# The Requiem Eucharist in Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Chellis (Chuck) O'Neal Gregory III

January 8, 1976 - February 22, 2025



Sunday, March 30, 2025 1:30 PM

Rector
The Reverend Michele H. Morgan
Director of Music
Jeff Kempskie

#### PRELUDE MUSIC

# As the procession enters the Nave, all, as able, please stand.

## **POEM** Let Us Be Honest With Death

A. Powell Davies

Let us be honest with death.

Let us not pretend that it is less than it is.

It is separation. It is sorrow. It is grief.

But let us neither pretend that death is more than it is.

It is not annihilation.

As long as memory endures, his influence will be felt.

It is not an end to love -

Humanity's need for love from each of us is boundless.

It is not an end to joy and laughter -

Nothing would less honor one so vibrant

Than to make our lives drab in counterfeit respect;

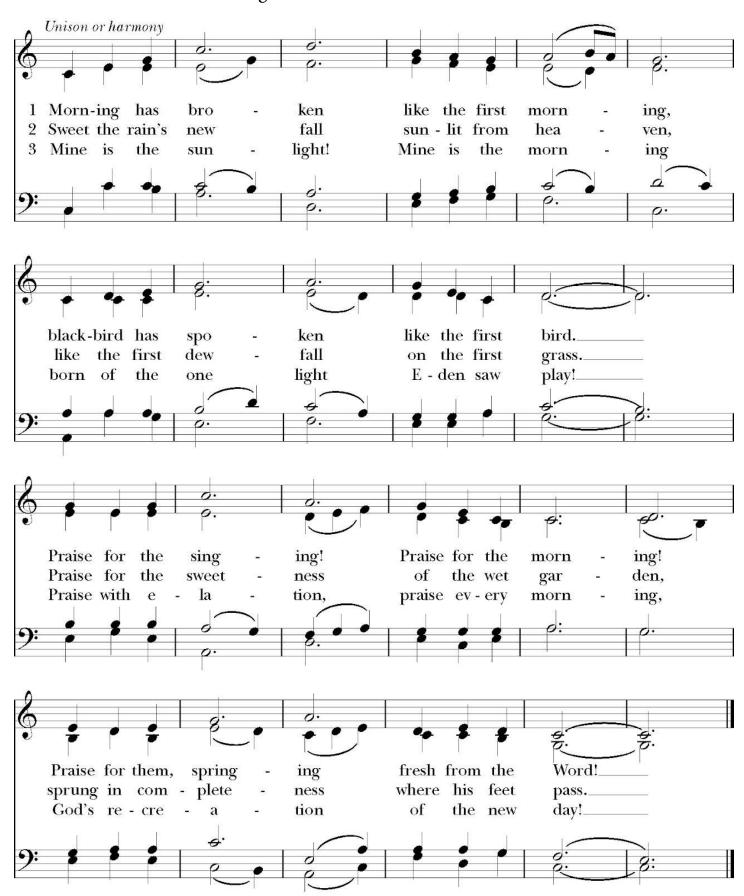
Let us be honest with death, for in that honesty

We will understand him better

And ourselves more deeply.

# **OPENING HYMN** 8 Morning has broken

#### Bunessan



## THE COLLECT

God be with you. **And also with you**.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember this day our brother Chuck. We thank you for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth. Amen.

The people sit.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans?

Lyrics by Eddie De Lange and Cathrine Legardh

Do you know what it means to miss New Orleans

And miss it each night and day

I know I'm not wrong this feeling's gettin' stronger

The longer, I stay away

Miss them moss covered vines the tall sugar pines

Where mockin' birds used to sing

And I'd like to see that lazy Mississippi hurryin' into spring

The moonlight on the bayou a creole tune that fills the air

I dream about magnolias in bloom and I'm wishin' I was there

Do you know what it means to miss New Orleans

When that's where you left your heart

And there's one thing more I miss the one I care for

More than I miss New Orleans

The moonlight on the bayou a creole tune that fills the air

I dream about magnolias in bloom and I'm wishin' I was there

## THE SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

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; it keeps no record of wrongs; 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

All, as able, please stand.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 25: 35-40

The Gospel of Jesus according to Matthew Glory to you, Lord Christ.

I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

The Gospel of Jesus.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people sit.

## REFLECTIONS BY FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Neal Gregory Janice Gregory Mike Cross Benjamin Pratt

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

## The people stand.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

At the rising sun and at its going down;

We remember him.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter; We remember him.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring; We remember him.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer; We remember him.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of the autumn; We remember him.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends; We remember him.

As long as we live, he too will live,

For Chuck is now a part of us, as we remember him.

When we are weary and in need of strength;

We remember him.

When we are lost and sick at heart;

We remember him.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make;

We remember him.

When we have joy we crave to share;

We remember him.

When we have achievements that are based on his;

We remember him.

For as long as we live, he too will live

For Chuck is now a part of us, as we remember him.

## THE PEACE

The peace of God be with you.

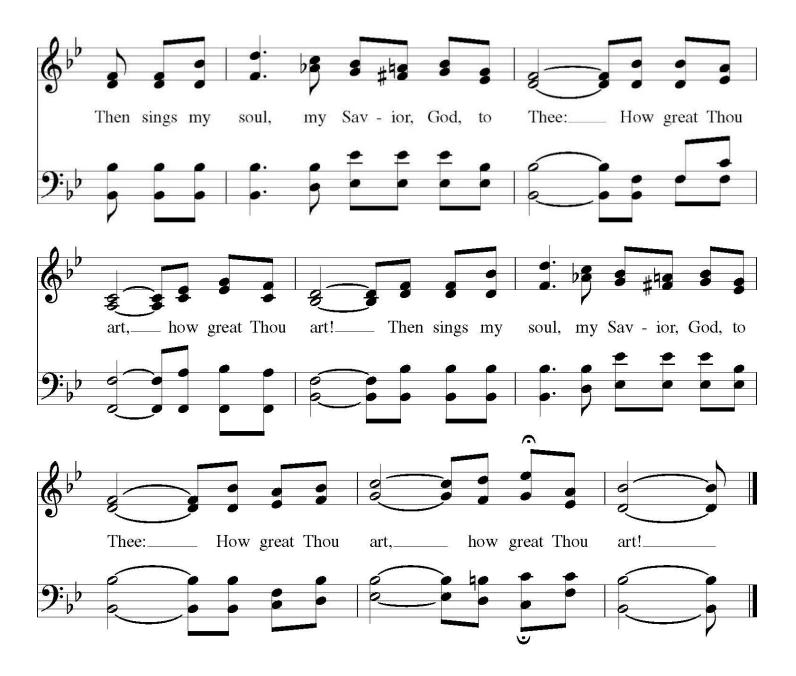
And also with you.

## **GREETING**

## THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

## The people stand.





## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God

Let us give thanks

It is right to give God 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 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:

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.

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 Source 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 all 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.

Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as Jesus taught us, we 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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

#### THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We recognize this as God's table and this bread and wine as God's food for all. Therefore, whoever we are, from wherever we have come, and whatever we believe or do not believe, All are welcome and invited to receive. Amen!

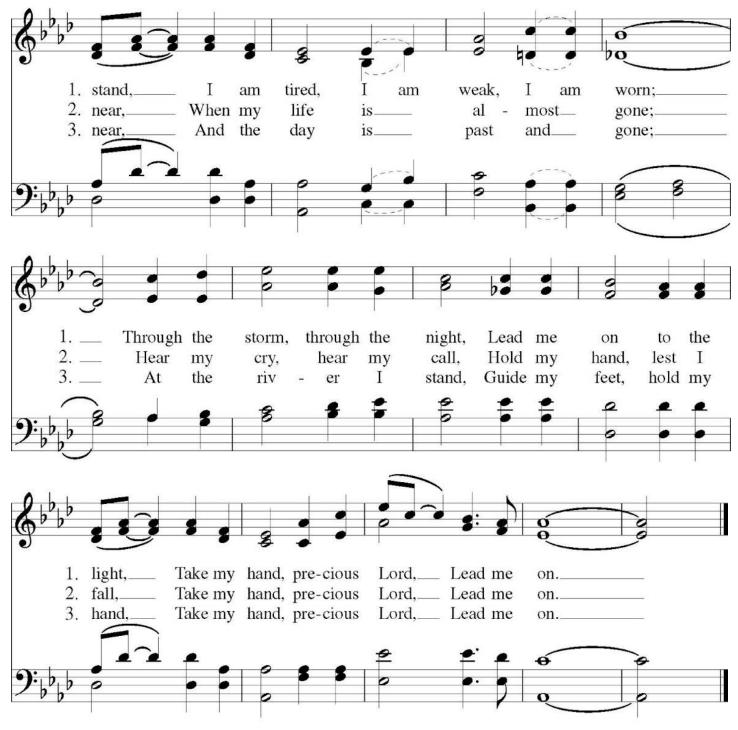
#### THE COMMUNION

St. Mark's receives communion "in the round" as a symbol of our strong belief in the power of community.

You will be offered bread by a celebrant, and invited to drink from the common cup. Please refrain from intincting (dipping) the host (the bread) into the wine.

## **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**





The people stand.

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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.

# CLOSING HYMN 287 For all the saints, from who their labors rest

## Sine Nomine



## THE BLESSING

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever.

Amen.

## THE DISMISSAL

Go into the world and know how much a tired and hurting world needs your strength and gladness, for there are deeds of compassion and courage that will never be done unless you do them; and words of hope and healing that will never be spoken unless you speak them. And now let us go forth into the world in peace, to love and peace.

Amen.

**POSTLUDE** Oh When the Saints Go Marching In

Traditional

## XXX

# Liturgical Leaders & Worship Participants

Presider & Homilist The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Organist Jeff Kempskie Soloist Lou Bayard

Readers Neal Gregory, first reading

, second reading

Jenny Cross, Kate Stark, Prayers of the People

Acolyte Josie Jordan
Verger Josie Jordan

Altar Guild Gretchen Willson

Greeters Susan Sedgewick, Jackie Boddie, Bill Jordan

Flowers Penny Farley

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# Chuck Gregory (1976-2025)

Chuck Gregory, a native Washingtonian, died in San Francisco on February 22 after a long struggle with cancer. He was 49. The son of Janice and Neal Gregory, Chuck was born at Georgetown University Hospital on January 8, 1976, and grew up on Capitol Hill. His formal name was Chellis O'Neal Gregory III, but he was always known as Chuck.

In his youth, Chuck was an acolyte at St. Mark's, a member of the Boy Scouts, and a star soccer player for his Soccer on the Hill championship team. He attended Peabody and John Eaton Public Schools, St. Anselm's Abbey School, and graduated from Edmond Burke High School in 1994.

Chuck attended college in New Orleans and received a degree in communications and film from Tulane University, where he was a member of the SAE fraternity. He fell in love with the spirit and music of New Orleans, and that love stayed with him wherever he lived. He loved to celebrate Mardi Gras every year and cook shrimp and grits and gumbo.

After graduating from Tulane, Chuck returned to DC and worked for ABC news. In 2004, he moved to Vancouver, BC, where he joined the staff of the Vancouver International Film Festival. Chuck went on to earn a master's degree in international relations at the University of British Columbia. It was in Vancouver that he met the great love of his life, Akiko, and celebrated the birth of their daughter, Sara. In 2016, he moved to San Francisco with his family to work for the philanthropic department at Sutter Health, and be closer to his two sisters. He loved the natural beauty surrounding the city and enjoyed running in his neighborhood near the ocean and Golden Gate Park.

Chuck was a truly great person, kind through and through. His dry wit and perpetual smile brought joy and laughter wherever he was. Friends, family, and acquaintances delighted in his storytelling talents. He had an uncanny ability to adopt the accents and mannerisms of a wide variety of dialects and cultures from around the country and world, as he related his tales with comic accuracy.

In addition to his parents, Chuck will be greatly missed by his wife Akiko Kano and their 11 year old daughter Sara Gregory; sisters, Jenny Cross (Mike) and Kate Stark (Greg); nephew, Alex Cross and niece, Olive Stark; beloved childhood caregiver, Maria Lopez (Lupe); uncle, Richard Maxwell, and aunt, Jean Gregory; along with countless friends across the country and globe.