

ABOUT THE COVER IMAGE

Matthew Wayne Shepard (1976–1998) was interred at Washington National Cathedral in October 2018. In 2022, LGBTQ members of the Cathedral staff commissioned artist and iconographer Kelly Latimore (b. 1986) to paint a devotional portrait of Matthew for use in Cathedral services, gatherings, and pilgrimages associated with Matthew and the LGBTQIA+ community and as a means for personal reflection and education about Matthew's life and legacy. The background of the portrait was inspired by the rainbow pride flag and includes phrases and words from letters and cards sent to Matthew's parents, Dennis and Judy Shepard. Copyright 2022, Washington National Cathedral. All rights reserved.

HONORING
MATTHEW SHEPARD

REMEMBER • REFLECT • RESOLVE

DECEMBER 2, 2024 • 6:00 PM

The people's responses are in bold.

GATHERING MUSIC

Adagio for Strings

Samuel Barber (1910–1981)

Come Ye Disconsolate

Thomas Moore (b. 1940); arr. Ted and Shari

God Is on Our Side

Andraé Crouch (1942–2015)

PROCESSION

The people stand as able as the procession enters.

WELCOME

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

The people are seated.

OPENING ANTHEM

The One You Love

Sung by the cantor.

Chris Brown (b. 1981), Steve Furtick (b. 1980),
Jason Ingram (b. 1974), Phil Wickham (b. 1984)

I can be real with You.
Say anything and not be afraid.
You made me and You like what You made.
You made me and You don't make mistakes.
I can be real with You.

I know You're proud of me,
Even though I don't deserve it sometimes.
No I'm not a perfect child,
But I still make my Father smile.
I know You're proud of me.

Refrain You take me just as I am.
You'd choose me all over again.
I am the one You love.
I am the one You love.
I don't have to prove anything.
There's room at Your table for me.
I am the one You love.
I am the one You love.

Refrain
Your love, Your love never fails.
Your love never fails.

Refrain
Your love, Your love never fails.
Your love never fails.

The people stand as able.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Love one another,
for love is of God,
and whoever loves is born of God and knows God.
Spirit of God, search our hearts.

GATHERING PRAYER

God of love, hold us as we remember our beloved brother Matthew who now rests in the peace and safety of your eternal home. Surround us as we reflect on the meaning of his legacy and the enduring injustices that call out to us for action. Stand with us in our resolve to walk the path of righteousness as we seek to build a world that embraces and uplifts the human family in all its beautiful and life-giving diversity. **Amen.**

HYMN

God Is Love

Sung by all.

Abbot's Leigh



1. God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2. God is Love; and love en - folds us, all the world in
3. God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af - flicts all



earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness



and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall



da - tion, God who spread the heavens a - bove, God who breathes through
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so



all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

The people are seated.

REMEMBER

PSALM 121

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 will not let your foot be moved
and the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.
Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord, the Lord, watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your side,
so that the sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve you from all evil
and shall keep you safe.
The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.

A LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR QUEER SOULS

We remember those who walked before us and those who walked beside us.
The silenced and the shamed.
The brave and the bold.
The exiled and the estranged.
The role models and the revolutionaries.
The beaten and the bruised.
The loved and the lost.
The pioneers and the proud.
We remember them, our beloved sisters, siblings, and brothers.
We mourn their struggles. We give thanks for their gifts. We honor their legacies.

ANTHEM

Shall Not Want

Sung by the ensemble.

Chris Brown (b. 1981), Steve Furtick (b. 1980),
Naomi Raine (b. 1987), Chandler Moore (b. 1995)

Will You be my light, when I cannot see?
And when I can't take another step
Lord, would You carry me?
And when I've lost my fight, will You be my strength?
Will You set me a table in the presence of my enemies?

Refrain I shall not want, I shall not want,
Oh, my soul's got a shepherd in the valley
and I shall not want.
I shall not want, I shall not want,
'Cause my cup's running over, running over
and I shall not want.

And I will lift my eyes to where my help comes from,
And I won't be afraid of the shadow
Cause I've seen the sun.
No, I will not stop, when the way gets hard,
Cause the green only grows in the valley
And that's where You are.

Refrain

I've got everything that I need,
Your goodness and Your mercy.
I've got goodness and I've got mercy,
Hallelu, glory hallelujah.
The Good Shepherd leads me to the waters,
Hallelu, glory hallelujah.

And He anoints me, anoints me with His oil.
Hallelu, glory hallelujah.
Now my cup is, my cup is running over.
Hallelu, glory hallelujah.

I won't fear no, fear no evil.
Hallelu, glory hallelujah.
I will dwell in His house forever.
Hallelu, glory hallelujah.

Hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelu, glory hallelujah.

And when this life is over, I'm gonna live again,
Gonna trade this cross for a crown,
No, this is not the end.
And when You call my name, I will take my rest.
There's a mansion in glory and You're gonna
meet me there.

I shall not want, I shall not want.
He will wipe every tear from my eyes.
I shall not want,
I shall not want, I shall not want.
I'll be home in His presence forever,
I shall not want.
For the Lord is my shepherd and I shall not want.

REFLECT

READING

John 6:37-40

Jesus said to the people, "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

REFLECTION

The Reverend Spencer W. Brown

PRAYER

"God of Community"

The Reverend Sarah Jones

God of Community,
encompassing all that was, that is and that can be,
who brings to birth each precious being in your creation;
we thank you for our capacity to love,
and for your love poured out on us.
We pray for your blessing on our LGBTQIA+ Community.
May our Common Life be enriched by their presence,
and blessed by the gifts.
Grant us Grace and Humility to heal past hurts,
and transform us,
that together we may take our place in your Kingdom.
Amen.

PRAYER

“A Prayer for Pride”

The Reverend Sam Lundquist

God of wild love and extravagant acceptance...
Spirit of boldness and beauty...

You are faithfully present in both the grit and glitter of life,
and you are present here with us now.

Awaken us to your dream for creation:

A world in which every member of the human family is free
to flourish however you have made them.

Forgive us for the moments we have held back
your ever-flowing current of love, dignity, and justice.

Remake us into a people eager to see you
in the faces, bodies, and expressions of all people.

Remind each of us to step out of the shadows of our lives
and shine fearlessly and courageously.

Ignite the Divine Light within us to sparkle through the prism
of our bodies and brighten every corner of this Earth.

Holy One, You call each of us beloved.

Each of us cherished.

Each of us desired.

Each of us sacred.

And so, we give you thanks now and forever.

Amen.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN

I Love the Lord

Sung by all.

Richard Smallwood (b. 1948)



1. I love the Lord, _____ he heard my cry _____ and pi-tied ev - 'ry groan. _____
2. I love the Lord, _____ he heard my cry _____ and pi-tied ev - 'ry groan. _____



Long as I live _____ and trou-bles rise, _____ I'll has-ten to _____ his throne.
O let my heart _____ no more des - pair _____ while I have breath _____ to pray.

The people are seated.

RESOLVE

READING

1 John 4:16-19

We have known and have believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God remains in them. This is how love has been perfected in us, so that we can have confidence on the Judgment Day, because we are exactly the same as God is in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. We love because God first loved us.

REFLECTION

Dennis and Judy Shepard

PRAYER

“A Prayer for My Queer and Trans Siblings”

Jess Reynolds

Here you are.

Here, in this holy space,
on this ground that is holy
because you are here.

Here you are, in flesh and bone,
filling up this body that belongs to you alone.
Your pumping heart is a wonder
because it keeps you alive.
Your loving heart is a blessing
because it keeps all of us alive.

The Spirit of Love has a home in you.
May we all see that love in you
and let our hearts become mirrors
for the compassion at your core.

The Spirit of Justice has a home in you.
May we light our wicks
from one another until we are all aflame,
until we burn out every prejudice
we carry in these bones.

Here you are.
Holy as you are.
Blessed be.

HONORING OUR INSPIRATION

We give thanks for those, like Matthew, who embody for us love, persistence, vulnerability, transcendence, and leadership in the creation of a just world. We offer their names here aloud or in our hearts.

The people are invited to offer names of those in LGBTQIA+ community who inspire them.

After names are offered, the officiant offers a prayer and the people respond, Amen.

The people stand as able.

PRAYER

“Pride Month Prayers”

Reconciling Works Project of the Lutheran Church

God of love, we thank you for the Spirits who were trailblazers, moving and shaking people’s hearts and minds. Stir up in us that same energy of those who helped pave the way for where our LGBTQIA+ siblings are today. May we never stop expanding the borders of love and acceptance for all your children and with your help, may we strive for a social order where justice and equality are enjoyed by all. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Compassionate Jesus, on the days where this work of justice and reconciliation feel like too much, help lighten our load. Soften our hearts to welcome people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, in all of the bodies in which they encompass. Teach us to learn and relearn, with humility and excitement. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, we marvel in awe of the expansiveness of your creation. Your margins of diversity are boundless, and for that, we thank you. Each of our beloved LGBTQIA+, brown, and black siblings are beautifully and wonderfully made, all in Your image. Teach us to love people, just as they are, and embrace their identity fully, as you have embraced us. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Weaver of Justice, let us be your hands and feet! May we follow the Spirit’s lead, and work for justice and equity for our LGBTQIA+ siblings. In prayer we say that our LGBTQIA+ siblings are made in your image, and we are committed to your ministry of reconciliation. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Father of all, we pray to you for Matthew and those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

We know we shall pass this way but once. If there is any kindness we can show, or any good thing we can do, let us do it now. Let us not defer or neglect it, for we shall not pass this way again. And the blessing of God, remain with us now and for ever. **Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, fight for justice, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord

Sung by all.

Land of Rest



1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, for - giv - en, loved, and free,
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion ends.
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His pres - ence, al - ways near,
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll go our dif - ferent ways,



in awe and won - der to re - call his life laid down for me.
That love that made us makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
is in such friend - ship bet - ter known: we see and praise him here.
and as his peo - ple in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

WELCOME

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith
Dean, Washington National Cathedral

OFFICIANTS

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope
Provost, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr.
Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion, Washington National Cathedral

HOMILIST

The Reverend Spencer W. Brown
Priest Associate, Washington National Cathedral

ASSISTING CLERGY

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan
Canon for Worship, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Patrick L. Keyser
Associate Priest for Worship, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Jo Nygard Owens
Pastor for Digital Ministry, Washington National Cathedral

SPEAKERS

Dennis Shepard
Co-Founder, Board Member Emeritus, Matthew Shepard Foundation

Judy Shepard
Co-Founder, Board Chair/President, Matthew Shepard Foundation

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

READERS

The Reverend Cathy Alexander
Associate Pastor, Metropolitan Community Church of Washington, DC

Alma
National Cathedral School, Class of 2029

Caroline
National Cathedral School, Class of 2029

Eaddy
National Cathedral School, Class of 2027

Eli
St. Albans School, Class of 2027

Emma
National Cathedral School, Class of 2030

Georgia
National Cathedral School, Class of 2025

Jax
National Cathedral School, Class of 2026

Joelle
National Cathedral School, Class of 2029

Joshua Maxey
Executive Director, Bet Mishpachah, the LGBTQ synagogue of Washington, DC

Rose
National Cathedral School, Class of 2029

Sadie
National Cathedral School, Class of 2027

MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Contemporary Ensemble

Michele Fowlin
Associate Director for Contemporary Music, Washington National Cathedral

Matthew Steynor
organ

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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

You may use the QR code to make a donation to the foundation.



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