The service of Death and Resurrection is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised.

This service, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into a nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.
The Order of Service

~ We Gather Together as God's People ~

THE ORGAN PRELUDE ................................................................. Jason Evans

THE SOLO: “O Jesus, I Have Promised” ........................................... ANGEL'S STORY
Elaine Spencer, soloist

THE WORDS OF GRACE & GREETING

LEADER: The Lord be with you.
PEOPLE: And also with you.
LEADER: Let us pray.

THE INVOCATION

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant, Jim, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE SOLO: “How Great Thou Art” ................................................. OLD STORE GUD
Elaine Spencer, soloist

~ The Word of the Lord ~

THE PSALM ................................................................................... Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.

THE EPISTLE LESSON ..................................................................... Romans 8: 31-39

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give you everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship,
or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE NAMING AND WITNESSING
Ginger Candelora

THE SOLO: “Wind Beneath My Wings” .................. Henley / Silbar
Elaine Spencer, soloist

THE GOSPEL LESSON................................................................. John 14: 1-6

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. 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.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

THE HOMILY ............................................................................. The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

~We Respond to the Word~

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) ......................... The Apostles’ Creed

In the death of Jesus Christ God’s way in the world seemed finally defeated. But death was no match for God. The resurrection of Jesus was God’s victory over death. Death often seems to prove that life is not worth living, that our best efforts and deepest affections go for nothing. We do not yet see the end of death. But Christ has been raised from the dead, transformed, and yet the same person. In is resurrection is the promise of ours. We are convinced the life God wills for each of us is stronger than the death that destroys us. The glory of that life exceeds our imagination but we know we shall be with Christ. So we treat death as a broken power. Its ultimate defeat is certain. In the face of death we grieve. Yet in hope we celebrate life. No life ends so tragically that its meaning and value are destroyed. Nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LITANY OF PRAYER & THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Responsive)

ONE: For Jim, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, “I am the resurrection and the Life.” Lord, you consoled Mary and Martha in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Jim and dry the tears of those who weep.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

ONE: You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.
ONE: You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

ONE: You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

ONE: Our brother was washed in the waters of Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit, give him fellowship with all your saints.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

ONE: He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

ONE: Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother, let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope . . . .

THE SILENT PRAYERS & THE LORD’S PRAYER (Spoken in Unison)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

~ We Go Forth in Jesus’ Name ~

THE COMMENDATION (Responsive)

ONE: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, Jim, with your saints

ALL: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

ONE: You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created us, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us to dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

ALL: Give rest, O Christ to your servant, Jim, with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Jim Jackson. 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.

THE BENEDICTION

THE SOLO: "In the Garden" .................................................. GARDEN

Elaine Spencer, soloist

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE .................................................. Jason Evans
Life is fun. James Kinsey Jackson (Jim) frequently uttered this phrase as he came across kids or animals playing, finished a good book, or happily observed fellow humans going about their lives. On his last walk, he stopped to look at some woods and declared “awesome.”

Jim was born in Savoy, Texas, on September 12, 1940, to Jack B. Jackson and Rosalie Edwards. He passed away on July 14, 2020, in Durham, North Carolina. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Carol Elizabeth Hudgins, daughter Janet Lee Ranheim (Todd), sister Jackie Lee Jackson, brother Joe Monroe Jackson, grandson Jackson Coco Ranheim, and granddaughters Kirsten Hudgins Ranheim, Fiona Elizabeth Canning, and Clare Kelly Canning. He is predeceased by his parents and his beloved daughter, Joann Elizabeth Canning.

Jim treasured his identity as a red-headed Texan, despite living in Texas relatively few years of his life. His father was a JC Penny’s man, and the family moved with the company several times throughout his childhood. This was no problem for Jim, who felt blessed by opportunities to camp with his brother in the peaks of Colorado, to explore the nooks and crannies of New York City, and to join in fights for desegregation in the south. However, Texas always provided a home base with important family connections. He was very proud of his sister’s Texas horse ranch, and loved to don boots and wear any swag she sent him from her show wins.

Jim returned to Texas to attend Southern Methodist University in Dallas, where he quickly met and fell in love with Carol. In fact, they met at her orientation picnic, and their fate was sealed. Upon his graduation from SMU, the two married, and moved to Austin, Texas, where she finished her undergraduate studies and he completed law school at the University of Texas.

Next move was to Washington D.C. with infant daughter Janet, second daughter, Joann soon to follow. Jim enjoyed a successful legal career in D.C. for thirty-five years. He eventually specialized in helping communities with infrastructure projects, including several domestic waste-to-energy plants that used new technologies to increase recycling. This work, along with efforts expanding water and sewer infrastructure in Puerto Rico, caught the attention of the World Bank, and he spent the last decade of his career working on many projects for them. For a man who was always fascinated by history, culture, and scenery, time spent in Gaza, Egypt, Yemen, Kazakhstan, Kenya, among other places, was a dream come true. His international experience grew to include clients throughout the Middle East, Asia, Oceana, and South America, and his frequent flier miles turned into pleasure trips with his wife throughout Europe, Central America, and many islands. When he would say he had a good life, he meant it.

Jim was an avid story teller, and one such story that immediately comes to mind is from one of his trips to Gaza. Himself a Christian, he joined his Hindu Indian project partner, his Islamic Palestinian host, and Jewish Israeli colleague on a private tour of the Holy City. That experience reinforced his much shared belief that there are good people in every ethnic, religious, national, and racial group. He felt that it is part of our responsibility to recognize that and help build up people’s strengths. Even after retirement to Nags Head, North Carolina, he was motivated by these thoughts to continue pro bono work with the Interfaith Community Outreach (ICO), the Mano a Mano Family Resource Center, Master Gardeners, and area business start ups.

He spent almost two decades retired in Nags Head, and continuing to find more things to love about life. Always an avid sports enthusiast, he and his wife played a lot of golf and took up kayaking through the marshes and sound, and built a beautiful garden. He shared his love of tennis and football with his grandkids, barked with his granddogs and continued what he called hunting and gathering- finding special things for his wife and girls, Pokemon cards for his grandson, and amassing a truly impressive golf ball collection.

Memorial donations may be made to the Interfaith Community Organization (PO Box 1663, 115 Mustian St, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948). Jim brought flowers from his garden to his wife, daughters and granddaughters any chance he could, so we ask that those looking for a way to honor him give a flower to someone to brighten their day and share some happiness.