

**A Celebration of Life Service
for
Mark Alan Wilner**



October 14, 1954 – April 12, 2026

May 2, 2026

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 5005, Laytonsville, MD 20882
21611 Laytonsville Rd. Laytonsville, MD 20882
www.saintbartholomews.org

Prelude *Morning Has Broken*, arr. Wilbur Held

All stand

Processional Hymn:

For the beauty of the earth

Please see page 14

Celebrant 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.

The Collect

Celebrant O God of grace and glory, we remember before you
this day our brother Mark. 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.

The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from Lamentations chapter 3 Aden Homard

²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,

his mercies never come to an end;

²³ they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

²⁴ ‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul,

‘therefore I will hope in him.’

²⁵ The Lord is good to those who wait for him,

to the soul that seeks him.

²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly

for the salvation of the Lord.

³¹ For the Lord will not

reject forever.

³² Although he causes grief, he will have compassion

according to the abundance of his steadfast love;

³³ for he does not willingly afflict

or grieve anyone.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

Sterling Homard

Lector and People in unison:

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

The Epistle A reading from 1 John 3:1-2 Trent Homard
See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn:

I Know that My Redeemer Liveth, G.F. Handel

Sung by Jennifer Rutherford

The Holy Gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to **John 14: 1-6**

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

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² 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? ³ 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. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.’
⁵ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ ⁶ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

Rev. Vikki Clayton

Words of Tribute and Thanksgiving

Apostles’ Creed

All stand

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

Celebrant and 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.

The Prayers of the People

For Mark, 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.
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 Mark eternal life.
Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring Mark to the joys of heaven.
Hear us, Lord.

He 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.

Lord, comfort us in our sorrows; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Celebrant Father of all, we pray to you for Mark, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant 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.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

At the Preparation of the Altar: *In the Garden, arr. C.E. Walz*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 him thanks and praise.**

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

Celebrant and People **Hymn S125**
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 stand or kneel.

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;

The Celebrant continues

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 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 forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

The Fraction

The Celebrant breaks the bread.

(A moment of silence)

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #154

This setting is not used in Lent.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover, #154 from The Hymnal 1982, Service Music — Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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.

Communion Hymns:

I come with joy to meet my Lord

I am the bread of life

Hymn 304

Hymn 335

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,

you have graciously accepted us as living members

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,

and you have fed us with spiritual food

in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace,

and grant us strength and courage

to love and serve you

with gladness and singleness of heart;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Commendation

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

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; 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.

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

The Blessing

Celebrant The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

Closing Hymn:

May the choirs of angels come to greet you **Please see page 15**

Postlude

The Call of the Trumpets, Henry Purcell,
arr. Franklin Ritter

Celebrant: The Reverend Vikki Clayton
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Victoria Cross
Organist: Lauren Fisher

A reception after the service will be held downstairs in the church's undercroft.

Mark Alan Wilner

Mark Alan Wilner, age 71, beloved husband, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away suddenly on April 12, 2026. He was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan and was the son of Dr. Norman D. and Lois C. Wilner. They preceded him in death.

He is survived by his loving wife of 24 years, Donna Starkweather; step-son, Douglass Pinckney of New Jersey; sister, Amy Wilner Homard (Mark D. Homard) of Minnesota; three nephews, Trent, Aden and Sterling Homard; and two grand nephews, Tristan Orcutt-Homard and Arthur Homard.

He was a long time resident of the Laytonsville area. Until his retirement he was a Program Analyst for the Department of Agriculture. He graduated from the University of Michigan in Political Science and obtained his master's degree in political economy from the University of Texas at Dallas.

Throughout his life he maintained contact with his "Uruguayan brothers" Jorge, Diego and Eduardo, international students that lived with his family during college. It spurred interest in sharing cultures, language, music, international cuisine and travel. Together they enjoyed canoeing, camping, and an appreciation for nature. Mark was fluent in Spanish and was an exchange student in Uruguay.

Mark produced beautiful award winning photography capturing the colors and grace of the natural world. Indigenous arts and causes held his interest. He was a drummer who always felt the heartbeat of the world around him. Mark undertook hobbies of

environmental benefit for future generations, he became a beekeeper, Master Gardener, and cyclist. Harmony was created by his presence.

Mark was very active in local organizations: St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, The Laytonsville Lions Club, The Laytonsville Garden Club, The Izaak Walton League, and Montgomery County Master Gardeners.

Mark was a true joy to all who knew him. He supported others with disabilities, reflected in his advocacy for the visually and physically disabled through his work at the Department of Agriculture. Mark was genuine and caring, with a positive outlook and sense of humor that cultivated joyful grins and laughter. His concern for others was always evident. He was gracious and brave, encouraging the best in friends and family. His incredible giving spirit was fully shared: Mark chose to be an organ donor. Through his generosity, three lives were saved by receiving his gift of life. Let us rejoice in his spirit!

In memory of Mark A. Wilner, donations can be made in his name to:

The Marfan Foundation (marfan.org/donate)

The Huntington's Disease Society of America (hdsa.org)

The Izaak Walton League of America: Lois Green-Sligo Chapter
8721 Snouffer School Rd, Gaithersburg, Md 20879

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

DIX



1. For the beau - ty of the earth, For the beau - ty
 2. For the beau - ty of each hour Of the day and
3. For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and
 4. For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter,
 5. For the Church, who ev - er - more Lifts her ho - ly
 6. For each per - fect gift di - vine To our world so



1. of the skies, For the love which from our birth
 2. of the night, Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r,
3. mind's de - light, For the mys - tic har - mo - ny
 4. par - ent, child, Friends on earth and friends a - bove;
 5. hands a - bove, Of - f'ring up on ev - ery shore
 6. free - ly giv'n, Joys be - stowed by love's de - sign,



1. O - ver and a - round us lies:
 2. Sun and moon, and stars of light:
3. Link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 4. For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 5. Her pure sac - ri - fice of love:
 6. Flow'rs of earth and fruits of heav'n: } Lord of all, to



- 1-6. you we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Text: 77 77 77; *Lyra Eucharistica*, 1864; Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.
 Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872; adapt. by William H. Monk, 1823-1889.

SONG OF FAREWELL

Ernest Sands

Refrain: 1st time: Cantor, All repeat; thereafter: All



May the choirs of an-gels come to greet you. May they speed you to



par-a-dise. May the Lord en-fold you in his mer-cy. May you find e-

Verses



ter-nal life. 1. The _ Lord is my light and my help; _ it is

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord; _ that he

3. O _ Lord, hear my voice when I cry; _ have _

4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's good-ness; _ I shall



1. he who pro-protects me from harm. _ The _ Lord is the strength

2. grant me my heart-felt de-sire. _ To _ dwell in the courts

3. mer-cy on me and give an-swer. _ Do not cast me a-way

4. dwell in the land of the liv-ing. _ Hope in God, _ stand firm



to Refrain

1. of my days; _ be-fore whom should I trem-ble with fear? _

2. of our God _ ev-'ry day of my life in his pres-ence. _

3. in your an-ger, _ for _ you are the God of my help. _

4. and take heart, _ place all your trust in the Lord. _

Text: Refrain based on *In Paradisum*; verses based on Psalm 27. Text and music © 1990, Ernest Sands.

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