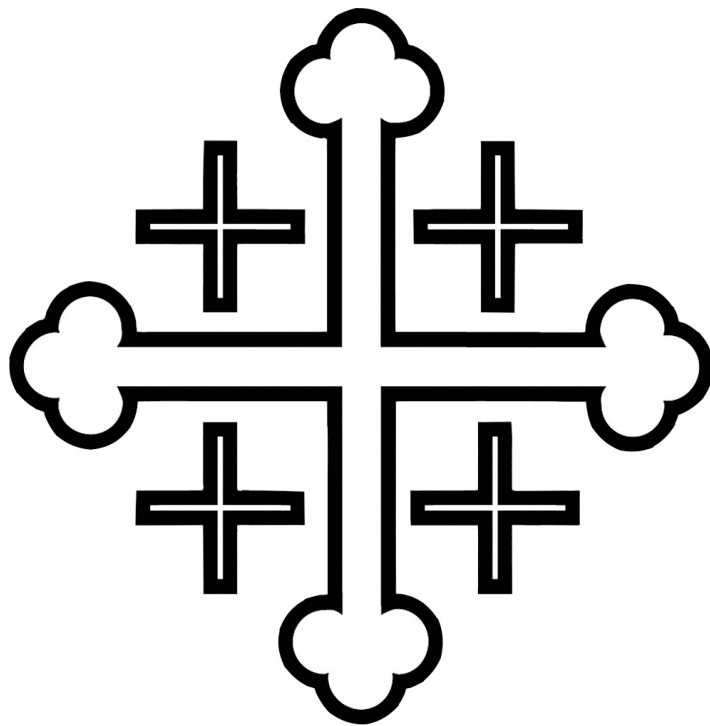


HONORING
Matthew Wayne Shepard

DECEMBER 1, 1976–OCTOBER 12, 1998



December 1, 2022

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL



Matthew Wayne Shepard

Beloved son, brother, and friend, he continues to make a difference.
Peace be with him and all who remember his life.



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Matthew Wayne Shepard

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The people's responses are in bold.

WELCOME

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. (*Hebrews 12:1, 2*)

The righteous will be remembered for ever: the memory of the righteous is a blessing. (*Psalm 112:6; Proverbs 10:7*)

THE COLLECT FOR MORNING

Holy and everliving God,
by your power we are created
and by your love we are redeemed;
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves to your service,
and live each day in love to one another and to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PSALM 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?
the Lord the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?
When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.
Though an army should encamp against me,
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
And though war should rise up against me,
yet will I put my trust in him.
One thing have I asked of the Lord;
one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;
To behold the fair beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.
Even now he lifts up my head
above my enemies round about me.
Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the Lord
Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.
You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
Your face, Lord, will I seek.
Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
You have been my helper;
cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the Lord will sustain me.
Show me your way, O Lord;
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.
What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!
O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart;
wait patiently for the Lord.

THE HOMILY

The Right Reverend V. Gene Robinson

THE 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.

THE CONCLUDING PRAYERS

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servants who are living with HIV, that their weakness may be banished and their strength restored; and that, their health being renewed, they may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we pray, deeply aware of the shortness of human life. We remember before you this day our brother Matthew and all who have lost their lives to violent acts of hate. We pray that the gifts of all your lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer children may be recognized, welcomed, and celebrated in the world and in your Church. In your Holy Name we pray. **Amen.**

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that through this mystery your servant, Matthew, who has gone to his rest in Christ may share in the joy of his resurrection. We ask this in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God of all creation, we offer you grateful praise for the gift of life. As we remember Matthew in our hearts this day, accept our thanksgiving for his life among us. Wherever we find ourselves in the course of our days, may we embody his legacy of faith and hope in the world. Help us be the Church he loved—a place of welcome, acceptance, and safety, that we may reflect the inclusive love of Jesus Christ. Strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may be the blessing to others that Matthew was to all whose lives he touched. May his life serve as a testament to the power of love, that all may be seen as beloved children of God. In your Holy Name we pray. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

May the peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

OFFICIANT

The Right Reverend V. Gene Robinson
1X Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire (retired)

ABOUT THE MATTHEW SHEPARD FOUNDATION

The Matthew Shepard Foundation's mission is to amplify the story of Matthew Shepard to inspire individuals, organizations, and communities to embrace the dignity and equality of all people. Through local, regional, and national outreach, we empower individuals to find their voice to create change and challenge communities to identify and address hate that lives within our schools, neighborhoods, and homes.

Our work is an extension of Matt's passion to foster a more caring and just world. We share his story and embody his vigor for civil rights to change the hearts and minds of others to accept everyone as they are.

www.matthewshepard.org

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