

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



CHRIS PULA

March 6, 1955 – December 29, 2024

THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY OF THE HARBOR

Provincetown

January 4, 2025

The Rev. Brian Raiche, *Presiding*

Where the Land, the Sea, and the Sacred Meet

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Greeting

Presider: The grace and peace of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: My friends, we have come here today to remember before God our brother Chris, to give thanks for his life; to commend him to God our merciful redeemer; and to comfort one another in our grief.

As the funeral pall is placed, water is sprinkled as a remembrance of Baptism.

In the waters of baptism, Chris died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May he now share with Christ eternal glory.

Gathering Hymn

Amazing Grace

Hymnal #617

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
*5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother Chris. We thank you for giving him to us, to 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.**

1st Reading: *2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*

John Pula

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. The Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 23: King James Version

Read 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.

Reading: Wild Geese

Priscilla Jackett

By Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
 You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.
 You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves.
 Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
 Meanwhile the world goes on.
 Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain are moving across the landscapes,
 over the prairies and the deep trees, the mountains and the rivers.
 Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air, are heading home again.
 Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination,
 calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -
 over and over announcing your place in the family of things.

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand as you are able



Gospel Reading *Matthew 25:35-40*

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Matthew

People: **Glory to you Lord Christ**

Jesus said: For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these you did it to me."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Words of Remembrance

Prayers of the People

Presider: For our brother Chris, 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 and dry the tears of those who weep. We pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.
We pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Our brother was washed in the waters of Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit;
give him a place in the company of your saints.
We pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

You raised the dead to life. Give to our brother eternal life. We remember especially
Chris's parents Art and Pat Pula and his father-in-law Robert Biggert, We pray to the
Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother; let our faith be our consolation,
and eternal life our hope. We pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Presider: God of all, we pray to you for Chris and for all those whom we love but see no longer.
Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May their soul and the
souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

We greet each other with a sign of peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Invitation:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Preparation of the Table

The Old Rugged Cross

The bread and the wine are brought forward by Bonnie Middy and Susie Biggert.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: 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.**

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, 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal #S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow'r and might. Heav - en and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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

Presider: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

People: **Have mercy on us.**

Presider: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

People: **Have mercy on us.**

Presider: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

People: **Grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion:

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Food for a Holy People. In this house which bears the name Mary, all are welcome to share the one she bore, Jesus the Bread of Life.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will direct you forward. If you do not wish to receive the bread or wine, you are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would like a blessing. Gluten-free wafers and blessed grape juice are available; please make your need known to the minister.



1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On
 2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold and myrrh, Come



Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for
 peas - ant, king to own him; The King of kings sal -



an - thems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;



Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y.

Text: William C. Dix, 1827-1898

Tune: GREENSLEEVES, 8 7 8 7 with refrain; English melody, 16th C.; harm. by John Stainer, 1840-1901

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray:

Please Stand

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother Chris, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in God'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.

People: Amen.

THE COMMENDATION

Invitation to Prayer

Presider: Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our brother Chris. May our farewell express our affection for him; may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet him again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

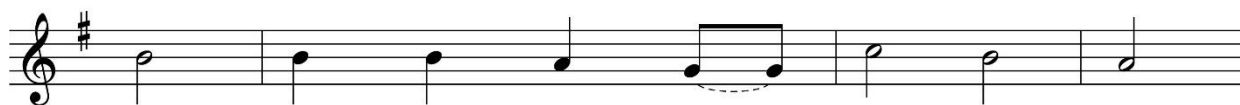
People: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Presider: Saints of God, come to his aid! Hasten to meet him, angels of the Lord! Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High. May Christ, who called you, take you to himself: may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

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



1. Come to his/her aid, O saints of God;
2. May Christ, who called you, take you home,
3. Give him/her e - ter - nal rest, O Lord.
4. I know that my Re - deem - er lives;



Come, meet him/her, an - gels of the Lord.
And an - gels lead you to A - bra - ham.
May light un - end - ing shine on him/her.
The last day I shall rise a - gain.



Re - ceive his/her soul, O ho - ly ones;



Pre - sent him/her now to God, Most High.

Presider: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Chris.
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 thy saints in light. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Irish Blessing

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: May the road rise up 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 and, until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

And may almighty God bless you, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The Dismissal

Presider: Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Recessional Hymn

Sing With All the Saints

see next page

Postlude

All are invited to a reception at the Mary Heaton Vorse House following this service.

466 Commercial Street
Provincetown



1. Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, Sing the res - ur -
 2. O what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing All that eye has
 3. Life e - ter - nal! heav'n re - joic - es: Je - sus lives who
 4. Life e - ter - nal! O what won - ders Crowd on faith; what



rec - tion song! Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry,
 yet per - ceived! Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing,
 once was dead; Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es!
 joy un - known, When, a - midst earth's clos - ing thun - ders,



To the for - mer days be - long. All a - round the
 Nev - er that full joy con - ceived. God has prom - ised,
 Child of God, lift up your head! Pa - tri - archs from
 Saints shall stand be - fore the throne! O to en - ter



clouds are break - ing, Soon the storms of time shall cease;
 Christ pre - pares it, There on high our wel - come waits;
 dis - tant a - ges, Saints all long - ing for their heav'n,
 that bright por - tal, See that glow - ing fir - ma - ment,



In God's like - ness, we a - wak - en,
 Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it,
 Proph - ets, psalm - ists, seers, and sag - es,
 Know, with you, O God im - mor - tal,



Know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.
 Christ has passed the e - ter - nal gates.
 All a - wait the glo - ry giv'n.
 Je - sus Christ whom you have sent!