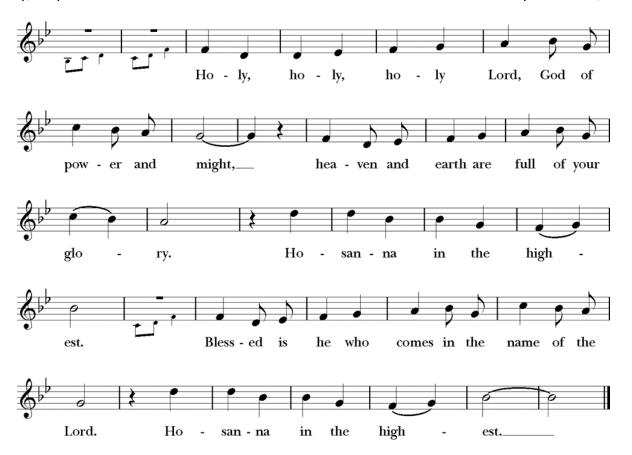
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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, according to his command, O God,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory; And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Saint Paul, Barbara Harris, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

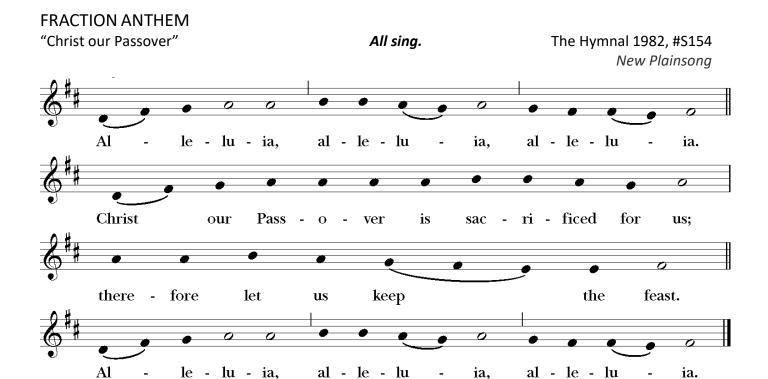
By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, 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.

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread.



INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All present are invited to receive communion.

Those participating from home are invited to pray this prayer while the blessed bread is being offered at the Cathedral.

In union, O God, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. And since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of bread and wine, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

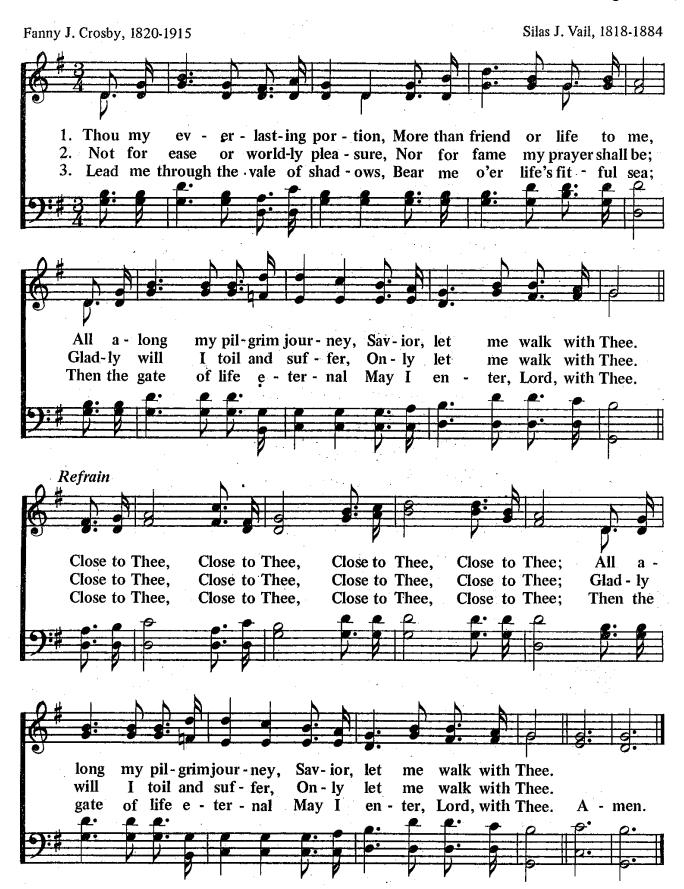
St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787), from Enchiridion of Indulgences, 1969, Catholic Book Publishing Inc., altered

"Rock of ages, cleft for me"





"Close to Thee" Songs of Zion, #7



POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Everliving God, in every generation you cause fresh winds to renew, refresh, and refine your people and in your Word summon us to live courageously as Easter people in an often Good Friday world. Defend us in our own day to make no peace with oppression; that boldly following the example of your servant Barbara Clementine Harris, chosen bishop in your church, we may strive not for ease or fame but gladly toil and walk with you all along our pilgrim journey; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

-Written by the Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson.

THE BLESSING





DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"Send in the Clowns"

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All are invited to stay for conversation and light refreshments from Clarke's Cakes and Cookies, a local, woman-owned, Black-owned business.





WORSHIP WITH US!

Our services are open to the public and ALL are welcome!

SUNDAY

10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST in person and by Zoom

MONDAY

1:00 PM MANNA EUCHARIST in person.

TUESDAY

11:00 AM MANNA MEDITATION in person.

WEDNESDAY

12:00 PM SANTA MISA EN ESPAÑOL 7:00 PM SPIRITUAL REHYDRATION by Zoom.

THURSDAYS

7:00 PM THE CROSSING WORSHIP in person and by Zoom.

FRIDAYS

12:30 PM JUM'AH MUSLIM FRIDAY PRAYERS in person. 7:00 PM COMPLINE by Zoom.

To register for Zoom events, or to find conference information, please visit the Cathedral website at www.stpaulboston.org.