

# A HIGH MASS CELEBRATING THE LIFE

OF ERMAN LOUIE CLAY
DECEMBER 9, 1936—NOVEMBER 27, 2019

FEBRUARY 20, 2020 AT 10:00AM

# **MOUTHS**

I sing of mouths.....

Big ones, dried in the Sahara, sucking teeth at a camel.

Little ones, pursed against the trumpet blasting Jericho.

Round lifesaver ones on whistlers at the beach or on murderers on their nights off as they stalk just alley cats.

Mouths. Passages huge, red, veined, dripping in slick globules through tunneled ruts of strawberry, watermelon skin, bouncing brilliance off a Socratic tongue with a snake's fierce flicker.

Cleopatra's saying 'yes," then "no," then "yes" again.

Nero's dripping vomit or sperm. Jesus's burping wine at Cana or smiling knowingly at the women in his life,

and at the men.

Tiny prayer makers. Eating machines. Chewers of lies and of truths. Storerooms of enamel and a colorless tasteless liquid.

Suppose you didn't have one for just one hour out of each day, an hour unannounced, struck wherever you happened to be, not speechless, but mouthless, at the butcher's, or hunting spiders, or at heaven's gate banging on the tiny brass knocker, anywhere, mouthless.

No twitch at the corner that isn't there. No sigh; at best a snort.

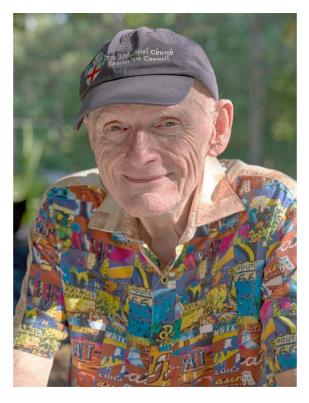
It'd be nice for some people, just at the point of the lie we'd rather not hear, just at the point of the truth we'd prefer not think.

But mouthless we're not.

A mouth open in tropical heat.

A mouth oozing, drooling ice cream.

A mouth juicy with desire, freshly red with magic below a 60-watt bulb in a tiny broken mirror where a girl sets her expression as she would rather be but feels only part of the time.



Mouths biting peanuts. Mouths biting people. Fierce bites. Playful nibbles. Barkers. Suckers. Bubblers. Coughers.

Breath passage. Room of stereophonic slush interrupted in peasant dialects of the eighth century in England, asking for mead.

Suction tubes for children's cries muffled by airconditioning.

Fathers' salesman-like mouths. Mouths that say all. That say nothing.

Frowners.

Sing, tell, bring forth, speak, shout it, break forth, "It's good enough for me!"

Spink. Splat. Take that. Mouth it, mumble moundingly. Marvel mit mein mind.

~ Louie Crew

#### A HIGH MASS

# CELEBRATING THE LIFE

## OF ERMAN LOUIE CLAY

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## INTRODUCTORY PROGRAM

## Organ Prelude

Special Music—If Ever I Would Leave You

Mr. Tyrone Whiting, Piano & Ema Mitrovic, Vocals

F. Lowe & A. Learner Arr. Aretha Franklin

Welcome J. Brent Bates, Rector

#### Remembrances

Alex Elaine Eugenie Chan Marge Lindstrom

# Hymn—Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho Traditional

Chorus x 2

Joshua fit de battle of Jericho,

Jericho, Jericho;

Joshua fit de battle of Jericho,

An' de walls come tumblin' down.

You may talk about the man of Gideon, You may talk about the man of Saul;

Dere's none like good ole Joshua,

An' de battle of Jericho.

Chorus x2

Up to the walls of Jericho,

He marched with spear in hand;

"Go blow dem ram horns," Joshua cried,

"for the battle am in my hand."

Chorus x2

## THE MASS

Please stand as able at the ringing of the bells.

# Introit—Requiem aeternam

Mode 6

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. Ps. You, O God, are praised in Zion, and unto you shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem. Our sins are stronger than we are: but you will blot them out.

**Kyrie**—Communion Service in E (Collegium Regale)

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

Kyrie..., Christe..., Kyrie... Eleison.

Lord..., Christ..., Lord... have mercy on us.

#### Collect

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Bishop Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Louie, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory: who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## First Reading—Isaiah 25:6-9

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

# Magnificat

Setting by Bruce Ford (b. 1947)

Refrain—Choir, then all repeat



The Al might -y has done great things for me, and ho - ly is his Name.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

All repeat the refrain

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

All repeat the refrain

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

All repeat the refrain

## Second Reading—1 Corinthians 13

Reader A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

## Hymn 646

The king of love my shepherd is

Alleluia Mode 1



V. Jesus Christ is the firstborn from the dead: to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.

All repeat Alleluia

# Holy Gospel—John 4:5-26, 39-42

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

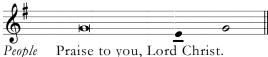


People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of

me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Iews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.



Homily Kim Byham, Esq.

# The Apostles Creed

Bishop In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our

faith and say,

Bishop I believe in God, the Father almighty,

& People 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

The People respond to each petition with:



A- men.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech you, to your whole Church in paradise and on earth, your light and your 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 your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. *Amen*.

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

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on you, they may know the consolation of your 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 Louie to your never-failing love; receive him into the arms of your mercy, and remember him according to the favor which you bestow to your people. *Amen*.

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

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory, and, with the everblessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, to receive the crown of life which you promise to all who share in the victory of your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

#### The Peace

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The collection taken will be given to the Louie Crew Clay Scholarship fund of The Oasis. In recognition of Dr. Louie Crew Clay's many years of prophetic witness this fund supports scholarly work that shares the mission "to challenge the church to be a prophetic witness."

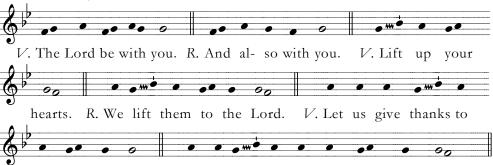
# Offertory Antiphon—De profundis

Mode 2

Out of the depths have I called to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice.

Hymn 208 The strife is o'er

# Eucharistic Prayer A



the Lord our God. R. 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 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus & Benedictus—Communion Service in E (Collegium Regale) Harold Darke Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory, Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Amen. Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Amen.

The people remain standing. The celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

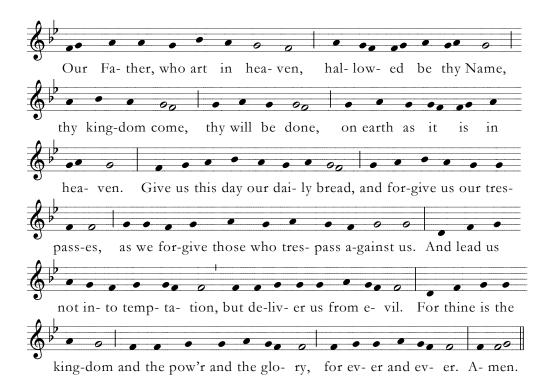


# Lord's Prayer

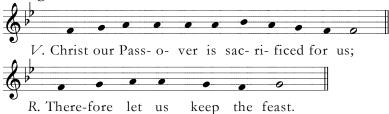
The Celebrant begins



And now as our Sa-vior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, All continue



## Breaking of the Bread



# **Agnus Dei**—Communion Service in E (Collegium Regale)

Harold Darke

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the miserere nobis.....dona nobis pacem. world, have mercy upon us....grant us peace.

### Distribution of the Blessed Sacrament

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The custom for receiving the Blessed Sacrament at Grace Church in Newark is either to receive the bread in one's hands, consume it, and then drink from the chalice, or to receive the bread into one's hands and allow the Eucharistic Minister to intinct the bread in the wine and place it in one's mouth. The ministers will bring the Blessed Sacrament to anyone who notifies an usher.

# Communion Antiphon—Lux aeterna

Mode 8

May light eternal shine upon them, O Lord: with your Saints for evermore, for you are gracious. I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

## Communion Motet—Thou Knowest, Lord

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; Shut not thy merciful ears unto our pray'rs; But spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty. O holy and most merciful Savior, Thou most worthy Judge eternal, Suffer us not at our last hour, For any pains of death to fall away from Thee.

## Communion Hymns

Hymn 693 Hymn 335 Just as I am, without one plea I am the bread of life

# Postcommunion Prayer

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that our supplications may be acceptable in your sight, that the souls of your servants, being delivered from all their sins, may be made partakers of your heavenly redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

#### The Commendation

Choir

Into paradise may the angels lead you. At your coming may the martyrs receive you and bring you into the holy city Jerusalem.

Bishop

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

## Dismissal

V. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.



R. Thanks be to God.

Hymn 599

Lift every voice and sing

Postlude—Toccata from Symphony No. 5

Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937)

You are invited to a repast provided by The Oasis. Exit the doors through the north porch, and making two lefts, follow the hallway to the staircase. The Parish Hall is upstairs to the left. Restrooms are upstairs to the right.

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The Rev. Deacon Raul E. Ausa

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