



# **Celebration of Life**

# **John Arnold Harrison**

*June 20, 1929 - August 23, 2012*

**August 30, 2012**  
**Viewing 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**  
**Eucharist - 11:00 a.m.**

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**  
**105 Main Street**  
**Orange, New Jersey 07050**







**Celebrants**

The Rev. Miguelina Howell, Rector of Church of the Epiphany, Orange  
The Rev. Joseph A. Harmon, Rector of Christ Church, East Orange

**Guest Preacher**

The Rev. Darryl F. James, Guest Clergy

**Deacon**

The Rev. Hal Hurley

**Readers**

Ms. Tavia Fisher-Watson

Ms. Marcia Harrison

Mr. Leon Surgeon

**Intercessor**

Mr. Stephen Thomas

**Pall Bearers**

Mr. Rick Edwards

Mr. Michael Harrison

James Jukes, Esq

Mr. Darryl Smith

Mr. Kevin Woodridge

Mr. Wilson Woodridge

Mr. William Brown, III

**Organist**

Ms. Susan Gadd

**Soloists**

Mrs. Emily Jukes

**Recitation**

Mr. John-Tod Surgeon

**Harpist**

Mrs. Robbin Gordon- Cartier

**PRELUDE:** *Harp Solo - Mrs. Robbin Gordon-Cartier*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD:**

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

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And Also with you.**

Celebrant: *Let us pray.*

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant *John*, and grant her 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.*

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with the family of *John Harrison* in *their* grief. Surround *them* with you 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.*

## **Harp Solo**

**Poems by John Harrison recited by Mr. John-Tod Surgeon**

### **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS 3:22-26, 31-33**

Because of the LORD's great love, we are not consumed, for his compassion's never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." The LORD is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. For no one is cast off by the Lord forever. Though He brings grief, He will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. For He does not willingly bring affliction or grief to anyone.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God

## **PSALM 121**

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the mountains where does my help come from?

<sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot slip He who watches over you will not slumber;

<sup>4</sup> indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD watches over you the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup> the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

"Amazing Grace" Hymn # 671 (1982 Hymnal)

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Almighty God, we thank you that through your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and the Blood of your Son Jesus Christ and has given unto us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this sacrament may be unto us a comfort in affliction, and pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying; but at the fullness of joy with all your saints through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen*

**THE COMMENDATION**

Celebrant: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your Saints.

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

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

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

Celebrant: Into your hands, O Merciful Savior, we commend your servant, *John*, 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 blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen

**DISMISSAL:**

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN: We've come this far by faith # 208 (LEV Hymnal)**

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**Interment**

Glendale Cemetery, 28 Hoover Avenue, Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003.

Following the service, family and friends are invited to share in the repast,  
Directions to the location will be distributed at the Cemetery

We, the family, thank you for all your support in our time of sorrow. All that you have done has eased our grief. Your prayers, calls, letters card and other expressions of sympathy and concern are deeply appreciated.

**Donations in honor of John A. Harrison may be made to:**

**Strong Kids Campaign**

East Orange Y

100 North Arlington Avenue

East Orange NJ 07017

## *Obituary*

**John Arnold Harrison**, born in Orange NJ, June 20, 1929, to the Late Ernest and Late Mary Harrison resided in East Orange from birth until retirement. John was a product of the East Orange School System and Bethel Baptist Church in Orange where his parents were very active in the development and growth of the church. Upon graduation from East Orange High School, he enlisted in the United States Army where he served during the Korean War. His tour of duty took him to Japan where he received a citation for demonstrating great administrative skill. That citation later helped him to get a clerkship with the Veterans Administration after his tour of duty. After his Army service he joined the U.S. National Guard. He also enjoyed athletics and became a prizefighter. Shortly after his return to East Orange he caught sight of a young lady, who he described as a "pretty girl with long hair", visiting a neighbor. He inquired as to her identity and found that she was the God sister of his neighbor. He asked to be introduced and it was then that he met his future bride Pearl June Lewis. Pearl and John were married and shared almost 60 years of marriage as a couple until Pearl went to be with the Lord six months ago.

John and Pearl's union produced two daughters, Dr. Lauren Harrison and Mrs. Adrienne Harrison-Surgeon.

John enjoyed a stellar career in Law Enforcement and received an Associate in Science (A.S.) in Criminal Justice from Essex County College. He was one of the first Black police officers on the East Orange Police Force joining in 1954 and serving with distinction as an Officer and Detective until his retirement in 1985. He served as a Detective for 20 years. In the Detective Bureau he contributed to resolving cases in homicide, narcotics, and juvenile divisions. During his tenure he came in contact with teens at risk and developed a recreational boxing program to provide them focus and guidance. John was also an entrepreneur and a small business owner of the No-Si-RRaH Exterminating Company.

After retiring from the EO Police Department, he became the Chief of Federal Police at the Veteran Administration Hospital in East Orange where he originally started his civilian career. He retired from there in 1993 and then served as head of security for the Irvington Public School District. He retired a third and final time in 1996 to exclusively enjoy his family, home, and international travel.

John belonged to many professional organizations. He was a founding member of the East Orange Kinsmen (the fraternal brotherhood of Black police officers), the PBA, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement (the "NOBLE MEN") and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). In addition, John was an original member of the 100 Black Men of New Jersey, Incorporated. During retirement, John enjoyed exploring his artistic abilities, as he was a painter, photographer and in the year 2000 he became a published poet.

John resided with his daughter Lauren in the Seven Oaks Section of Orange before joining his beloved Pearl at God's Table.

John was preceded by his late parents, Ernest and Mary Harrison and his late sister Mrs. Fannie Bullock. John leaves behind his loving daughters, Dr. Lauren Harrison and Mrs. Adrienne Harrison Surgeon, his son in law, Mr. Leon Surgeon, adored grandson, Mr. John-Tod Surgeon, eldest sister Mrs. Jean Smith, younger brother Mr. Nathaniel Harrison, brother-in-law Mr. Clarence Smith and sister-in-law Mrs. Joan Harrison and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.



<sup>7</sup> The LORD will keep you from all harm He will watch over your life;

<sup>8</sup> the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

### **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION 21:2-7**

I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and He will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then He said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water, without cost, from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People: **Thanks be to God**

**GRADUAL HYMN:** *"I am the Bread of Life". Hymn # 335 (1982 Hymnal) vv. 1, 2 & 3*

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL**



Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 6:37-40

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**HYMN:** *"I am the Bread of Life". Hymn # 335 (1982 Hymnal). vv. 4 & 5*

**HOMILY:** The Rev. Darryl F. James\*

*\*Rector of Historic Grace Church, Jamaica, New York*

**EULOGY:** East Orange Police Chief Charles Grimes (retired)

**REFLECTIONS:** Federal Police Sergeant Warren Jackson (retired)

**WORDS FROM FAMILY MEMBERS:** Mrs. Adrienne Harrison-Surgeon, daughter

## THE APOSTLES CREED

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

**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

Leader: Then Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you**



Let us pray for our brother, 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 *John* 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 promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

***Hear us, Lord.***

Lord, our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give *him* fellowship with all your saints.

***Hear us, Lord.***

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

***Hear us, Lord.***

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

*(Silence)*

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother, *John*, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that *him* death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you**

**THE OFFERTORY HYMN: Precious Lord Take my Hand Hymn #106 (LEV)**

**Solo** by Mrs. Emily Jukes, "My Way "

**THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE:**

*Celebrant:* 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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*(Preface)*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.**

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent Him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Him, you have

delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before He died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in His sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever.

*Amen*

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray;

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

**COMMUNION HYMN:** "Great is thy Faithfulness" *Hymn # 189 (LEV Hymnal)*