

*A CELEBRATION OF  
THE LIFE OF  
Kevin A. Gedney*



April 17, 1964 ~ December 22, 2020

St. Luke's Church  
East Greenwich, Rhode Island  
January 9, 2021

## **Prelude**

### **The Burial of the Dead**

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 brother, Kevin. We thank you for giving him to us, his 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.**

**A reading from the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians  
13:1-8**

*Read by Kelly Gibb*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

Reader      The Word of the Lord.

**Response    Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 23**

*Said in unison*

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.

**A reading from the second Epistle of Paul to the Romans  
14:7-12**

*Read by Samantha Paul*

Brothers and sisters:

No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live,  
we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so  
then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is  
why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the  
dead and the living. Why then do you judge your brother? Or you,  
why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand  
before the judgement seat of God; for it is written:

As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every  
tongue shall give praise to God. So then each of us shall give an  
accounting of himself to God.

Reader      The Word of the Lord.

**Response    Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn**

*Amazing Grace*

**A reading from the Gospel of John 14:1-6**

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

**People      Glory to you Lord Christ.**



For our brother, Kevin,  
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 Kevin,  
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.**

Kevin 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 Kevin;  
let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

*Silence may be kept.*

### **Celebrant**

Father of all, we pray to you for Kevin, 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. **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.**

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.

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Kevin. 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.**

**Blessing**

**Dismissal**

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

**Postlude**

**Participants**

**Celebrant**

The Rev. Tanya Watt, Assistant Rector

**Usher**

Steve McLoughlin