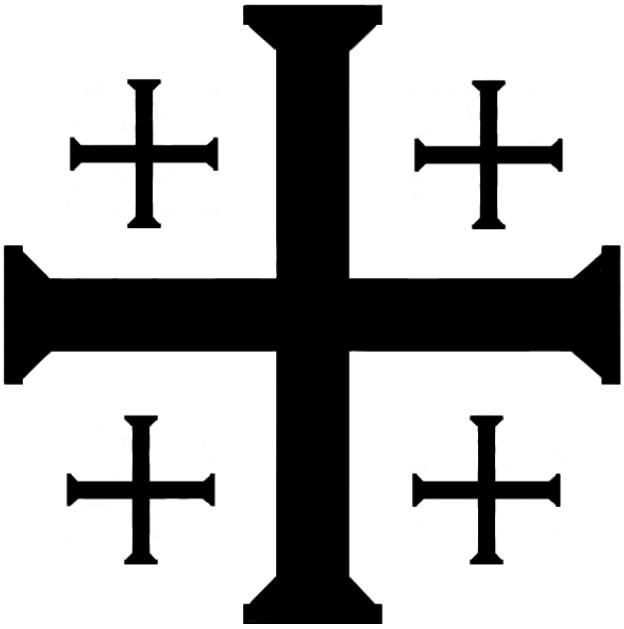
in celebration of and in thanksgiving for the life of

The Very Reverend Francis Bowes Sayre, Jr.

january 17, 1915 – october 3, 2008



saturday, october 25, 2008
one o'clock in the afternoon

The Cathedral Church of Saint Peter & Saint Paul in the City & Episcopal Diocese of Washington

The Very Reverend Francis Bowes Sayre, Jr.

Adapted from the notes of the Reverend Sanford Garner
Second Provost of Washington National Cathedral

Every once in a while, in every generation or so, a noble and great spirit comes to live among us on planet Earth, a person who appears in many regards as a 'larger than life' figure, a human being who possesses and conveys distinctive gifts of God's Spirit-inspiring vision, integrity, wisdom, courage, a huge and loving heart, a concern and compassion that is inclusive of everyone, a persona that is real and genuine, one gifted with special creative and artistic talent.

Francis Bowes Sayre, Jr., was one of those unique and noble individuals.

We have gathered today to honor Frank, dean of this Cathedral for 26 years. We are familiar with the details of his long and distinguished life and ministry, the accomplishments of which truly speak for themselves.

Well known to us are Frank's devotion to the Lord, his loyalty to family, friends, and colleagues, dedication to his country, and social and political reform, passion for reconciliation and world peace, and, of course, devotion to the building and ministry of this Cathedral Church of St. Peter and St. Paul.

Had it not been for Dean Sayre's vision, courage, passionate leadership, artistic demands, and fervent prayers we would not be assembled today in this magnificent place that now is: completed, dedicated to the glory of God, presiding grandly over the city of Washington and surrounding area, an icon and beacon of God's eternal love.

Frank's presence is embedded in every stone and arch of this holy place, his spirit fills every niche and corner, and may it always be thus, for it is a presence of certainty and hope that is steadying and reassuring. We know how highly he regarded the responsibility and sacred trust inherent in the Canterbury pulpit of this Cathedral. He felt strongly that every speaker on every occasion had a mandate to proclaim the Good News of the love of and new life to be found in God, and in God's son—with a prophetic voice! This was of great concern to Frank during his entire time here. His own way with words, by which he was able to communicate profound truth relevant to the times, sprang from a combination of disciplined scholarship and a conviction that the creative Word was made flesh in Jesus Christ.

Deeply rooted in Frank's entire being was the conviction that the Word of God has reconciling and redemptive power. He wanted people to know and realize that their basic 'essence' is Love, and that the 'love, power, and energy' of God is created within each person, within every individual soul from its beginning and is waiting there to be discovered, rediscovered, or tapped into and appropriated.

He felt called on a mission to break down barriers of prejudice and to question courageously those things within the Church, this nation, and the world which seem to be at odds with the Gospel of God's will: war; injustice; oppression and bigotry of every kind; the scandal of a world in which ancient and honorable faith traditions of many lands and peoples are set against each other, scorned, and at war with each other. Frank was a deep believer in the unity and connectedness of humankind!

Frank Sayre was in every sense and every way a 'big person'. He thought and lived out this 'bigness' for all his 93 years, and he expected the same from those around him. He had the gift of calling forth 'bigness' and dignity in others. The Dean never stopped searching for what was good and just and beautiful in the world, or from encouraging us to do the same. Out of his no-nonsense, uncommon wisdom, which cut through hollow gestures and phoniness (with that piercing 'Frank Sayre' look that only he could give), he would leave us with these words:

> *"Be bold, be brave, be true to your birthright and to what you recognize in your heart. We are the followers of the Lord, the Son of God. We are the inheritors of the good news that death is the gateway to life; it is a leap not into darkness but into the hands of Everlasting Mercy. Death is an act of trust, an act of love, by which, as lovers do, we abandon ourselves to become one with the Beloved!"*

CARILLON PRELUDE

The strife is o'er	*Victory*; arr. Frank P. Law
Laudate Dominum from *K. 339*	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791); arr. Bernard Winsemius
Eternal Father, strong to save	*Melita*, arr. Sally Slade Warner
Pie Jesu from *Op. 48*	Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924); arr. Roy Kroezen
Memorial Chimes	Edward Elgar (1857–1934)
Lift every voice and sing	*Lift Every Voice*; arr. Edward M. Nassor

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

In paradisum	Henry Mulet (1878–1967)

The people stand for the anthem in procession.

ANTHEM IN PROCESSION

Bishop Chane 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.

COLLECT FOR BURIAL

Bishop Chane The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

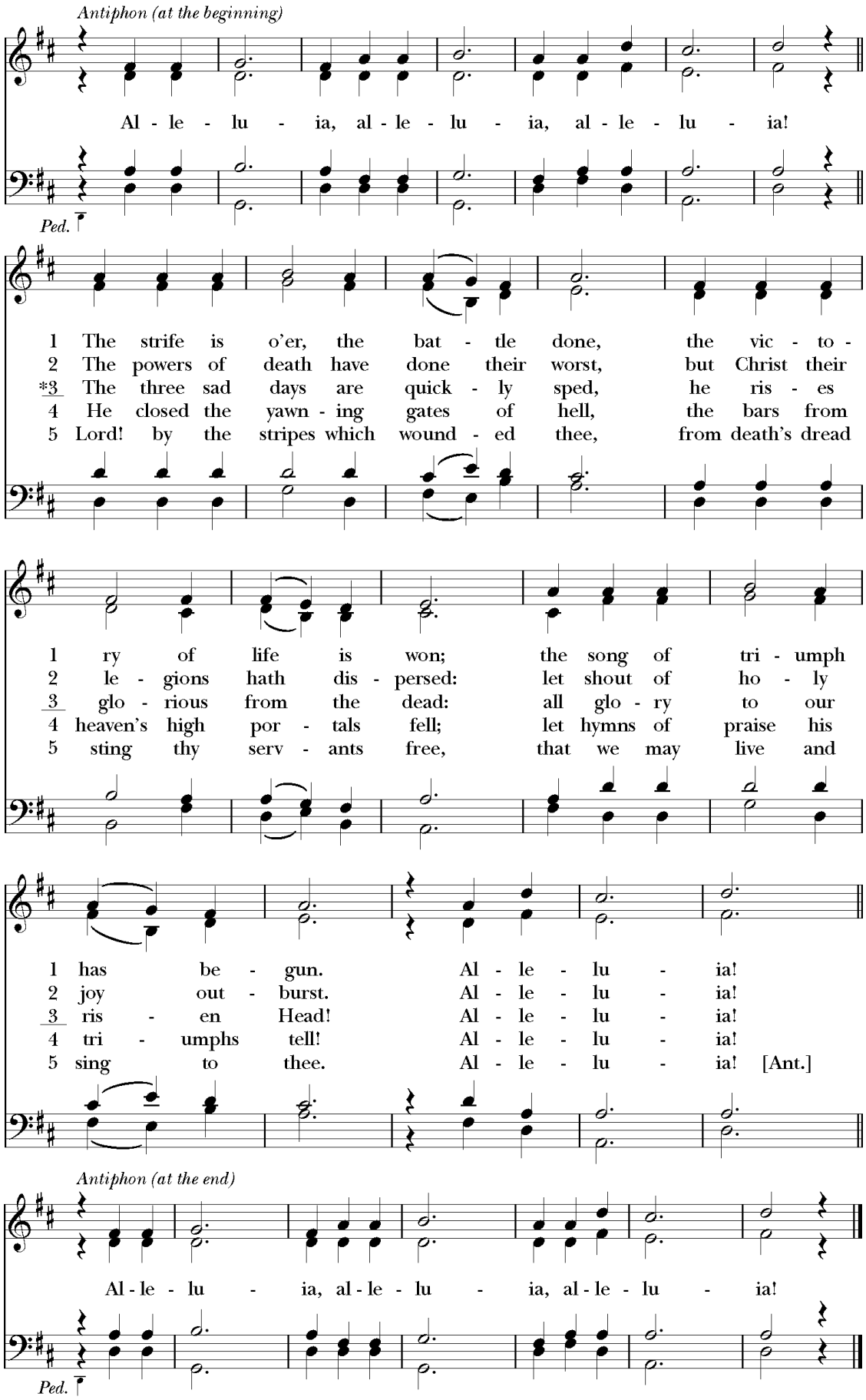
Bishop Chane Let us pray.
O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Francis, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Dean Perry Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with Francis'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.
All **Amen.**

HYMN *Sung by all.*

The strife is o'er *Victory*



The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON Micah 6:6–7a, 8

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

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

PSALM 139:1–11 *Sung by the choir.* Tone III.5

Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
You press upon me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
Where can I go then from your Spirit?
where can I flee from your presence?
If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
Even there your hand will lead me
and your right hand hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,
and the light around me turn to night,"
Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.

THE WINDS OF GOD *Read by Jessie Sayre Mack.*

Blow brave winds of morning,
Blow sweet breeze of dusk;
Whence comes the breath of day?
Whither bends the scarf of heaven?
Tell us little vane
What course to set—
How trim the sails—
To bring our Barque
To harbor across the sea.

Blow great winds of God:
Blow upon our little ships:
Fill the sails we spread to Thee
With excellence and faith,
With bright humor and integrity.
Thus may the breath of Thy Spirit
Bring the fragile vessel of our life
To that port where we would be,
Anchored to Thy peace,
Content at last to rest
In Christ our eternal Lord.

Blow cool winds of night,
Blow upon our rest, our peace in Thee:
Quiet after storm, freshness of Eternity.
Keep us, Father who made us,
Fulfilled, forgiven, ever in Thy love.
When it comes the day of crossing
O'er the boundary of life
To glory bright beyond the spheres,
May we at last rejoice with the angels of light,

At Thy knee forever blessed
Dear Lord of Evening and of Dawn.

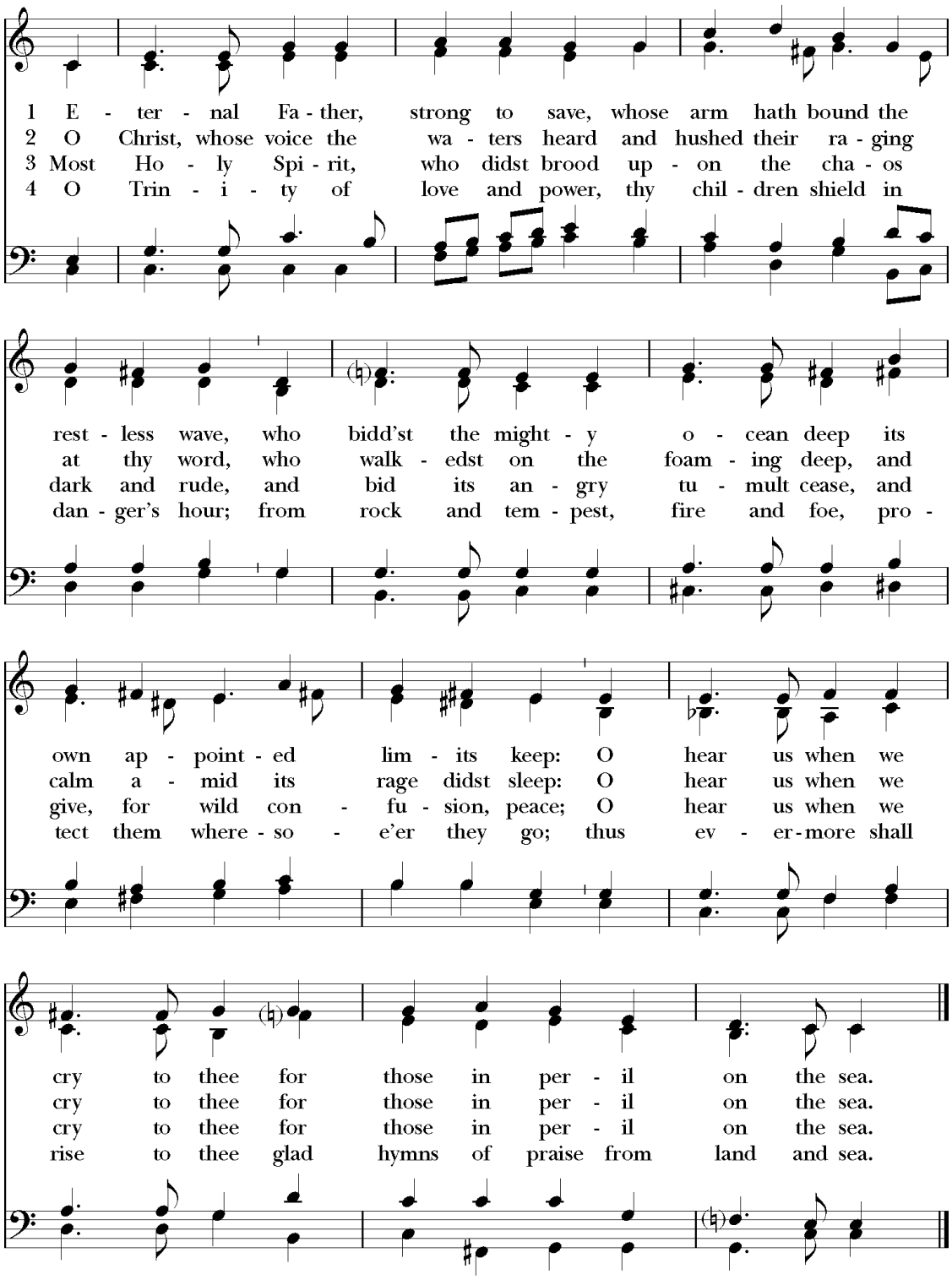
Francis B. Sayre (1915–2008)

TRIBUTE Thomas Hart Sayre

The people stand to sing and remain standing for the gospel.

HYMN *Sung by all.*

Eternal Father, strong to save *Melita*



THE GOSPEL LESSON Mark 4:35–41

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

On that day, when evening had come, Jesus said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

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

The people are seated at the invitation of the homilist.

HOMILY Dean Lloyd

The people stand.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor For our brother Francis, 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 Francis, and dry the tears of those who weep.
People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.
People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.
People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.
People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.
People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.
People **Hear us, Lord.**

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

COLLECT

Bishop Eastman Father of all, we pray to you for Francis, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

All **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Bishop Chane The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people share a sign of God's peace with one another and are then seated.

THE OFFERTORY

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support The Dean's Chair, established in 1977 in honor of the Very Reverend Francis B. Sayre, Jr., in recognition of his dedicated service and lasting contribution to the fulfillment of the purpose of the Washington Cathedral Foundation.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Father, in thy gracious keeping Richard Wayne Dirksen (1921–2003)

Now the laborer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.

There the tears of earth are dried;
There its hidden things are clear;
There the work of life is tried
By a juster judge than here.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.

There no more the pow'rs of hell
Can prevail to mar their peace;
Christ, the Lord, shall guard them well,
He who died for their release.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.

Earth to earth, and dust to dust;
Calmly now the words we say,
Left behind we wait in trust
For the resurrection day.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping. Amen.

John Ellerton, 1870

The people stand for the Great Thanksgiving.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Bishop Chane The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Chane Lift up your hearts.

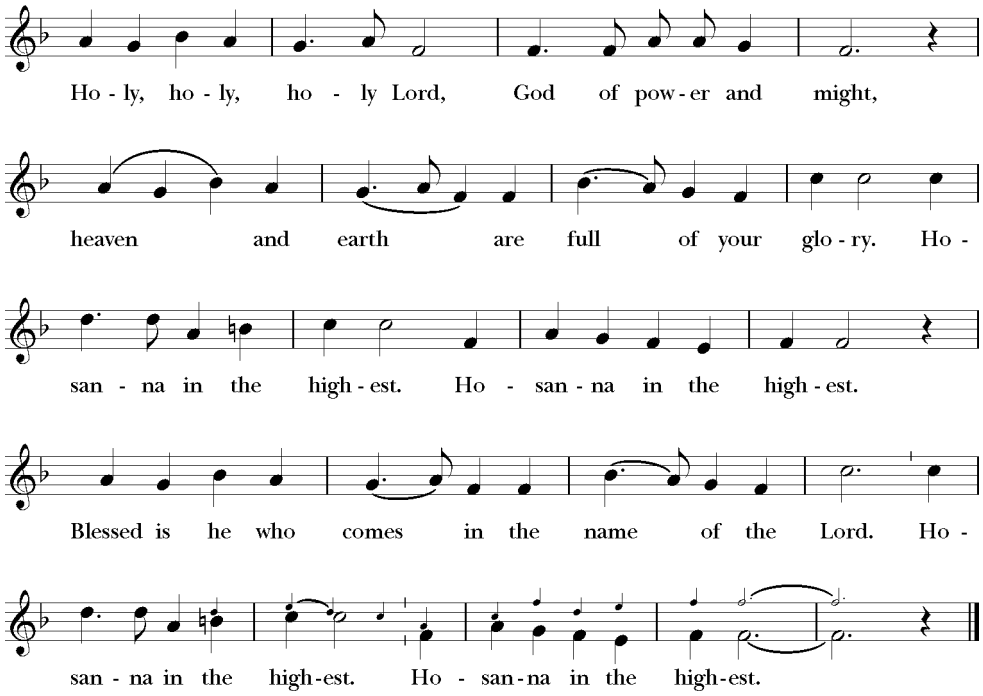
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Bishop Chane Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The presider offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ, and in response we say:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS *Sung by all.*



The Eucharistic Prayer continues with the presider offering praise to the Creator, and recalling Christ's words of institution for The Holy Communion.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Bishop Chane Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death.**
We proclaim his resurrection.
We await his coming in glory.

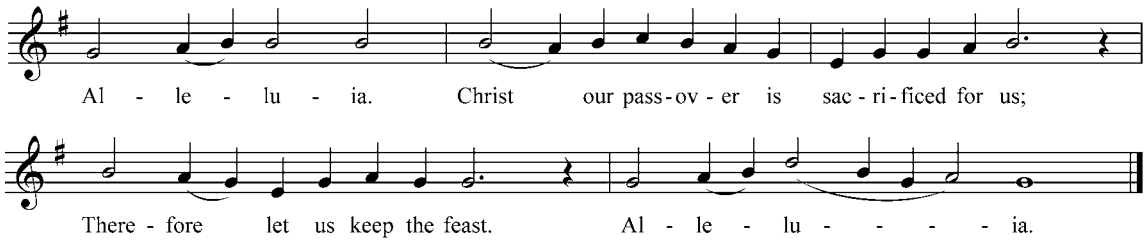
The presider concludes with prayer for the coming of God's reign. The people affirm the Great Thanksgiving with **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Said by all.*

Bishop Chane As our Savior Christ, has taught us, we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE FRACTION ANTHEM *Sung by all.*



INVITATION *The people are seated.*

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Eucharist.

To receive communion, come to a communion station at the direction of the ushers. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. Eat the bread and then drink from the cup when it is offered to you, or, if you wish, you may hold the bread and dip it into the wine when the cup is offered to you.

Gluten-free wafers are available. Please make your need known to the minister.

If you wish to receive a blessing rather than receive communion, please join in the movement to the communion station and cross your arms over the front of your chest; this will alert the priest of your desire to be blessed.

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

ANTHEM AT THE COMMUNION

O sacrum convivium Thomas Tallis (c. 1505–1585)

O sacrum convivium in quo Christus sumitur, recolitur memoria passionis eius: mens impletur gratia, et futurae gloriae, nobis pignus datur.

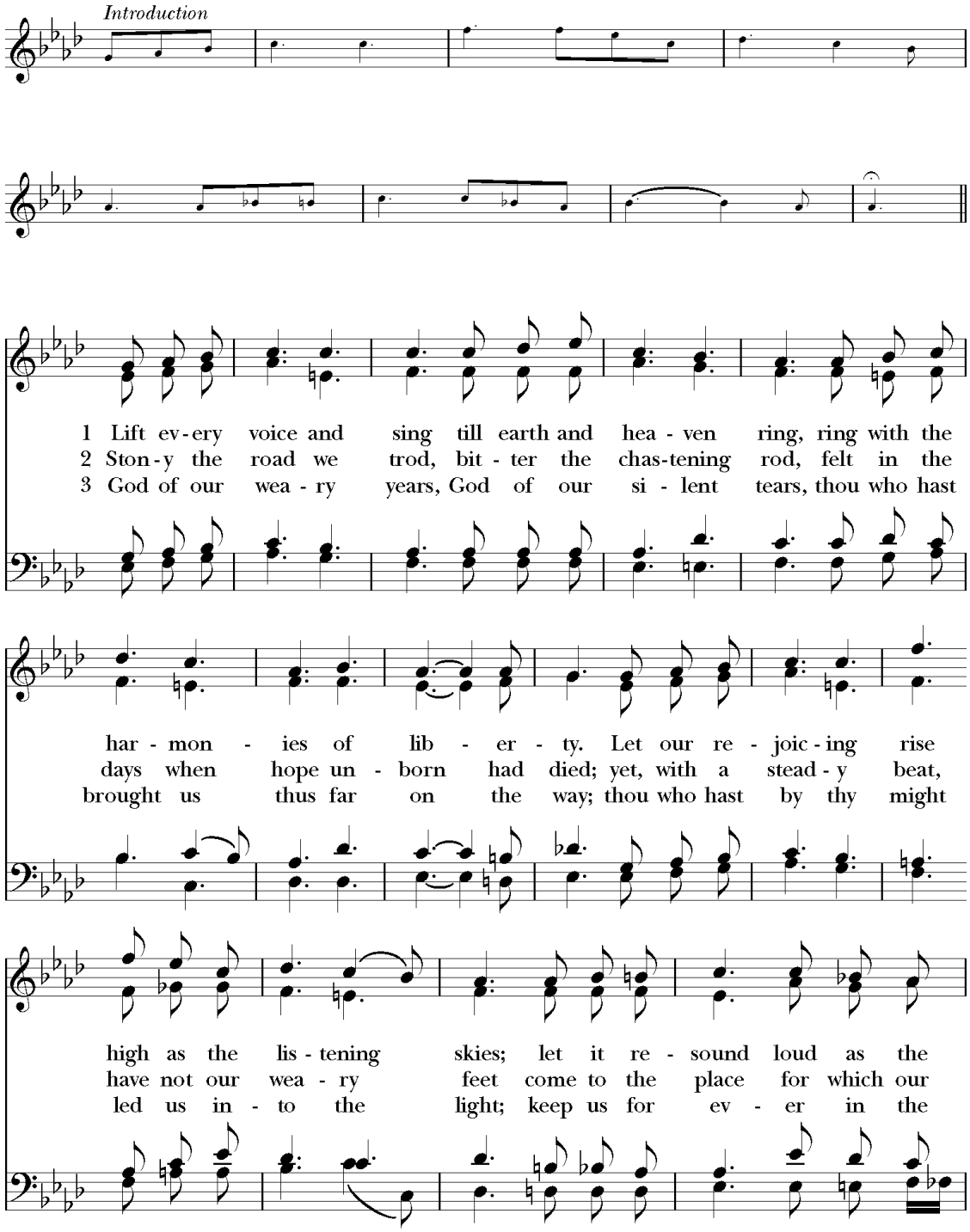
O sacred banquet in which Christ is received, the memory of his passion is renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and the pledge of future glory is given to us.

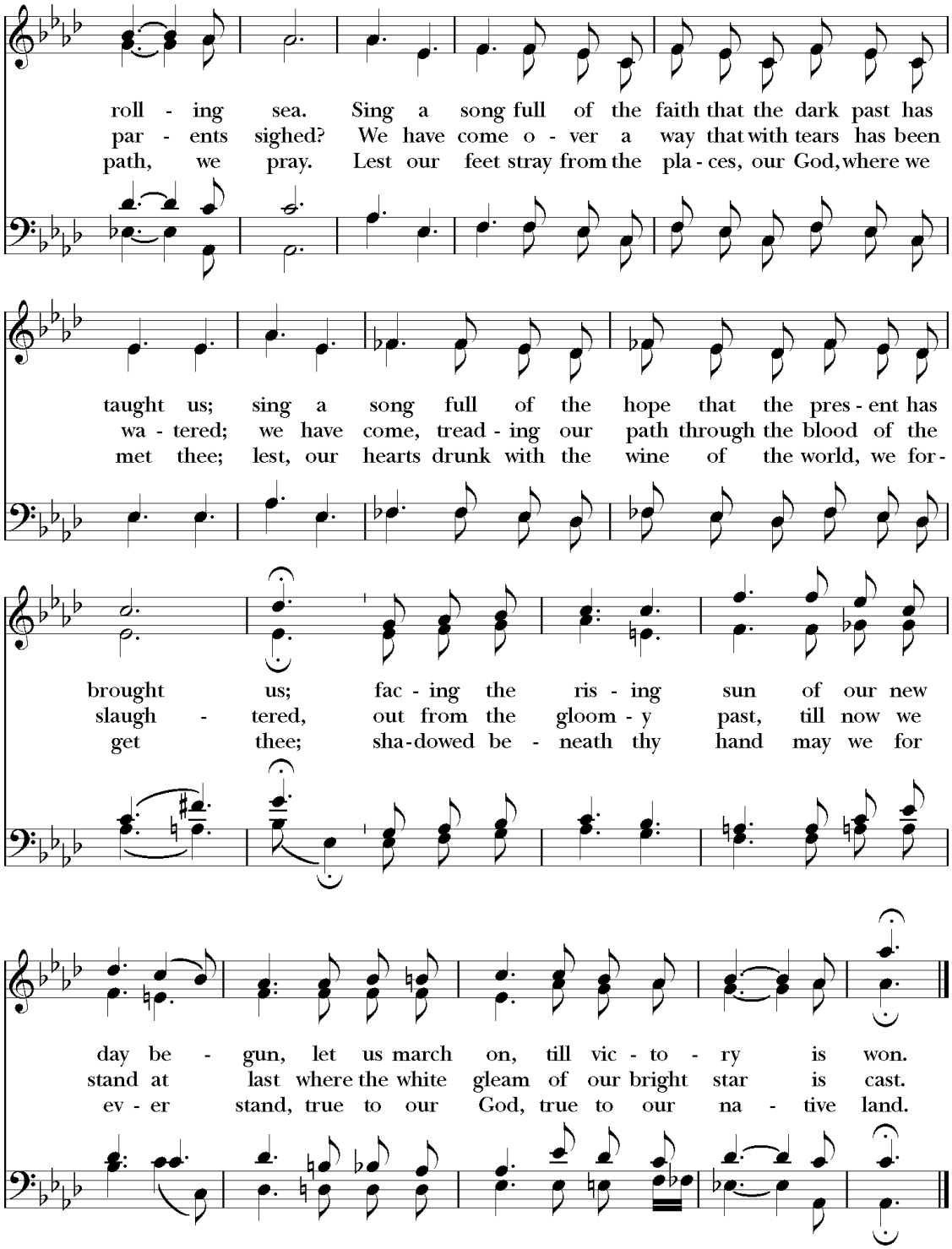
Magnificat antiphon for the Feast of Corpus Christi

The people stand to sing.

HYMN *Sung by all.*

Lift every voice and sing *Lift Every Voice*





THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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

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

Bishop Baxter You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; 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.

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

Bishop Baxter Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Francis. 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.
All **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Bishop Chane offers a blessing and the people respond **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Gospeller Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

ANTHEM

In paradisum Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

In paradisum deducant angeli; in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam, Jerusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.

In paradise may the angels receive thee: at thy coming may the martyrs attend thee, and take thee up into the holy city, Jerusalem. There may the angelic chorus attend thee, and mayest thou, with Lazarus, once a beggar, have eternal rest.

The extended family processes to the cross aisle of the columbarium.

The people retire from the Cathedral.

The Washington Ringing Society will ring a quarter-peal immediately following the service.
The bells cannot be heard from within the Cathedral, but may be best heard from the Bishop's Garden.

PSALM 121 *Sung by the choir.* Tone V.1

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
The Lord himself watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;
it is he who shall keep you safe.
The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.

THE COMMITTAL

Dean Lloyd Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me; I will never turn away anyone who believes in me. He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his indwelling Spirit. My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope. You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Bishop Baxter In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we now pray.

Most merciful Father, we commend to you the soul of our brother, Francis.

We commit his robust vessel to this place beneath the great stone tree builded here; her fluted columns, rooted deep in nourishing soil, her vaulted branches and tracery, her light and song, reaching to praise Thy great glory.

Dean Perry Joining beloved Harriet, with whom in life was mingled heart, mind, and body; in death their spirits shall live for ever. In quiet now let them find their rest together, surrounded by the work and faith to which their lives were committed.

Father and grandfather to those who remain behind, his humble love and honest grace abide in those who remember and love him, and in all those who celebrate his life.

Bishop Eastman The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord make his face to shine upon him and be gracious to him, the Lord lift up his countenance upon him and give him peace.
All **Amen.**

Bishop Chane Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
All **Amen.**

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Bishop Chane Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

DISMISSAL

Bishop Chane Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PRESIDER	The Rt. Reverend John Bryson Chane, *Bishop of Washington*
CO-PRESIDERS	The Rt. Reverend Nathan D. Baxter, *Bishop of Central Pennsylvania* The Rt. Reverend A. Theodore Eastman, *Bishop of Maryland, (retired)* The Very Reverend Charles A. Perry, *former provost, Washington National Cathedral*
GOSPELLER	The Reverend Canon Carol L. Wade, *Precentor, Washington National Cathedral*
ASSISTANT	The Reverend Canon Stephen Huber, *Vicar, Washington National Cathedral*
READERS	Dr. Charles S. Tidball Jessie Sayre Mack
TRIBUTE	Thomas Hart Sayre
HOMILIST	The Very Reverend Samuel T. Lloyd III, *Dean, Washington National Cathedral*
INTERCESSOR	Dr. M. Elizabeth Tidball
MUSICIANS	The Cathedral Choir Michael McCarthy, *Director of Music* Scott Dettra, *Organist* Christopher Jacobson, *Assistant Organist* Edward M. Nassor, *Carillonneur* The Washington Ringing Society
SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION	Nancy Conners
VERGERS	Claude (Duke) DuTeil, *Head Verger* Stanley Utterback, *Verger* Gary Abrecht, David Deutsch, Margaret Gordon, Ron Hicks, Richard Lee, Joyce Michelini, Stephen Saphos, Victoria Solsberry, Kevin Thomas, Torrence Thomas
ACOLYTES	Lindsey Wilson, *Head Acolyte* Alexander Basil, Alexander Beresford, Eric Beresford, James Cunningham, Carey Gilchrist, Emma Kingsley, Miles Peele, Lyon Stewart, Caroline Whittinghill
CATHEDRAL USHERS	Michael Heid, *Head Usher*

O Thou author of all majesty, who first didst make us of the clay, then gave it to our hand that we too might makers be; guide our fingers in the sand, after Thee to trace the glory until Thy house is built, Thy freedom seen and Thy servants blessed who lift their lives to thee. Amen.

Francis B. Sayre, Jr.

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

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