



A LITURGY IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

MICHAEL NEIL WILLIAMS

DECEMBER 21, 1954 – MARCH 8, 2025

**Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
Episcopal/Anglican**

**ZABRISKIE CHAPEL
3606 Seminary Road
Alexandria, Virginia**



**April 5, 2025
3:00 p.m.**

Michael Neil Williams

1954 - 2025

Michael Neil Williams, 70, passed away on March 8, 2025.

Born in Norfolk, VA, he was a graduate of Virginia Tech Pamplin College of Business, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Finance. A life-long Hokie and long-time resident of Alexandria, VA, he relocated to Florida working for CBRE, most recently as Director, Property Management in South Florida.

Mike is survived by his wife Kristin, sons Christopher and Patrick and step-daughter Chelsea Burns, parents Beverly and Buford (Buff), Aunt Shirley Forehand, nephew and niece Curtis and Charlotte, dear cousins and friends, and his beloved dogs Scout and Louie. He is predeceased by his brother, Dr. Robert A. Williams.

In addition to this service, a memorial is scheduled for April 10th, 12:30 p.m. at [Sea Watch on the Ocean](#), in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mike’s memory to the following:



AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

National Center
7272 Greenville Avenue
Dallas, TX 75231
1(800) 242-8721
heart.org



Memorial Gift Link



THE TRI-COUNTY ANIMAL RESCUE

21287 Boca Rio Road
Boca Raton, FL , USA
(561) 482-8110
tricountyanimalrescue.com/



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Prelude: “Air on the G String”

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

Johann Sebastian Bach

Solo: “You’ll Never Walk Alone”

lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

Richard Rogers

Solo: “Because He Lives”

lyrics by Gloria Gaither

William J. Gaither

DARYL OTT, baritone

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD, RITE II

*Page numbers refer to the **red Book of Common Prayer**.*

*Numbered hymns can be found in **The Hymnal 1982**.*

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.

*All please stand while the following anthems are said. (**Book of Common Prayer**, page 491)*

Opening Sentences

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.

Opening Hymn 8: “Morning Has Broken”

found in The Hymnal 1982

Bunessan

The Celebrant says the following Collect

Clergy: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Clergy: Let us pray.

Oh God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother Michael. 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. Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with the Williams Family in their grief. 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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson: Isaiah 61: 1-3

read by Mr. Kevin Alberse

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 broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, 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.

The Word of the Lord

Response: ***Thanks be to God***

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

The Epistle: Revelation 21: 2-7

read by Mr. Tom Scholz

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’ And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God*

Sequence Hymn335: “I am the bread of life”

verses 1,4, and 5

I Am the Bread of Life

found in The Hymnal 1982



The Holy Gospel: John 14:1-6

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

Response: ***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: ***Praise be to thee, O Christ.***

Tribute from The Family: Mr. Craig Burton

The Homily: The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.

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

***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

led by Ms. Caitlin O'Leary

For our brother Michael, 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 Mike, 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 Celebrant concludes with the following

Father of all, we pray to you for Mike, 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 Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem: "Ave Maria"

Franz Peter Schubert

DARYL OTT, baritone

Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Maria, gratia plena,
Maria, gratia plena,
Ave, Ave, Dominus,
Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus,
Et benedictus fructus ventris,
Ventris tui, Jesus.
Ave Maria!

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
Mary, full of grace,
Mary, full of grace,
Hail, Hail, the Lord
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed,
Blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Thy womb, Jesus.
Hail Mary!*

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,
Ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
Ora, ora pro nobis;
Ora, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
Nunc et in hora mortis,
In hora mortis nostrae.
In hora, hora mortis nostrae,
In hora mortis nostrae.
Ave Maria!

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Pray, pray for us;
Pray for us sinners,
Now, and at the hour of our death,
The hour of our death.
The hour, the hour of our death,
The hour of our death.
Hail Mary!*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

p. 367

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 God thanks and praise.***

The Celebrant proceeds

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:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full,
full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.***

The Celebrant continues:

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 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

***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 the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Mary Magdalene, blessed Peter, James and John, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant:

*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

We include the “Alleluia” even during Lent, as funerals are a service of the Resurrection.

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Agnus Dei SI164 (found in the front of The Hymnal 1982)

Franz Peter Schubert

*Jesus, Lamb of God:
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins:
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
give us your peace,
give us your peace.*

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.

*If you are physically unable to come to the Altar, please let an usher know
that you would like to have Communion brought to you.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:

Communion Anthem: “Be Not Afraid”

The Rev. Robert Duffold, SJ

DARYL OTT, baritone

You shall cross the barren desert,
but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

If you pass through raging waters in the sea,
you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell
and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all.
Refrain

*Refrain: Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come, follow me,
and I will give you rest.*

Blessed are your poor,
for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you
all because of me,
blessed, blessed are you!
Refrain

Communion Anthem: “The Irish Blessing”

Traditional

DARYL OTT, baritone

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the warm rays of sun fall upon your home,
May the hand of a friend always be near.

And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.
May God be with you and bless you:
May you see your children's children.
May you be poor in misfortune,
rich in blessings.
May you know nothing but happiness
from this day forward.

May green be the grass you walk on,
May blue be the skies above you,
May pure be the joys that surround you,
May true be the hearts that love you.
May true be the hearts that love you.

Sung, if needed

Communion Hymn 711: “Seek ye first the Kingdom of God”

found in The Hymnal 1982

Seek Ye First

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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 Blessing

Solo: "Going Home"

Antonín Leopold Dvořák

DARYL OTT, baritone

The Dismissal:

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Closing Hymn 680: "Oh God Our Help in Ages Past"

verses 1-3

Diademata

found in The Hymnal 1982

Postlude: "Panis Angelicus"

César Auguste Hubert Franck

SERVING TODAY:



Celebrant:

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.
Rector, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Crucifer:

Mrs. Beatrice Osumba, seminarian

Readers:

Mr. Kevin Alberse
Mr. Brad Forehand
Mr. Tom Scholz

Intercessor:

Ms. Caitlin O'Leary

Tribute from The Family:

Mr. Craig Burton

Musicians:

Mr. Daryl Ott, soloist
Section Leader, The Immanuel Choir

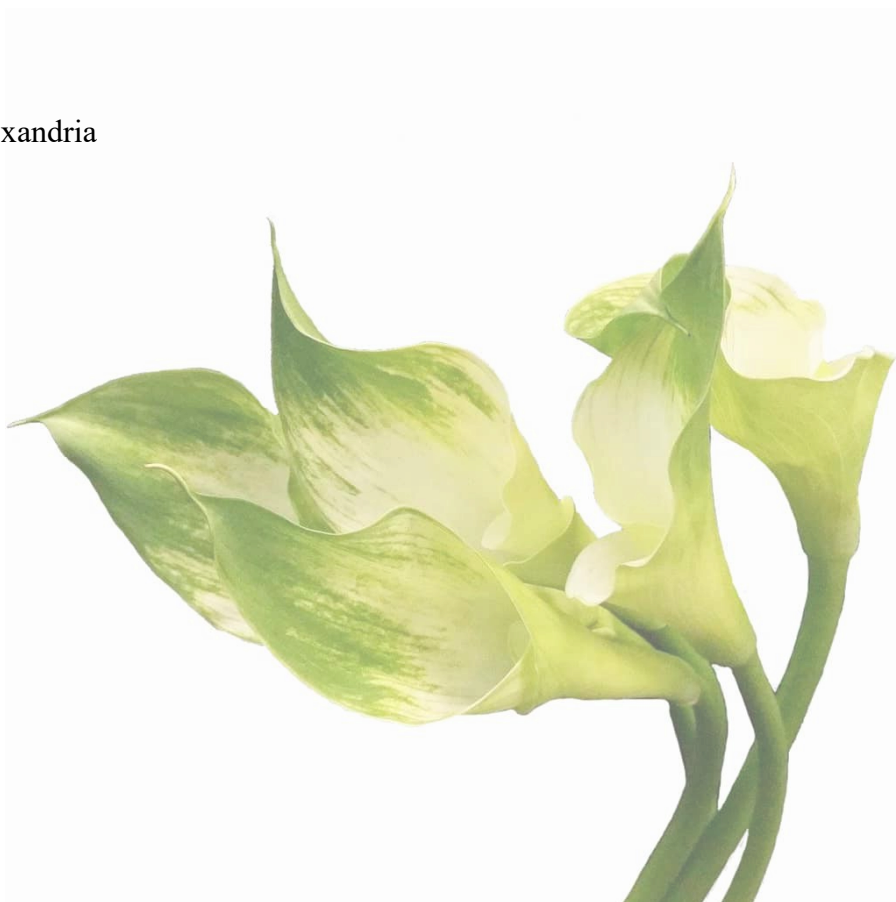
Mr. Jason Abel, organ and piano
Director of Music, Christ Church Alexandria

Usher:

Mr. Tom Hewson

Flower Arrangements:

Mrs. Candy Levin
Immanuel Flower Guild





SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel
3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II with music
Immanuel Chapel
3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

Online

www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org
[Immanuel's YouTube channel](#)

MISSION STATEMENT:

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition, striving to be in relationship with God and each other as Christ has taught us, actively attempting to sense and to serve God's plan with great love. We are guided by Mark 16:15: "*Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel,*" to learn, discern, and proclaim the Good News by being active ministers in the various communities where we live and serve.

Parish Office

3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304
Telephone: 703-370-6555, Fax: 703-370-0837

icoh.net