

Billy Walter Huckabee

**January 4, 1942-
April 11, 2026**

**This Service and Bulletin are dedicated to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of**

Billy Walter Huckabee

January 4, 1942 - April 11, 2026

April 21, 2026

2:00PM

PRELUDE

(We Stand)

THE CONGREGATION IS ASKED TO PARTICIPATE BY RESPONDING
WITH THE **BOLD** VERSES AND SINGING THE HYMNS.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our brother, Billy, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit be glory and honor, forever and ever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

ELW 779

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour, I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Billy. We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(We Sit)

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

Senator Nikki G. Setzler

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth--" ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 23

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: he 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.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

(We stand to welcome the Holy Gospel and say together:)

THE VERSE

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-6

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, ¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² 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? ³ 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. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

(We Sit)

SERMON

Pastor Jason Antley

(We Stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"How Great Thou Art"

ELW 856

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me

all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-

thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
 gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
 bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
 ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou

art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to

thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

THE APOSTLES CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

Hear us, Lord.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

Hear us, Lord.

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant us grace to entrust Billy to your never-failing love which sustained him in this life. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, and remember him according to the favor you bear for your people.

Hear us, Lord.

God of all grace, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

COMMENDATION

Let us commend Billy to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Billy. 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.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God, you heal the broken in heart and bind up the wounds of the afflicted. Strengthen us in our weakness, calm our troubled spirits, and dispel our doubts and fears. In Christ's rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to everlasting life. Renew our trust in you that by the power of your love we shall one day be brought together again with our brother, Billy. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"When Peace Like a River"

ELW 785

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul,

Visitation with refreshments will follow in the Social Hall

Pastors	The Rev. Jason T. Antley The Rev. Ralph G. Hill
Organist	Susan Wilson
Crucifer	Shannon Burnett
Ushers	Ivan Black Eric Wessinger Roy Welch
Honorary Pallbearers	Past and Present Members of the Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission

THE PASCAL CANDLE is a reminder of the presence of Christ, the Light of the world, who brings His power to the darkness of our hearts, helping us to grieve, not as others do who have no hope, but in the sure and certain hope that is ours through His death and Resurrection.

THE PALL, which covers the urn, is a reminder of the baptismal garment God puts on God's children as they are welcomed into God's Holy Family. It also symbolizes that in Holy Baptism we have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ and given the gift of eternal life through His death and resurrection. In addition, the pall enables all urns to come equally before the altar, a reminder that God loves everyone, rich and poor alike.

LEXINGTON-Billy Walter Huckabee, 84, was born January 4, 1942, in Elloree, SC and passed away on April 11, 2026. He was a son of the late M.P. (Bobby) Huckabee and Eva Strock Huckabee.

Surviving are his wife, Sarah Harmon Huckabee of West Columbia; daughters, Heather Petrusick (John) of Fort Mill and Holly Crawford (Clay) of Lexington; grandchildren, Harmon and Mary Petrusick, Liam and Collins Crawford; sister, Wanda Nelson (Jimmy) of Wilmington, NC; and brother, Perry Huckabee (Jane) of Lexington.

Billy grew up in Summerton, SC before moving to West Columbia in the 1960's. He retired from the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles and served on the Lexington County Recreation Commission for over three decades. He was a faithful member of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, a lifetime member of Springdale Masonic Lodge No. 412, and a Jamil Shriner for over 50 years. Billy also served as sign manager and parade driver for his dear friend, South Carolina State Senator Nikki G. Setzler's re-election campaigns. A devoted Clemson fan, he rarely missed a home or away football game and cherished his time cheering on the Tigers. He was a proud member of IPTAY and played an integral role in organizing the Lexington County Clemson Club golf tournament for many years. An avid golfer himself, he especially loved attending the Masters.

He found joy in the simple pleasures of life umpiring recreational softball games, meeting friends for breakfast at Bojangles, watching NASCAR, fishing, collecting Hot Wheels and racing memorabilia, going to the flea market on Sunday after church, and embarking on spontaneous "side quests" to hunt for rare hot wheels at K-Mart or Walmart. He never met a stranger and had a gift for making everyone feel welcome, often turning a simple conversation into a lasting friendship. He lived by example, always teaching those around him to do the right thing, no matter the circumstances.

He and his beloved wife of 44 years built a life full of love, laughter, and adventure, enjoying camping at Ocean Lakes, cruises, trips to see the musical Jersey Boys, Clemson away games with friends, and listening to shag music and the oldies together. He was happiest when surrounded by family and friends, hosting fish fries, lively parties, and game-day gatherings in his man cave. Above all, he was devoted to his family, his "girls," as he lovingly called his wife and daughters, and his cherished grandchildren, who knew him as "Bibby." He never missed a chance to remind them how much he loved them, often saying, "I love you a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck."

He faced his cancer journey with strength, determination, and grace, fighting until the very end with the same courage and spirit that defined his life.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the many friends who called, visited, and offered their love and support during this time. They are especially thankful to the staff of Crescent Care Hospice and the Lexington Community Hospice House for their compassion, care, and kindness shown throughout his journey.

The family will receive friends following the service in the Social Hall. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 119 North Church Street, Lexington, SC 29072. Barr-Price Funeral Home and Crematorium, Lexington Chapel is assisting the family with arrangements.

