## A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

# **GEORGE EDGAR KENT**

## CHRIST CHURCH ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER 1956 – 2025 DECEMBER 15, 1936 – JUNE 17, 2025



FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025 3:00 PM Christ Church Westerly, Rhode Island

#### PRELUDE

#### **BURIAL SENTENCES**

Please stand.

William Croft

#### **HYMN 625**

Darwall's 148th



#### **OPENING COLLECT**

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit. Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant George, 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, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

Please be seated.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Job answered, "Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! Why do you, like God, pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh? O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### PSALM 121

#### Levavi oculos

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills; from whence cometh my help? My help cometh even from the LORD, who hath made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved, and he that keepeth thee will not sleep. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD himself is thy keeper; the LORD is thy defense upon thy right hand; So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in, from this time forth for evermore.

2

H. Walford Davies

Job 19:21-27

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### PSALM 23

John Goss

The LORD is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture, and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul, and bring me forth 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 comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me, against them that trouble me; Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

#### A READING

#### *Master of Music* Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933)

Glory of architect, glory of painter, and sculptor, and bard, Living forever in temple and picture and statue and song, — Look how the world with the lights that they lit is illumined and starred, Brief was the flame of their life, but the lamps of their art burn long!

Where is the Master of Music, and how has he vanished away? Where is the work that he wrought with his wonderful art in the air? Gone, — it is gone like the glow on the cloud at the close of the day! The Master has finished his work, and the glory of music is — where? Once, at the wave of his wand, all the billows of musical sound Followed his will, as the sea was ruled by the prophet of old: Now that his hand is relaxed, and his rod has dropped to the ground, Silent and dark are the shores where the marvellous harmonies rolled!

Nay, but not silent the hearts that were filled by that life-giving sea; Deeper and purer forever the tides of their being will roll, Grateful and joyful, O Master, because they have listened to thee, — The glory of music endures in the depths of the human soul.

#### THE GOSPEL

John 14: 1-6

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 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. 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."

## The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**



## HOMILY

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

The People respond to each petition with "Amen."

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 Jesus Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. **Amen.** 

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. **Amen.** 

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. **Amen**.

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

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. **Amen.** 

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. **Amen** 

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. **Amen.** 

Grant us grace to entrust George 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. **Amen.** 

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. **Amen.** 

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 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. **Amen.** 

## THE PEACE

All stand.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And with thy spirit.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

## **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

Lord, Let Me Know Mine End

Maurice Greene

Lord, let me know mine end and the number of my days: That I may be certified how long I have to live. Behold, thou hast made my days as it were a span long; and mine age is even as nothing in respect of thee; And verily ev'ry man living is altogether vanity. For man walketh in a vain shadow, and disquieteth himself in vain; he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them. And now, Lord, what is my hope? Truly my hope is ev'n in thee. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with thine ears, consider my calling. Hold not thy peace at my tears. O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength before I go hence, and be no more seen.

## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I**

## Please stand.

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.** Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. **It is meet and right so to do.** 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,

## Sanctus et Benedictus qui venit

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

## Kneel or Stand.

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."

Darke in E

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 Christ, and through death of thy Son Jesus 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. *AMEN* And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.** 

#### Agnus Dei

Darke in E

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen*.

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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.

All baptized persons are invited to receive the Sacrament. Gluten-free wafers are available; please tell the clergy at the altar rail. If you do not wish to receive either the bread or wine, we invite you to come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would like to be blessed.

\*Communion will also be served at Central Baptist Church and in the tent in Wilcox Park.

## **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**

#### Like As The Hart Desireth the Water-Brooks

**Herbert Howells** 

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God. My soul is a thirst for God, yea, even for the living God. When shall I come to appear before the presence of God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me, "Where, where is now thy God?"

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray,

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. **Amen.** 

#### THE COMMENDATION

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.

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

Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant *George*. 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. **Amen.** 

**HYMN 287** Next Page Sine Nomine





#### THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

#### THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Voluntary in D

John Stanley

Worshippers are encouraged to remain seated with the Kent family during the postlude. The family invites everyone across the street to Wilcox Park for refreshment and fellowship following the service.

Memorial donations may be made by check or through the Christ Church Website in Mr. Kent's honor to:

The Choral Director/Organist Fund in Honor of George E. Kent

Christ Church Arts Commission

Ogontz Arts Foundation for Children's Scholarships

### Participants in the Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving

*For the Life of* 

## George Edgar Kent

**Principal Celebrant** 

The Rt. Reverend Nicholas Knisely SOSc Bishop Diocesan, Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island

**Co-Celebrant** 

The Reverend Dr. Kevin Goodrich OP Rector, Christ Church, Westerly

Preacher

The Rt. Reverend Lawrence Provenzano Bishop Diocesan of Long Island, New York

#### Lector and Minister of Communion

The Reverend Dr. Alfred T.K. Zadig Assistant to the Rector, Christ Church, Westerly

Gospeler

The Reverend Deacon Christine Burton Retired Deacon of the Diocese of Rhode Island

#### **Assisting Clergy**

The Reverend Canon Sunil Chandy Canon, Diocese of The Great Lakes: Past Rector, Christ Church, Westerly The Reverend Bettine E. Besier Rector, St. Thomas, Alton

Vergers

Caswell Cooke Valerie Knowles

#### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Lido Mochetti George Parent

Toni Scott

#### **Guest Organist & Choirmaster**

David Hill, MBE

#### **Trumpeters**

Jenny Collins **Rich Given** 

#### **Bells**

Lido Mochetti Nicholas Quaratella

#### Readers

**Michael Freitas** Old Testament

Sandy Niles Poem

#### Front & Back Cover Art

Luisa Montoya Granddaughter 14

