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 WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

LEADER:  The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE:  And also with you.

LEADER:  Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant, Tom, 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 HYMN: “Amazing Grace”................................................................. NEW BRITIAN

Selena Eason, soloist

~ The Word of the Lord ~

THE PSALM (Spoken in Unison)...................................................................... Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

THE PIANO MEDITATION: “It is Well with My Soul”.................... arr. Evans

Jason K. Evans, pianist

THE EPISTLE LESSON ........................................................................I Corinthians 15: 35-44

But someone will ask, ‘How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?’ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. Not all flesh is alike, but there is one flesh for human beings, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. There are both heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one thing, and that of the earthly is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; indeed, star differs from star in glory.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.
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.

‘I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.’

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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Rev. Dr. Tom Priest

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

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, Tom, with your saints

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

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!

Give rest, O Christ to your servant, Tom, 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, Tom Williamson. 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 REMARKS
Irene Albritton - Family friend remarks
Marc Williamson - Family remarks (Nephew)
Orestis Gooden - Friend (Best man at Tom's marriage to Roberta Shaw)

THE VIDEO PRESENTATION..................................................Jessica Harris

THE BENEDICTION

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE .....................................................Jason Evans

The Family Wishes to Recognize the following from the bottom of their heart....

Tom Williamson's family would like to acknowledge with gratitude the support and assistance that Tom received from:

- Dare County Emergency Medical Services,
- The Outer Banks Hospital's Physician, Nursing, and Support Staff
- Duke University Hospital's Physician, Nursing, and Support Staff.

Tom's family also wants to offer its deep appreciation for all of Tom's family, friends, his church family at Outer Banks Presbyterian Church, and all those from the Outer Banks community who have cared for him over the years.
KITTY HAWK - Thomas (Tom) Williamson was born on April 16, 1938, in Jasper County, SC, and transitioned from earth to glory on Monday, January 11, 2021, at Duke University Hospital, Durham, NC. One of Tom’s closest friends described him aptly—he was a true “Renaissance” man who was loved and admired by all who encountered him.

Tom, a retired electrical engineer and pilot, began his more than 30-year aviation career after high school as a mechanic for Pan American Airlines. His work ethics, self-motivation, reliability and tenacity led him to his next position as a radar technician in Thule, Greenland. After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Degree from Howard University, Washington, DC, Tom worked for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in Washington, DC, for 30 years as a program manager and electrical engineer. He often regaled listeners with stories about his work on the development of the early Traffic Collision Avoidance System.

Tom was a world traveler which included visits to all seven continents and forty-nine states. His intent was to visit Idaho, his 50th state. His wife, Roberta, will spread his ashes there after the pandemic abates so he could have said he spent a night in all fifty states. Among Tom’s most notable travels was the months he spent on the Amistad Freedom Schooner as a crewman and cook and his trek of the 184.5 miles of the C & O Trail (Chesapeake and Ohio) along the banks of the Potomac River from DC to Cumberland MD.

Upon retirement from the FAA, Tom and his family moved to the Outer Banks where they had often vacationed and where he could enjoy his passion for fishing and boating. He quickly became a major contributor to his new community. His boundless energy led him to work on many community projects with the Duck United Methodist Church’s Caring Hands ministry, where they made homes handicap accessible and more livable for the disabled. His agility and fearlessness belied his age.

He was a master gardener and participated in projects with the Dare County Master Gardeners, and Tom was an active member of his church, the Outer Banks Presbyterian Church. He worked in the literacy program in Dare County and considered one of his biggest thrills when a former student he had tutored in acquiring his GED subsequently graduated from college.

His service to Habitat for Humanity led him to rebuild homes and provide disaster and hurricane relief in Bolivia, Macedonia, Jordan and Puerto Rico. His love of photography enabled him to develop several
visual presentations which allowed him to share his excitement for service and travel with many in our local community.

His life’s achievements also included college professor, honorable service in the U. S. Marine Corp, turtle watching and Monday Night Alive volunteer, and numerous leadership roles in the Kitty Hawk Kiwanis Club. Tom was best friend to everyone he met, devoted father, loving husband, and a true gentleman. Once he started one of his stories and the twinkle appeared in his eye, you just needed to settle in for a great, long enjoyable story.

Tom Williamson is survived by his loving wife, Roberta Shaw Williamson, of the home, and daughter Keri L. Williamson of Kill Devil Hills; his joyfully adopted-by-marriage children and grandchildren: daughter, Jessica Harris (Jamar) and grandchildren Jacob, Joelle and Jeremiah. He also leaves behind his Aunt Celia Eady (the oldest living family member), his faithful cousin Jimmy (Alice), many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews, and a host of friends and family. His first wife Marlene Beaver Williamson and daughter Leah Williamson preceded him in death.

As a relative commented to Tom’s wife Roberta: “He lived life to the fullest.”

In lieu of flowers or other gifts, friends may make a donation in Tom’s memory to the Caring Hands ministry. Checks may be made payable to DUMC-Caring Hands and mailed to P. O. Box 8010, Duck NC 27949.

Gallop Funeral Services, Inc., is entrusted with arrangements. Friends may express condolences to the family at www.gallopfuneralservices.com.
I am your refuge, I am your strength.
I am your helper in time of trouble;
so do not fear, no, do not fear for I am your God.

And when you pass through the waters, I will be with you.
And when you cross o’er the river, I will be your guide.
And when you walk through the fire, you’ll not be burned,
for I am your God.

I am your refuge, I am your strength.
I am your helper in time of trouble;
so do not fear, no, do not fear for you are my God.
You are my God.
Peace I leave with you. My peace I give unto you.

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