

*A Celebration of the Life of*



*Imogene A. Davis*  
*and Holy Eucharist*

*Sunrise*  
*December 1, 1928*

*Sunset*  
*December 19, 2011*

**Funeral Mass**  
*Tuesday, December 27, 2011 - 10:00 a.m.*

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**

68 Storms Avenue  
Jersey City, New Jersey

*Father William Riker, Officiant*

## *Obituary*

**Imogene Ardell Holland Davis** passed on December 19, 2011. She was a special woman who personified family, generosity and love for everyone who knew her. Imogene was born to Julia (Holland) Smalls and Benjamin Holland on December 1, 1928 and raised in Jersey City. She grew up in a very tight and strong family in Jersey City.

In the summer of 1946, Imogene, often known as Jean married Leonard Davis and became the mother of five children, Irene Clark Epps, Lawrence Davis, Ida Davis, L. Richard Davis and Loretta Murray.

She is survived by: her loving sister, Anna Thompson; three of her children, Ida, Richard, and Loretta; eleven grandchildren, twenty great grandchildren, three great great grand children and many nieces, nephews and friends too numerous to mention.

Imogene was a daughter, a sister, a mother, a grandmother, an aunt and a true friend. Her love of her family and friends was one of her greatest joys. She was always there for her family, providing the wisdom, the support and the love they needed. She looked forward to family gatherings and special events with each of the children, the grand's, the nieces and nephews with great pride. Imogene was a very special lady, who never forgot a birthday, an anniversary or those special life events that mattered. It cannot go without mention that she was a homemaker, not a nurse made, but a mother who was there for her children when they left for school, and when they returned, provided that sense of safety, love, and care with wonderful home cooked meals along with the necessary justice that was often needed. Raising her family in the word of GOD, Imogene had a great understanding of faith and GOD's word, she taught us to respect everyone's faith. As a youth she learned to read Hebrew and as an adult her knowledge of the Bible was extensive, she attended Grace Church, and The Church of Incarnation in Jersey City and Church of GOD and Saints of Christ while living briefly in Mount Vernon, New York. Clearly her religious values served to guide her life and the wisdom with which she directed those she held dear. For many of us she was a healing spirit that meant there was an answer or there was a better way to do it. In her home it was the practice after church services to ask, what was the text, and what did you think. Because she believed that through these inquiries we could come to better answers on how to live our lives.

After many years of raising her children, Imogene became a telephone operator for New York Telephone, AT&T, and later Verizon when she moved back to New Jersey. She retired after thirty years as a member of the union and with many dear friends. She was an advocate for the less fortunate and supported the charitable work of the church and schools in the community. She loved good music and dancing. She was noted for her excellent cooking, her knowledge of foods of the world and the ability to sew, crochet and knit. Over the years she was called on to manage kitchens, cook for events and donate blankets and scarves that she made by hand. Imogene enjoyed a good jigsaw puzzle and would have one on the table for anyone to work on; she loved a good game of pinochle or bid-whist. We will all remember with fondness the last game of spades we played with her. It was Larry's birthday, and as you know for many years her site was impaired. Playing partners, she and her grandson played her hand with great skill and beat the pants off of us. It was great and she was delighted and Brandon has a memory he won't forget. We remember her laughter and her love of life, she enjoyed jokes and played them on us often, she had a very quick wit. Nevertheless she believed in the rights of others and would make friends very easily. We often thought she would have been good with the FBI, left with someone they would share their entire life story. It didn't matter if it was the receptionist, the doctor or a child she just met. In a few minutes they told her their entire story. Imogene was the matriarch of four generations, she was a special woman to so many, we loved her, we will remember her and we will miss her. She is in GOD's hands.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]  
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

*During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung. (Easter Hymns)*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*In place of the usual post communion prayer, the following is said*

***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.***

### **The Commendation**

*The Celebrant and other ministers take their places at the body. This anthem, or some other suitable anthem, or a hymn, may be sung or said*

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant(s) with your saints,  
**where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

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

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servant(s) with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*The Celebrant, facing the body, says*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant *Imogene* 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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

### **HYMN 671 "Amazing Grace"**

*The Deacon or Celebrant, dismisses them with these words*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.

*People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

### **Organ Postlude**

## *I've Changed My Address*

*I've changed my address to Heaven  
I've crossed the Great Divide.  
I know there's no sorrow or crying,  
Because I've reached the other side.  
I am so happy to be here, for the Lord Himself I see.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place where you'll find me.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
I bid this world goodbye.  
I now live forever with Jesus in my new home in the sky.  
I have no burdens or heartaches  
and from tears I am now free.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place to find me.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
I'm safe forevermore. For the Lord built a mansion  
and my name is on the door.  
You can find us walking together,  
for where He is, I'll always be.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place you'll find me.*

*-Author unknown*

***Friends are respectfully invited to join the family for a repast in the church dining hall immediately following the interment service.***

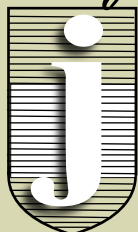
### *Acknowledgement*

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.  
God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

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***Professional Services Entrusted To:***

***jackson funeral residence***



384 Communipaw Avenue  
Jersey City, New Jersey  
Audrey E. Jackson, Owner / Director  
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Sidney M. Hagans, Director

# Order of Service

## Organ Prelude

*All stand while one or more of the following anthems are sung or said. A hymn, psalm, or some other suitable anthem may be sung instead.*

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die. And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies. For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

*Silence may be kept; after which the Celebrant says the following Collect*

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Imogene. We thank you for giving her 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, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant may add the following prayer* Most merciful Father we pray for Ida, Richard, Loretta, Anna and all the others of Imogene's family. In their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The people sit. One or more of the following passages from Holy Scripture is read. If there is to be a Communion, a passage from the Gospel always concludes the Readings.*

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **From the Old Testament - Isaiah 61:1-3**

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

### **From the New Testament - 1 John 3:1-2**

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

## **Psalm 23 King James Version**

**The LORD is my shepherd; \* I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; \*he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**He restoreth my soul; \*he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; \*for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.**

**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; \* thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or Minister appointed reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe\* in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>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?’ <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the

place where I am going.’ <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going.

How can we know the way?’ <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

*At the end of the Gospel, the Reader says* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**Remembrances and Homily Elder Lloyd Person & Father Riker  
Apostles’ Creed**

*The Celebrant may introduce the Creed with these or similar words* In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

*Celebrant and People*

***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.***

***He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.***

***He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.***

***He descended to the dead.***

***On the third day he rose again.***

***He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.***

***He will come again to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

**Prayers of The People**

For our sister Imogene, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Imogene, and dry the tears of those who weep.

***Hear us, Lord.***

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

***Hear us, Lord.***

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister Imogene eternal life .

***Hear us, Lord.***

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister Imogene to the joys of heaven.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Our sister Imogene was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

**Hear us, Lord.**

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Celebrant and People say*

**Father of all, we pray to you for Imogene, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

**The Peace All stand.**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People And also with you.*

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**The Holy Communion**

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture*

**Hymn 208 “The Strife is O’er”**

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*The people remain standing.*

*The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*  
The Lord be with you.

*People - And also with you.*

*Celebrant - Lift up your hearts.*

*People - We lift them to the Lord.*

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

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 Father 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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

*The Celebrant continues*

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.**

And now, as our Savior

Christ has taught us,

we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

***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 Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;*

***Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia]***

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.