

Saint Peter's Episcopal Cathedral

Charles Sackett “Chuck” Johnson

June 14, 1948-March 4, 2023



Requiem Mass
Saturday, March 18, 2023
Ten thirty in the Morning



The bell is tolled 74 times, once for each year of Chuck's life.

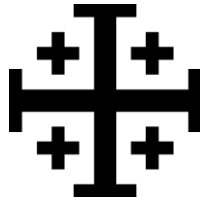
The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that "neither death, nor life, nor angels nor principalities, 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."

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.



Please observe quiet prayer time preceding the service. Please silence all electronic devices.



The Burial of the Dead, Rite I

The Prelude

Please stand, as you are able

The Entrance Anthem

Book of Common Prayer 469

Celebrant I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For if we live, we live unto the Lord. And if we die, we die unto the Lord. Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And with thy spirit.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

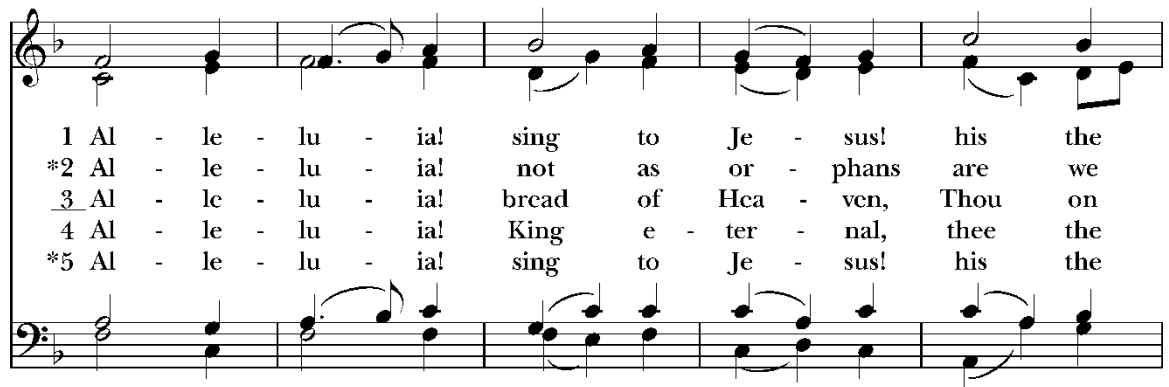
O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Chuck, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and for ever.

People ***Amen.***

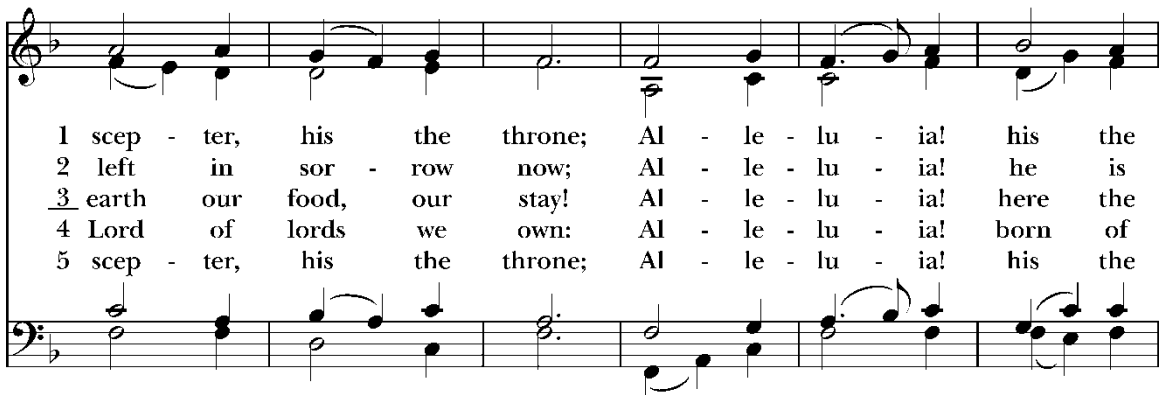
The First Hymn

1982 Hymnal 460

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hca - ven, Thou on
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the



1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the



1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the



1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sca.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

Please be seated.

The Readings from Holy Scripture

From the Old Testament

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die;

A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal;

A time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh;

A time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together

A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to get, and a time to lose;

A time to keep, and a time to cast away;

A time to rend, and a time to sew;

A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
A time to love, and a time to hate;
A time of war, and a time of peace

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

The Psalm

Psalm 121

Levavi oculos

To be read in unison.

- 1 *I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,
from whence cometh my help.*
- 2 *My help cometh from the LORD,
which made heaven and earth.*
- 3 *He will not suffer thy foot to be moved:
he that keepeth thee will not slumber.*
- 4 *Behold, he that keepeth Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.*
- 5 *The LORD is thy keeper:
the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand.*
- 6 *The sun shall not smite thee by day,
nor the moon by night.*
- 7 *The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil:
he shall preserve thy soul.*
- 8 *The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in
from this time forth, and even for evermore.*

From the New Testament

Revelation 21:2-7

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is

athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Reader The Word of the Lord.


People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, as you are able

The Gradual Acclamation


Mass of Creation
Marty Haugen

Cantor




1. Praise the God of all cre - a - tion, God of
2. Tree of life and end-less wis - dom, be our
3. Liv - ing wa - ter, we are thirst - ing for the
4. Come, O Spir - it, kin - dle fire in the

People



mer - cy and com - pas - sion:
root, our growth and glo - ry: Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le -
life that you have prom - ised:
hearts of all your peo - ple:



lu - ia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

The Gospel

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

John 14:1-6

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Glory be to thee, O Christ.**

The Response

Cantor

5. Praise the God of all cre - a - tion, God of

People

mer - cy and com - pas - sion:

lu - ia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The Cantor part begins with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "5. Praise the God of all cre - a - tion, God of". The People part follows with the lyrics: "mer - cy and com - pas - sion:". The final line of the score has the lyrics: "lu - ia! Praise the Word of truth and life!".

Please be seated.

The Remembrances

Chuck Butler

Kathleen McLaughlin

The Homily

The Very Rev. Scott Anderson

Dean and Rector, St. Peter's Cathedral

Please stand, as you are able.

The Apostles' Creed

Book of Common Prayer 66

***I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third
day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and
sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence
he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy
Ghost, 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

Book of Common Prayer 480

Reader In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace.

People ***Amen.***

Reader Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

People ***Amen.***

Reader Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

People ***Amen.***

Reader Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind.

People ***Amen.***

Reader Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love.

People ***Amen.***

Reader Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

People ***Amen.***

Reader Grant us grace to entrust Chuck to thy never-failing love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people.

People ***Amen.***

Reader Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with Chuck and all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People ***Amen.***

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And with thy spirit.***

The Holy Communion: Rite I

The Offertory Anthem

It Is Well With My Soul

music, Philp P. Bliss

words, Horatio G. Spafford

setting, Metro One

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I

Book of Common Prayer 333

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And with thy spirit.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them up unto the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People ***It is meet and right so to do.***

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The Sanctus

Mass of Creation

Marty Haugen

People

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow - er, God of might, heav - en and

earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

Please kneel or stand, as you are able.

The Consecration

Book of Common Power 334

Celebrant All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering

unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,
People ***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy Name, thy kingdom come, they 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

Book of Common Prayer 337

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

The Agnus Dei

Mass of Creation
Marty Haugen



- Cantor
1. Je-sus, Lamb of
 2. Je-sus, Bread of
 3. Je-sus, Prince of



People

God,
Life, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
Peace,



mer-cy on us. Je-sus, Lamb of God; you



People

take a-way the sins of the world: grant us your peace.

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.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

To be said by those not able to take communion today.

In union, O Lord, with thy faithful people at every altar of thy Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to thee praise and thanksgiving. I remember thy death, Lord Christ; I proclaim thy resurrection; I await thy coming in glory. Since I cannot receive thee today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with thy grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from thee. May I live in thee, and thou in me, in this life and in the life to come.

People **Amen.**

The Communion

All members of God's family, through Baptism, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you are not baptized or your community does not allow you to receive Holy Communion at St. Peter's Cathedral, you are welcome to come to the Altar to receive a blessing from the priest by crossing your arms over your chest.

The Communion Anthem

One Bread, One Body

words and music, John B. Foley, S.J.
setting, Mark Hayes

The Music at Communion

Prelude to Cello Suite No. 2 in D minor
Johann Sebastian Bach

The Communion Hymn

I am the bread of life

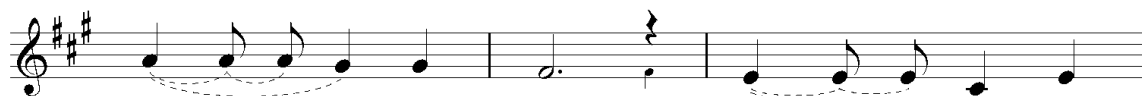
1982 Hymnal 335



1 I am the bread of life; they who
2 (The) Bread that I will give is my
3 (Un-) less you eat of the
4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion,
5 (Yes,) Lord, we be - lieve that



1 come to me shall not hun - ger; they who be -
2 Flesh for the life of the world, and they who
3 Flesh of the Son of Man and
4 I am the life. They who be -
5 you are the Christ, the



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
2 eat of this bread, they shall live for
3 drink of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
4 lieve in me, e - ven if they
5 Son of God who has



1 me un - less the Fa - ther draw them.
2 ev - er. they shall live for ev - er.
3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
4 die, they shall live for ev - er.
5 come in - to the world.

Refrain

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

up, and I will raise them up on the

last day. _____

2 The
3 Un- day.
4 —
5 Yes,
(♯)

The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

Words: Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); adapt. of John 6, Copyright ©1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Music: *I Am the Bread of Life*, Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928) Copyright ©1970, 1975, Celebration. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer 482

Celebrant

Almighty God, we thank thee that in thy great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast given unto us a foretaste of thy heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be unto 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 thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

People

Amen.

The Commendation

Book of Common Prayer 482

Kontakion (Kievan chant)

Cantor Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting. Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant, Chuck. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

People **Amen.**

The Blessing

Please stand, as you are able.

The Closing Hymn

1982 Hymnal 287

For all the saints, who from their labors rest



1 For all the saints, who from their la - bors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might:___
3 O may thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,___
4 O blest com - mun - ion, fel - low - ship di - vine!___



thee___ by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
thou, Lord, their Cap - tain in the well - fought fight;___
fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old, and
We feeb - ly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet



Name, O___ Je - sus, be for ev - er blessed.
thou, in the dark - ness drear, the one true Light.
win, with___ them, the vic - tor's crown of gold.
all are___ one in thee, for all are thine.

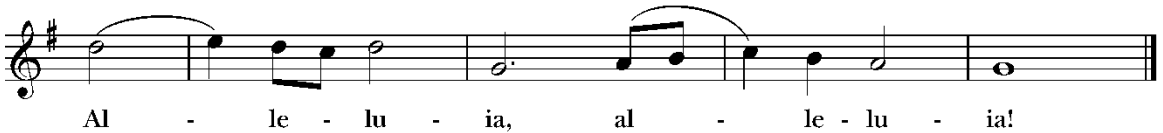


5. *And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

6. *The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

7. *But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

8. *From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,*



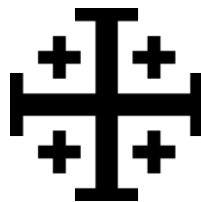
Words: William Walsham How (1823-1897). Music: *Sine Nomine*, Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958).

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

The Postlude



Please join the family for a reception celebrating Chuck's life at 3:00 pm.

*Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel
835 Great Northern Boulevard, Helena*

Celebrant

The Very Rev. Scott Anderson
Dean and Rector, St. Peter's Cathedral

Concelebrant

The Very Rev. Raymond Brown, retired

Deacons

The Rev. Dcn. Rick Johnson, retired
The Rev. Dcn. John Moran

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Hope Stockwell

Musicians

Charles Elliott
Director of Music and Organist, St. Peter's Cathedral
Gretchen Munding, *organ*
Patty Dean, *soprano*
Wilbur Rehmann, *saxophone*
Lenny Triem, *cello*

Pallbearers

Peter Johnson
Sally Johnson
Tom Johnson

Remembrances

Chuck Butler
Kathleen McLaughlin

Lay Readers

Jacob Johnson, *Old Testament*
Alli Schneider, *Psalm*
Luke Johnson, *New Testament*

Bell Ringers

Vivienne Hunt
Curt Johnson
Rosie Ramer

Thank you to First Christian Church for providing the use of their sanctuary.



Charles Sackett Johnson, who died unexpectedly at his home on March 4, was widely admired as the most knowledgeable and longest-tenured reporter in the state of Montana. He practiced his craft during journalism's golden age, starting not long after the Anaconda Co. unlocked the copper collar that had hobbled the Montana press, and retiring when corporate newspaper owners began to turn away from their commitment to vigorous reporting.

Chuck was born June 14, 1948, in Great Falls to Franklin Quentin "Q" Johnson and Ruth Ann "Rudy" Sackett Johnson. The family soon moved to Helena, where Chuck spent most of his life, graduating from Helena High School and winning a scholarship to the University of Montana. His love for newspapers was honed at the School of Journalism by professors who he said handed back student stories with so many red marks that he said it looked as if the Crimean War had been fought over them. But it gave him a love for language, a sense of fairness, a passion for thoroughness and a respect for history and politics. He was at his core a shy man, but journalism made him make the tough phone calls, talk to the reluctant sources, find the stories behind the stories and write copy as his old professor used to demand: terse, tight and telegraphic. At UM he was sports editor of the Montana Kaimin and later the managing editor. His interest in sports led to his first memorabilia collection, the programs for every high school basketball championship played in Montana. He grew up loving the New York Yankees, a team favored by his father. A Helena neighbor found herself on the same train as the Yankees and got several players, including Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris and Whitey Ford, to sign a yellow legal pad to their "friend Chuck Johnson." But once the Yankees fired manager Yogi Berra Chuck switched his allegiance to the team his mother favored, the Chicago Cubs. Chuck's last trip just weeks ago was to Arizona to see the Cubs in spring training. His collection of political buttons, some dating back more than 100 years, was so extensive that the Montana Historical Society asked for the collection.

Chuck was messy, but only on the outside. He could fairly quickly lay his hands on any one of thousands—maybe hundreds of thousands—of pieces of paper, magazine articles or excerpts from books. He was a voracious reader and would frequently send books to friends if he thought they'd enjoy them. He made frequent calls to friends, stretching back to grade school and quietly helped many.

Chuck began his journalism career in college, covering summer sports for The Helena Independent Record and later worked part-time at The Missoulian. While in school he won a Sears Congressional Internship, and Chuck was grateful to be placed in the office of Idaho Sen. Frank Church. While in history graduate school he began to work for the Associated Press, initially as a summer fill-in, but his work was so impressive he was hired to cover the Constitutional Convention in 1972. In the fall of that year he began a two-year stint at The Missoulian and in 1974 joined the Lee State Bureau. After Lee junked the bureau in 1977 he was recruited by Great Falls Tribune Capitol Bureau chief Tom Kotynski to work for the Trib at a time when the Tribune circulated in every corner of the state. When the Tribune shook up the Capitol Bureau, Lee Enterprises lured Chuck back as bureau chief, a job he held until Lee disbanded its bureau in 2015. Chuck retired, but missed the work so he covered one last legislative session in 2017 for the Bozeman Chronicle. During his years at the capitol he mentored countless reporters, helping make their work better because better journalism, he thought, made for a better Montana.

While Chuck loved journalism, it was family that sustained him. He loved his brothers Tom and Peter and sister Sally and cherished their children, telling them the same jokes from the time they could talk until the weeks before he died. He'd teach them things that he knew would annoy their parents. He never tired of the Three Stooges and would often text the family clips he knew would make them laugh. One of his greatest delights was making his wife, Pat Hunt, laugh at the most inappropriate times. He and Pat were married on July 7, 2000, and she said she picked that date—07-07—so he could easily remember it, though she was the first to forget. Pat saved his life and kept him, mostly, from spending all his time among his books and papers. Chuck wanted to live to read the final Robert Caro book about Lyndon Johnson, a goal he inherited from a friend who also didn't realize that goal.

Though he shunned the spotlight, he was surprised and pleased when the University of Montana named him a Distinguished Alumnus, and again when Montana State University awarded him an honorary doctorate in May 2022, recognizing not just his storied journalism career but his full life of service. In addition to his undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Montana, he studied for a year at Oxford University under a Rotary fellowship. He was able to travel extensively in Europe and said his visit to World War II concentration camps helped broaden his perspective on humanity. In retirement he rarely turned down offers from people in every corner of the state to speak about journalism, politics, the legislature, and the Constitutional

Convention and he served as president of the board for the Montana Free Press, and was on the boards of the Montana Historical Society and the UM Alumni Association. For several years he, Mike Dennison and Rob Saldin participated in Capitol Talk, a weekly program for Montana Public Radio hosted by Sally Mauk.

Chuck loved and actively participated at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in many roles, including making blueberry pancake breakfasts and serving as the unofficial timer of sermons. Above all else, he was unfailingly kind.

Chuck quietly contributed money to people and organizations he thought would put it to use to help those who couldn't always help themselves. His gifts were often anonymous, as he hated the spotlight, though some organizations persuaded him that his name attached would encourage other potential donors to contribute. In that spirit, Pat asks that contributions in his name be made to the Charles Johnson Student Reporting Endowment at the University of Montana School of Journalism, via the UM Foundation, P.O. Box 7159, Missoula, MT 59807, or the elevator fund at St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral, P.O. Box 819, Helena, MT 59624, or the Montana Free Press, P.O. Box 1425, Helena, MT 59624.

In addition to Pat Hunt, he is survived by his brothers, Tom (Kerry), and Peter (Carol Potera), his sister, Sally (Ross Miller) and nieces and nephews, Allison, Curtis, Luke, Jacob and Florence, Arlo, Jane, Hannah, Isabelle, Vivienne, and great-niece Abigail.





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