

In Loving Memory Of
BENJAMIN O NJELITA



April 2, 1943 –
November 2, 2025
Saturday, January 17, 2026
2:00 p.m.
St. Paul's Anglican Church

The Gathering of the Community

WELCOME

Opening Scriptures

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 is committed to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

John 11.25–26

Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

John 14.1–3

I am sure 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.

Romans 8: 38-39

Hymn - It Is Well With My Soul

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: *And also with you*

In the midst of life we are in death;
from whom can we seek help?
From you alone, O Lord,
who by our sins are justly angered.

***Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,
have mercy upon us.***

Lord you know the secrets of our hearts;
shut not your ears to our prayers,
but spare us, O Lord.

***Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,
have mercy upon us.***

O worthy and eternal Judge,
do not let the pains of death
turn us away from you at our last hour.

***Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,
have mercy upon us***

The Collect

Let us pray.
O God, the maker and redeemer of all,
grant us, with your servant Benjamin
and all the faithful departed, the sure
benefits of your Son's saving passion
and glorious resurrection; that in the
last day, when you gather up all things
in Christ, we may with them enjoy the

fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen**

Eulogy: (Arinze Ezebialu)

First Reading: (Nnenna Ekweronu)

On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine - the best of meats and the finest of wines. On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The Lord has spoken. In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation." "the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Isaiah 25: 6-9

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalms 121 (Ifechukwu Ezebialu)

Second Reading (Chimgozirim Ezebialu)

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now, we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as

I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

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

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

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and

whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

John 11: 17-27

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily (The Rev. Tony Hilling)

Hymn – CP # 371 To God Be the Glory

Prayers of the People (Gloria Ford)

The Lord's Prayer

Tribute to Benjamin

The Commendation

Hymn – CP # 423 How Great Thou Art

Sending