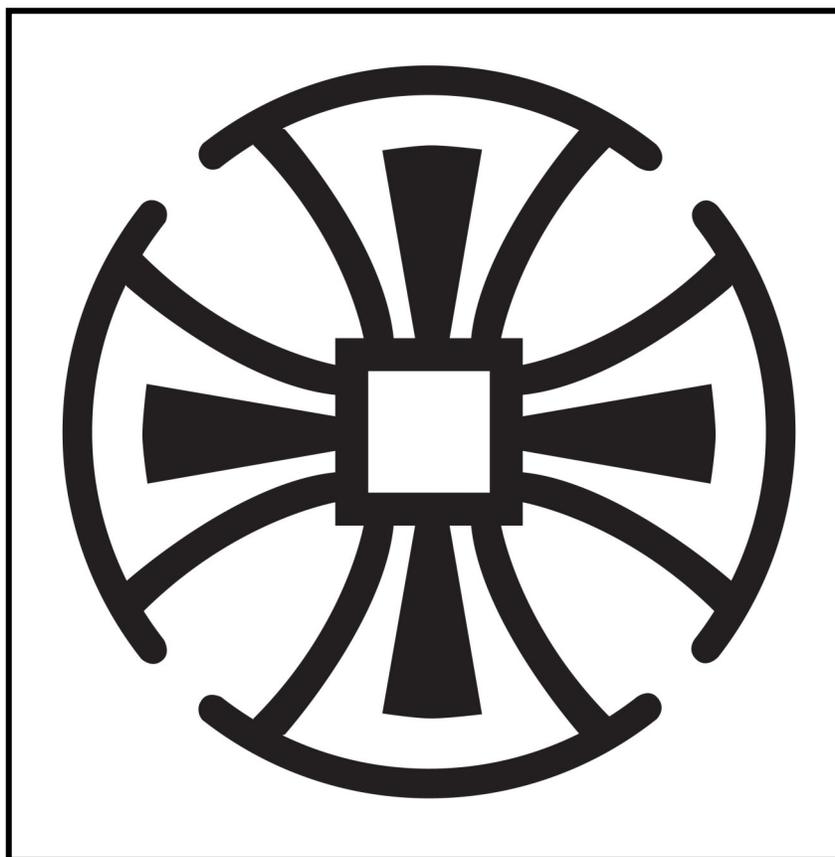


ERIC THROWER

MAY 2, 1934 ~ MARCH 12, 2023



*Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord;
And let light perpetual shine upon him.*

BURIAL OF THE DEAD WITH THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

**St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

Saturday, March 25, 2023

11:00 A.M.

+ OBITUARY +

Eric Thrower born on May 2, 1934 in Wellington, Texas to Hardy and Isabel Thrower. He was the youngest of six children. The family moved from Wellington and eventually settled in Amarillo, Texas where he grew up and graduated from Carver High School in 1952.

Education would take him from Texas to Langston, Oklahoma where he attended Langston University. He was an active member of campus life and in 1956 he pledged the Phi Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and later was active in the Upsilon Iota Chapter. He was a proud member of the fraternity for over 60 years.

Langston University is where he met the love of his life Evelyn and together they shared 67 years of marriage. Together they had three beautiful children; Eric Jr, Edra and Estacia (Diann).

After serving in the Army for two years, Eric began his 40-year career in higher education at his beloved alma mater Langston University where he worked in the Business Office. He would later transition to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Fiscal Affairs Division. There he oversaw the allocation of funds on many of the state's institutions of higher education capital projects. Eric retired from the State Regents as the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Affairs in 1996. Not one to sit still too long, he returned to Langston University to share his expertise on various campus projects. For his outstanding service to the university, he was awarded the Langston University Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1997.

Eric is preceded in death by his parents Hardy and Isabel Thrower, his brothers; Arthur, Otho, and his sisters; Jesse and Rose.

He leaves to cherish his memory: wife; Evelyn, three children; Eric Jr, Edra and Estacia Cooper (Ian). Grandchildren; Egypt, Eric III, Erica, Eden (Taje), Emori (Thomas), Nasya, Ilias and Viana. Great grandchildren: Noah, Devion, Erin, Aiden, Avery and Aria, his brother Hardy (San Diego, CA) and a host of nieces and nephews.

+ THE GATHERING RITE +

Voluntary: “Quiet Place”

Carmichael

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Reception & Sprinkling of the Casket

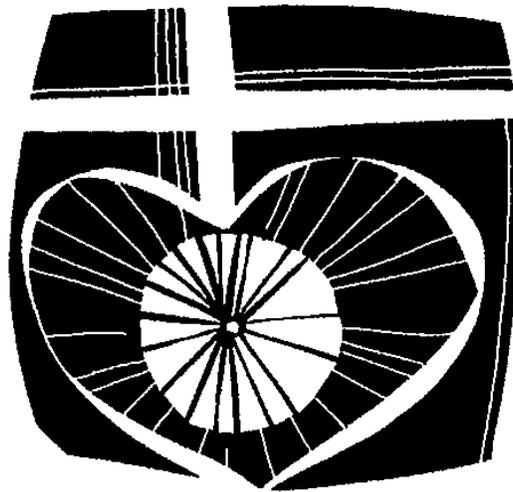
Holy Water is sprinkled on the casket in remembrance of Eric’s baptism.

Presider With faith in Jesus Christ, we receive the body of our brother Eric Thrower for burial. Let us pray with confidence to God, the Giver of life, that he will raise him to perfection in the company of the saints.

Deliver your servant, Eric, O Sovereign Lord Christ, from all evil, and set him free from every bond; that she may rest with all your saints in the eternal habitations; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us also pray for all who mourn, that they may cast their care on God, and know the consolation of his love.

Almighty God, look with pity upon the sorrows of your servants for whom we pray. Remember them, Lord, in mercy; nourish them with patience; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; lift up your countenance upon them; and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Gathering Hymn: "Fairest Lord Jesus"

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru-ler of all na - ture, O thou of
 2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair-er still the wood - lands, robed in the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair-er still the moon - light, and all the

God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,
 bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.

Words: German composite; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt.
 Music: *St. Elizabeth*, melody from *Schleisiche Volkslieder*, 1842; harm. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953)

Collect for Burial

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Eric, and grant him 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.**

+ THE LITURGY OF THE WORD +

Please be seated.

First Reading: Proverbs 3:5-6

Lector A Reading from the Book of Proverbs.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: “His Eye is on the Sparrow”

Civilla Martin

Please stand.

Holy Gospel: John 14:1-6

Preacher The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

“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 to 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. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Preacher The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Homily

The Reverend Joseph C. Alsay

Please stand.

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

Apostles’ Creed

**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

For our brother Eric, 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 Eric, 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 Presider continues

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother Eric, 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 your Father’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. **Amen.**

Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

+ THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARISTIC MEAL+

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. –
Ephesians 5:2

Offertory: “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Chisolm

Please stand.

Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him 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, O Lord, life is change, 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:

Sanctus

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please stand or kneel.

Eucharistic Prayer B

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,

**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 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 has taught us, we are bold to say,

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**
Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Distribution

*All Baptized are invited to receive the Holy Meal at the Lord's Table.
For Communion, come forward as the ushers release you from your seat.
If you wish to receive the bread dipped in wine, please receive a napkin from an usher.
The bread will be dipped in the wine for you by one of the clergy, then placed on the napkin.
After consuming the bread, please place the napkin in one of the wicker receptacles.
If you wish to drink from the cup, please proceed to one of the two chalice bearers to the far ends.
Continue down the outside aisle to return to your seat.
Please note that gluten-free bread is available for those who request it.
Kindly let the usher know if you need the clergy to bring the bread to you.
If you wish to only receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.*

Communion Meditation: "Precious Lord"

Thomas Dorsey

+ THE SENDING RITE +

Please stand.

Post-Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

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.

Commendation

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

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

Presider 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.**

Presider Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Eric. 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 casket is blessed with incense as the following is sung.

Song of Farewell: "Into Paradise May the Angels Lead You"

Rawn Harbor

Benediction

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Words: *Henry Van Dyke*

Music: *Edward Hodges*



Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
field and for - rest, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fath - er, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Dismissal

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

Voluntary: “Near to the Heart of God”

McAfee

The burial will take place at Rose Hill Burial Park, 6001 NW. Grand Blvd.

A reception in honor of Eric Thrower will be held following the burial.

+ THE COMMITTAL +

Committal Anthems

Presider Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead
will also give new life to our mortal bodies
through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Committal

Then, while earth is cast upon the casket, the Presider says these words

Presider In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother Eric, and we commit him body to its resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord make him face to shine upon him and be gracious to him, the Lord lift up him countenance upon him and give him peace. **Amen.**

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

**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.**

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Presider Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord;
People **And let light perpetual shine upon him.**

Presider May his soul, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

Dismissal

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

+ MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY +

Presider: The Reverend Canon Tony Moon

Preacher: The Reverend Joseph C. Alsay

Lector: Christopher Jones

Intercessor: Valerie Lewis

Thurifer/Eucharistic Minister: Ricky Womack

Crucifer/Eucharistic Minister: Art Rousseau

Torch Bearer/Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Covell

Torch Bearer/Eucharistic Minister: Jan Hunter

Organist: Patrick Hays

Soloist: Deidra Davis

Ushers: Bud Johnson, George Lauffer and Paul Lehman

Greeters: Renee Lewis, Janet Mills and Gayle Anne Roberts

Oblation Bearers: Nasya, Ilias and Viana Cooper

Sound: Eric Brinley

Video: Josh Eliot