

A SERVICE IN THANKSGIVING
FOR THE LIFE OF
ELAINE L. SWEET

APRIL 14, 1936 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2025



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025
2:30 P.M.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Welcome to Christ Church. Thank you for joining us as we honor Elaine. Hymn numbers are for the Hymnal 1982 in the pew.

Preludes

Brother James' Air

Mark Anderson, soloist

Pie Jesu, Andrew Lloyd Weber

Becca Bly, soloist

Dani Schevchenko, soloist

Please stand as able, in body or spirit.

Opening Anthem

Celebrant I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though they die. And everyone who has life, and has committed themselves 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 ourselves, and none becomes our own master when we die. 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.

The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Elaine, and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Welcome

The Reverend Nick Morris-Kliment

Opening Hymn 362

Holy, Holy, Holy

Found in the blue Hymnal 1982

Remembrances

Sara Elder
Jennifer Sweet
Sandy Emery

Please stand as able, in body or spirit.

Hymn

Great is thy faithfulness

Found in the insert.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading — Ezekiel 37.1-10

Abby Carr

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

At the conclusion of the reading:

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 (KJV)

MaryAnn Ryan

The psalm is read responsively breaking at the asterisk ().*

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.

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 15.50-55

Amy Sweeney

Lector What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Look, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: “Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

At the conclusion of the reading:

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

All Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able, in body or spirit.

Gradual Hymn Just as I am

Found on the insert.

Please remain standing.

The Gospel – Luke 24.36 - 43

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Celebrant While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

At the conclusion of the reading:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

Homily

The Rev. Nick Morris-Kliment

Musical Offering

Ave Verum

Mozart

Please stand as able, in body or spirit.

Apostles’ Creed

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

All 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.

Officiant

We continue with the words that Jesus taught us:

All

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 Prayers of the People

Ed Brailey

Intercessor For our beloved Elaine, 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 Elaine and dry the tears of those who weep.

People Hear us, Lord.

Intercessor You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

People Hear us, Lord.

Intercessor You raised the dead to life; give to your servant eternal life.

People Hear us, Lord.

Intercessor You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring your servant to the joys of heaven.

People Hear us, Lord.

Intercessor Elaine was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with your saints.

People Hear us, Lord.

Intercessor She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

People Hear us, Lord.

Intercessor Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of your servant Elaine; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

A moment of silence is observed.

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

Musical Offering Ave Maria Schubert, arr. Richard Proulx

The Commendation

Officiant Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

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

Officiant 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.

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

Officiant 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.

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

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

Musical Offering There is a Redeemer Keith Green

The Blessing

Celebrant Life is short, and we have too little time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty—the One, Holy, and Undivided Trinity—be upon you, and remain with you now and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 671 Amazing grace

Found in the blue Hymnal 1982.

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the Name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude Toccata on Amazing Grace arr. Pardini

*Elaine will be laid to rest in our Sanctuary Garden immediately after the service.
Please join her family for refreshments and fellowship in the Upper Parish Hall
following the committal.*

*In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Elaine's honor to
Christ Church at ccneedham.org or 1132 Highland Ave. Needham, MA 02494*



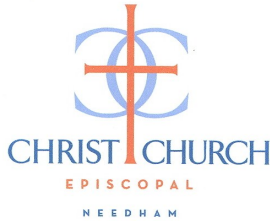
The Reverend Nick Morris-Kliment, *Preacher and Presider*
Mary-Katherine Fletcher, *Minister of Music*
Rich Gatto, *Crucifer*

Remembrances
Sara Elder
Jennifer Sweet
Sandy Emery

Abby Carr, *First Reading*
MaryAnn Ryan, *Psalm*
Amy Sweeney, *Second Reading*
Ed Brailey, *Intercessor*

Choir
Mark Anderson
Becca Bly
Katie Cloutier
Dani Shevchenko

Phil Bergen, *Usher*
Tedi Eaton, *Usher*



Loving God and neighbor, as Jesus teaches

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Nicholas M. Morris-Kliment, Rector

Kaitlin McSweeney, Office Manager

Mary-Katherine Fletcher, Minister of Music Bird Treacy, Children's Programming Coordinator

Woody Hughes, Facilities Manager/Sexton Liz Marson, Assisting Sexton

Maryann Badejo, Bookkeeper

ELECTED OFFICERS

Co-Warden: Tedi Eaton Co-Warden: Vacant

Designated Vestry Person for August, September, and October: Ellie Wainwright

Treasurer: Philip Ladd Assistant Treasurer: Janet Haines

Clerk: MaryAnn Ryan

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Class of '26: Amy Sweeney, Brian Mukherjee, and Mike Niden

Class of '27: Ellie Wainwright, Lindsay Guerriere, and Pat O'Connell

Class of '28: Betsy Amsbary, Andrew Fink, Kim Rocco

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Friday 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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