

Celebration of Life  
Saturday, February 10, 2024



The Reverend Gladys Robinson McCurtain

August 5, 1947 - January 21, 2024

**Celebration of Life for The Rev. Glad McCurtain**  
**February 10, 2024**  
**Participants in today's services**

Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Barry R. Howe  
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Deborah G. Seles  
Homilist: The Rev. Joseph H. Diaz  
Bishop's Chaplin & Liturgist: The Rev. Daniel J. Lemley  
Deacon: The Rev. Robert P. Kinney

Music: Jeremy Silverman  
Soloist: Aurora Williams  
Crucifer: Alain Robitaille  
Server: Mickey Vallejo  
Torches: Denise Garthwaite, Michele Lurch, Sonya Soriano, Mickey Vallejo  
Chalices: Denise Garthwaite, Michele Lurch, Alain Robitaille, Mickey Vallejo  
Lector 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Tom Robinson  
Lector Psalm: Rachel McCurtain  
Lector 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Rhonda Wilcox-McCurtain  
Ushers: Helen Coar, Holly Duncan, Pam & Jim Gibson, Bill Kaempfer

Thank you and bless all our volunteers for their contribution to our service today.



*The flowers on the altar are given  
in loving memory of Glad, by her husband, Jim McCurtain.*

*Additional flowers are given by the  
Holy Trinity Finance Committee and the Vestry.  
The Peace Lily is given by the Caldwell family.*

# The Burial of the Dead: Enriching Our Worship

In Remembrance of The Rev. Gladys R. McCurtain      February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Prelude

Improvisation

Entrance Hymn

“When the Saints Go Marching In”

*Traditional*

*All stand*

*Verse 1*

Oh, when the saints go marching in.  
Oh, when the saints go marching in.  
Oh Lord I want to be in that number,  
When the saints go marching in.

*Verse 2*

Oh, when the sun begins to shine.  
Oh, when the sun begins to shine.  
Oh Lord I want to be in that number,  
When the sun begins to shine.

*Verse 3*

And when the revelation comes.  
And when the revelation comes.  
Oh Lord I want to be in that number,  
When the revelation comes.

*Verse 5*

And on that halleluiah day.  
And on that halleluiah day.  
Oh Lord I want to be in that number,  
On that halleluiah day.

*Verse 6*

Oh, when the saints go marching in.  
Oh, when the saints go marching in.  
Oh Lord I want to be in that number,  
When the saints go marching in.

## The Word of God

*Remain standing. The Celebrant begins.*

I am resurrection and I am life says the Lord. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last, will stand upon the earth; and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God, whom I shall see and my eyes behold, who is my friend and not a stranger.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labor.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with You.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Eternal God, your mercy is without end, and your steadfast love never ceases: Accept our prayers for Glad, and receive her into the land of light and joy, into the company of your saints; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Glad's family 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. **Amen.**

### **The First Lesson** (Isaiah 25:6-9)

*All Sit*

Tom Robinson

*Brother*

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

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 he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm (Psalm 139:1-18)**

*Remain seated. The congregation responds by reading the verses in **bold**.*

Rachel McCurtain

Daughter-in-Law

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; \***  
    **you discern my thoughts from far away.**
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down, \*  
    and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, \***  
    **O Lord, you know it completely.**
- 5 You hem me in, behind and before, \*  
    and lay your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \***  
    **it is so high that I cannot attain it.**
- 7 Where can I go from your spirit? \*  
    Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; \***  
    **if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**
- 9 If I take the wings of the morning \*  
    and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- 10 Even there your hand shall lead me, \***  
    **and your right hand shall hold me fast.**
- 11 If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, \*  
    and night wraps itself around me',
- 12 Even the darkness is not dark to you;**  
    **the night is as bright as the day, \***  
    **for darkness is as light to you.**
- 13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; \*  
    you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. \***  
    **Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

15 My frame was not hidden from you, \*

when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

16 **Your eyes beheld my unformed substance; \***

**In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.**

17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! \*

How vast is the sum of them!

18 **I try to count them—they are more than the sand; \***

**I come to the end—I am still with you.**

**The Second Lesson** (Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39)

Rhonda Wilcox-McCurtain

*Daughter-in-Law*

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

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 have 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, in fact, we 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 Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn**

*All stand*

**"Jesus, Remember Me"**

*Taizé*

**Jesus, remember me  
When you come into your kingdom.**

*Repeat*

## **The Gospel (John 14:1-6a)**

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

*People* **Glory to you, Lord 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."

*Reader* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Family Sharing**

Jim McCurtain III (*Son*)

Avery Zercoe (*Daughter*)

## **Homily**

The Rev. Joseph H. Diaz

## **Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

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

*Ministers and the 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.**

## Prayers of the People

*All remain standing. The congregation responds by saying the words in **bold**.*

For Glad our sister, let us pray to our Savior Jesus Christ who said: "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Jesus, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; be with us and all who mourn for Glad, and dry the tears of those who weep.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Jesus, you wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend. Comfort us in our sorrow.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Jesus, you raised the dead to life; give to Glad eternal life.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Jesus, you promised paradise to the thief who repented. Bring Glad to the joys of heaven.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Glad was washed in the waters of Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her a place in the company of your saints.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Glad was nourished with your Body and Blood in the Eucharist; grant her a place at the table at the banquet you have promised to your people at the close of the age.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Comfort us in our sorrow at the death of sister Glad; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

*Silence*

Gracious God, nothing in death or life, in the world as it is or the world as it shall be, nothing in all creation can separate us from your love. We commend Glad into your loving care. Enfold her in the arms of your mercy. Bless her in her dying and in her rising again in you. Bless those whose hearts are filled with sadness, that they too may know the hope of resurrection; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



## The Peace

*Priest*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## Announcements

*Announcements may be made at this point in the service.*

## Offertory

**“Yahweh, I Know You Are Near”**

*Dan Schutte*

## Doxology

*Hymn 380, Verse 3*

*The people stand and sing the following*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly hosts: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

## Holy Communion

### Great Thanksgiving: Eucharist Prayer I

*With the people standing, the Celebrant proceeds*

*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 our thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. 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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

## Sanctus

Hymnal S-125

*The following is sung by all*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are 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 people may stand, sit, or kneel. The Celebrant continues.*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through the ancestors you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and 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 friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN!**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

*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**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*Celebrant* We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

*People* **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

*The Celebrant says the following invitation*

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.

### ***Ministration of the Sacrament***

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion but prefer a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms over your chest. To receive the consecrated bread, please hold your hands outstretched together and the minister will place the bread in your palm. To receive the consecrated wine, you may sip from the chalice or intinct (dip) the bread. For intinction, please lightly dip the bread so only the edge of the wafer touches the wine. If you desire bread only, cross your arms over your chest as the chalice minister approaches.*

Surely the presence  
Of the Lord is in this place  
I can feel His mighty power, and His grace  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings  
I see glory on each face  
Surely the presence  
Of the Lord is in this place

“Here I am Lord”

WLP #812

*Verse 1*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*

Here I am Lord, is it I Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.

*Verse 2*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

*(Refrain)*

*Verse 3*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied,  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*(Refrain)*

## Post Communion Prayer

*All stand*

*The Celebrant continues*

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us with the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, giving us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. We pray that this Sacrament may be for us a comfort in affliction, and a sign of our inheritance in that place where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the joy of a true homecoming, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

## The Commendation

*All remain standing*

*Priest* Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

*People* **Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*The Priest continues*

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so you ordained when you created us, 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.

*Priest* Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

*People* **Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*The Priest continues*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Glad. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

## The Blessing

*The Celebrant blesses the People*

Life is short and we have little time to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us. So be swift to love, quick to forgive, and always show kindness to strangers...and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave your self behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare,  
will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

## The Dismissal

*The Deacon dismisses the People*

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Postlude

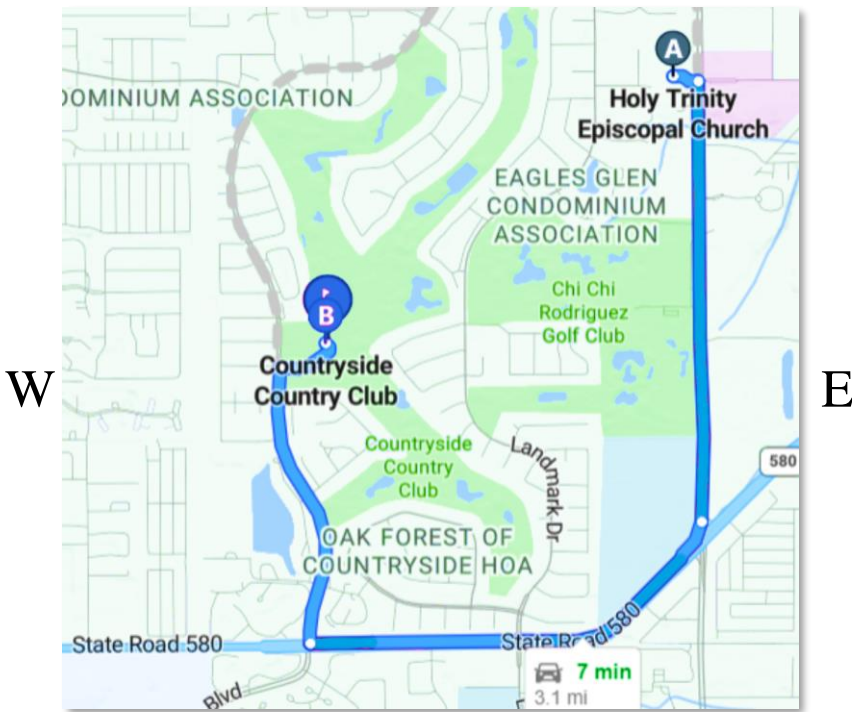
Improvisation

*You are cordially invited to join the family  
for a reception at Countryside Country Club  
following the service.*

**Countryside Country Club**

3001 Countryside Boulevard  
Clearwater, Florida 33761

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## **The Diocese of Southwest Florida**

The Rt. Rev. Douglas F. Scharf  
*6<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese*

## **The Vestry and Officers of Holy Trinity**

The Rev. Daniel J. Lemley  
dlemley@holytrinityclw.org  
*Rector*

Alain Robitaille (2024)  
*Senior Warden*

Steve Greer (2025)  
*Site Planning*

Donna Salsbury (2026)

Mickey Vallejo (2025)  
*Junior Warden*

Kristin Langley (2025)  
*Church Documentarian*

Rogers Howard  
*Treasurer*

Bill Kaempfer (2024)  
*Worship*

Chan Bliss (2026)

Patricia Whitehouse  
*Secretary*

Chris Spencer (2024)  
*Evangelism*

Denise Garthwaite (2026)

**Contact the Vestry:**  
vestry@holytrinityclw.org

## **The Staff of Holy Trinity**

Anne Punch  
church@holytrinityclw.org  
*Church Administrator*

Diane Densmore  
*Thrift Shop Manager*

Marcia Nauman  
financials@holytrinityclw.org  
*Bookkeeper*

Olivia Garthwaite  
*Sunday School Coordinator*

Jeremy Silverman  
music@holytrinityclw.org  
*Director of Music*

Stephanie Forant  
*Nursery Coordinator*

The Rev. Robert (Bob) Kinney  
*Deacon*