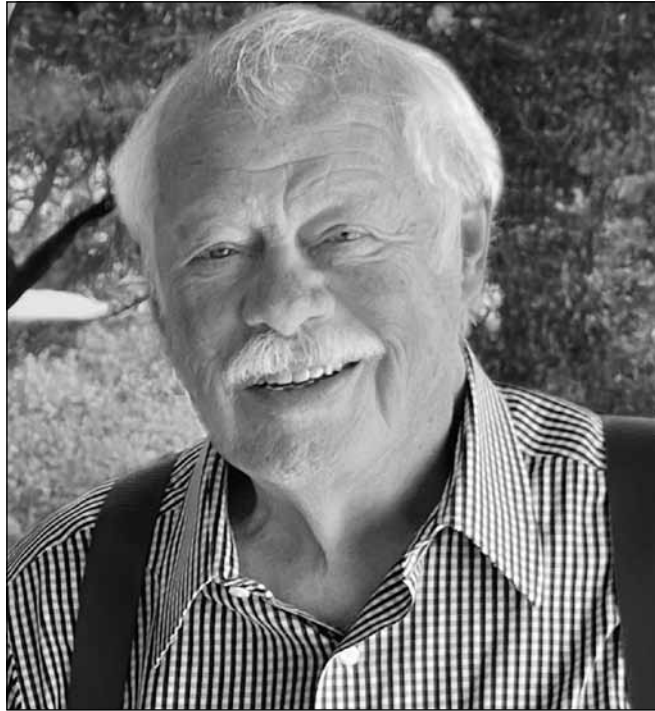


*Even at the grave
We make our song
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia*



William Joseph Thomas (Tom) Ferguson

August 3, 1942 – October 3, 2025

November 1, 2025

2:00 P.M.



St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church
in the Admiral District of West Seattle

*We acknowledge that we are on the unceded traditional land of the Coast Salish people,
including the Duwamish and Suquamish People past and present.*

We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish and Suquamish tribes.

Please know, that wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place at St. John's.

Portions of this service are from the optional expansive-language versions of the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*, as authorized by the 79th General Convention in 2018.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

In Dreams from The Lord of the Rings

Howard Shore (b. 1946)

Ringling of the church bell.

Please stand as you are able.

Anthems from Scripture

Presider 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.

Hymn 488

Be thou my vision

TUNE: *Slane*

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
Heart of my heart, what - ev - er be - fall,
wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in my dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931);
tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt.
Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927

Public domain.

10 10. 9 10

The Collects

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Tom, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with the Ferguson family and all of Tom's friends 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.**

You may be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Read by Linda Burns

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 brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, 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.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Read by Alice Burns

Psalms 121 • *Levavi oculos*

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

Third Reading

Read by Quincy Souquet

1 John 3:1–2

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Fourth Reading

Read by Cae McLaughlan

Psalm 23 • *Dominus regit me* (King James version)

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; *
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul; *
and leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.
- 4 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.
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; *
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 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.

Holy Gospel

Standing as able.

John 14:1–6a

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

"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."

Presider The Gospel of our Savior.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

You may be seated.

Remembrances and Remarks

Teresa McLaughlin

Shawn Ferguson

The Reverend Canon Elise B. Johnstone, D. Min.

The Apostles' Creed

Standing as able.

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

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

Intercessor For our brother, Tom, 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 Tom, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

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

People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

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

People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

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

People **Hear us, Lord.**

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

The Presider concludes with one of the following.

Presider Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother Tom, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his 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.**

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

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Those present celebrate the peace with a bow, hands raised in blessing, or the peace sign.

You may be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

— *Ephesians 5:2*

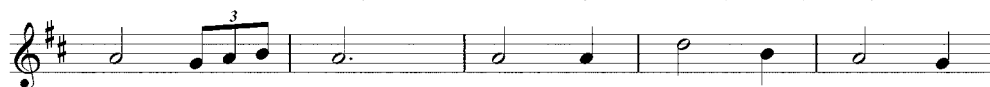
Hymn 645

The King of love my shepherd is

TUNE: *St. Columba*



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.
3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

WORDS: Henry W. Baker, 1868 (Ps. 23)
MUSIC: Irish Melody;

ST. COLUMBA
87.87

Public domain.

Presentation

People **All things come from you, O God, and from your own have we given you.**

Please remain standing.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A, expansive language

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

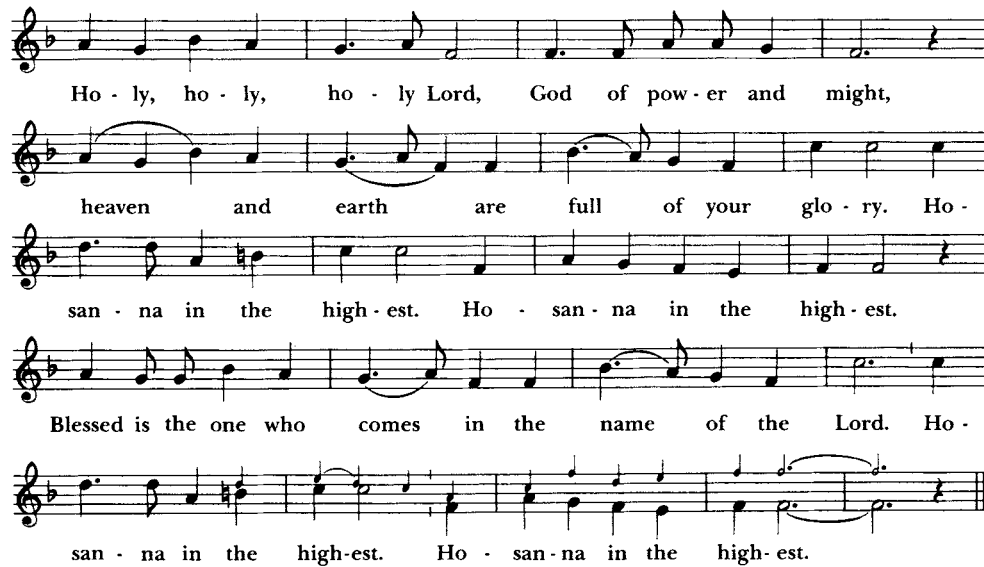
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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:

Sanctus S125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

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Please remain standing.

Presider Holy and gracious God: 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 maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 Jesus 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."

Presider Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ. 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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

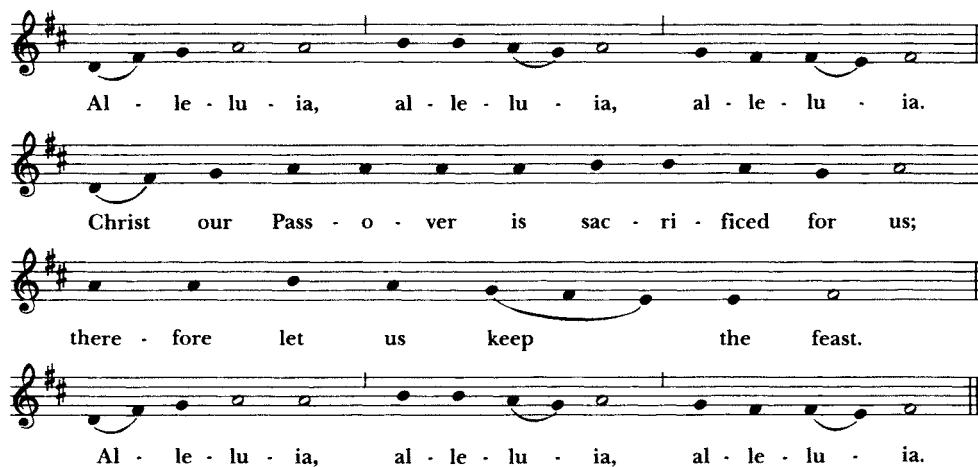
Presider And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

People **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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S154



Setting: From *New Plain-song*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

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The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

You may be seated.

To receive Communion, you are invited to come to the altar rail and stand or kneel at one of the cushions. To receive the bread (wafer), please hold your hands palms up, and the Presider will place a wafer in your hands. Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it. Please indicate this by holding your hands palms down initially. If you do not wish to partake of the consecrated wine from the common chalice, you may consume the wafer at the altar rail or return to your seat to consume it.

To receive the wine, please consume your wafer, and then wait for the Eucharistic Minister to bring the common cup to you at the altar rail. Please do not attempt to intinct (dip) the wafer into the chalice. If you prefer not to partake of the common cup, but would like to receive the words of ministrations, simply cross your arms in front of your chest when the Eucharistic Minister comes to you at the altar rail.

Reception of the sacrament in one kind (either bread or wine) is considered a full experience of the sacrament.

If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of communion, when you come to the altar rail, simply cross your arms in front of your chest, and the Presider will greet you and offer God's blessing.

If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.

Communion Music

Aria: Schafe können sicher weiden (Sheep May Safely Graze) from Cantata 208

Was mir behagt, ist nur die muntre Jagd! (What pleases me is above all the lively hunt!)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Presider Let us pray.

People **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

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

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

Presider 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.

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

Presider Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Tom. 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 Blessing

Presider The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Hymn 287

For all the saints

TUNE: *Sine nomine*



1 For all the saints, who from their labors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might: _____
4 O blest communion, fellowship divine! _____
7 But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day; the
8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through
1 thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
2 thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight; _____
4 We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet
7 saints triumphant rise in bright array; the
8 gates of pearl streams in the countless host, _____
1 Name, O Jesus, be for ever blessed.
2 thou, in the darkness drear, the one true Light.
4 all are one in thee, for all are thine.
7 King of glory pass on his way.
8 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: William Walsham How (1823-1897)

Music: *Sine Nomine*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

10 10 10 with Alleluias

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Postlude

Concerning Hobbits from The Lord of the Rings

Howard Shore

Reception to follow at the Ferguson home, 5037 Beach Dr SW, Seattle WA 98136

Serving in Worship Today

Music: Joyce Gibb; **Presiding:** The Rev. Cn. Elise B. Johnstone.

WILLIAM JOSEPH THOMAS (TOM) FERGUSON

TOM FERGUSON passed away peacefully in Seattle on October 3, 2025, with his wife, Kristin, by his side.

Tom was born to William H. and Mary Violet Ferguson in Seattle on August 3, 1942. He was a 1960 graduate of Mercer Island High School, where he played football, as well as piano, entertaining friends with his lively renditions of Fats Domino tunes. Tom attended the University of Washington, majoring in English. He played one year of Husky football, and he was a member and president of Delta Kappa Epsilon. Tom went on to obtain his law degree at UW and clerked for Charles Powell, a Chief Judge for the US District Court. He began the practice of law at Ferguson and Burdell, working on a wide array of cases, ranging from contracts to corporate to patent law, and he consulted widely on matters of business, construction and real estate.

Tom was a partner of Western C.F. Williams in real estate and property management. Their interests ranged from residential to commercial investments throughout the Seattle area, including properties both historical and newly developed. Later, he formed Ferguson Property Management, working together with Kristin for many years. He leaves a legacy to the University District in particular, with the carefully restored and maintained Wilsonian Apartments, a designated Seattle landmark, and the beautifully conceived development of its sister property, the Lothlorien Apartments.

Tom served on the board of Eastside Mental Health, and he partnered in and advised numerous business ventures including, among others, VIOX Corporation. Throughout his legal career, Tom was a valued and trusted advisor to his business clients, many of whom became lifelong friends. Tom was also a long-standing member of the Seattle Yacht Club and the Rainier Club.

In addition to the time he devoted to hosting friends, family, associates, and neighbors, Tom had two great passions: sailing and reading. Through the 1970s Tom enjoyed cruising the Salish Sea and Desolation Sound aboard Queen's Reach. In 1984, he commissioned the build of his great love, Arwen Evenstar, a custom Dickerson 50 built in Maryland. He brought Arwen to Seattle by way of the Caribbean Sea and Panama Canal in

1984–85. He later adventured across the Atlantic over several crossings and many years, exploring northern European coastlines as far as Denmark, the Mediterranean Sea as far as Turkey, and back at long last to Seattle, as Arwen undertook her second transit of the Panama Canal. Aboard Arwen, Tom visited no fewer than 84 US states and countries over a period of four decades.

Tom's library was vast in depth and breadth. He alternated light reading with works of philosophy, science and history, at last completing *The Story of Civilization* by Will and Ariel Durant. The classics were intermingled with mysteries, science fiction, and an annual reading of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. He dabbled in poetry, honoring a dream of his youth to be named "Poet Laureate," and he wrote essays of thoughts philosophical and humanist, not to mention a lifetime of legal briefs.

Tom thought deeply about the needs of next generations. He mentored young friends in law and business and took great joy in their successes. Together with Kristin, Tom brought his children and grandchildren together annually for cherished family reunions, nurtured family discussions of ethics and values, and created opportunities for the practice of charity and financial literacy. His generosity extended to funding educational opportunities, not only for his children and grandchildren, but for dear friends whose dreams he strove to support.

Tom was the beloved husband of Kristin Ferguson; brother of Sandra Boyd; father of Teresa (Tia) McLaughlin, Linda Burns, and Shawn Ferguson; and grandfather of Alice, Cae, Maeve, Charlie, Andrew, and Quincy. In his daily life, Tom embodied the Ferguson family motto: It's about character. We are what we regularly do.

Tom will be remembered for his optimism, his talent for storytelling, his spirit of generosity, his lifelong love of learning, and his faith in humanity.

A service will be held at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church on Saturday, November 1, 2025, 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers you may make a donation either to St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church or to Food Lifeline.

Sign Tom's Guest Book:

obituaries.seattletimes.com