

# A Celebration of the Life of Robert Warren Wolfe

October 12, 1919 – December 14, 2022



St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church  
Corona del Mar, California  
January 23, 2023

## PRELUDE

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

### GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. (1 Corinthians 13:12)

# The Lessons

## FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

*Reader*        A Reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

The words of Qoheleth, son of David, king in Jerusalem. Vanity of vanities, Qoheleth says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity! For all his toil, his toil under the sun, what does man gain by it? A generation goes, a generation comes, yet the earth stands firm for ever. The sun rises, the sun sets; then to its place it speeds and there it rises. Southward goes the wind, then turns to the north; it turns and turns again; back then to its circling goes the wind. Into the sea all the rivers go, and yet the sea is never filled, and still to their goal the rivers go. All things are wearisome. No man can say that eyes have not had enough of seeing, ears their fill of hearing. What was will be again; what has been done will be done again; and there is nothing new under the sun. Take anything of which it may be said, 'Look now, this is new'. Already, long before our time, it existed. Only no memory remains of earlier times, just as in times to come next year itself will not be remembered.

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

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 46 *Deus noster refugium*

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>Though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; she shall not be overthrown;  
God will help her at the break of day.

<sup>6</sup>**The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;  
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup>**Come now and look upon the works of the LORD,  
what awesome things he has done on earth.**

<sup>9</sup>It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup>**"Be still then, and know that I am God!**

**I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."**

<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

## **SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17**

*Reader*            A Reading from the Revelation of John.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.' One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my lord'. Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

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

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

## **GOSPEL: John 14:1-4**

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

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

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

*Celebrant*        The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **THE SERMON**

### **THE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
    he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
    and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
    he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
    in accordance with the Scriptures;  
    he ascended into heaven  
    and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
    and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
    who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
    and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy  
***Hear our prayer.***

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy  
***Hear our prayer.***

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy  
***Hear our prayer.***

We commend to your mercy Bob and all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy  
***Hear our prayer.***

*Celebrant* For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

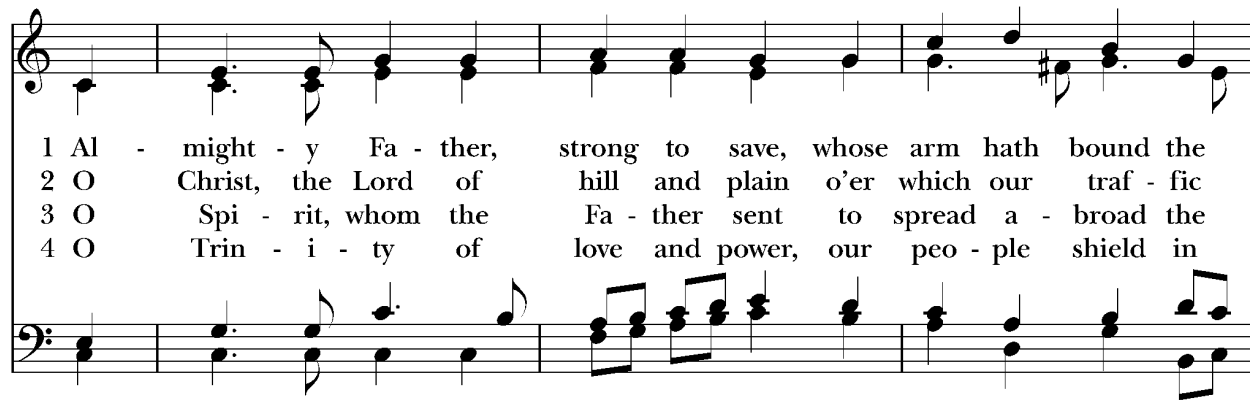
*All* **Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

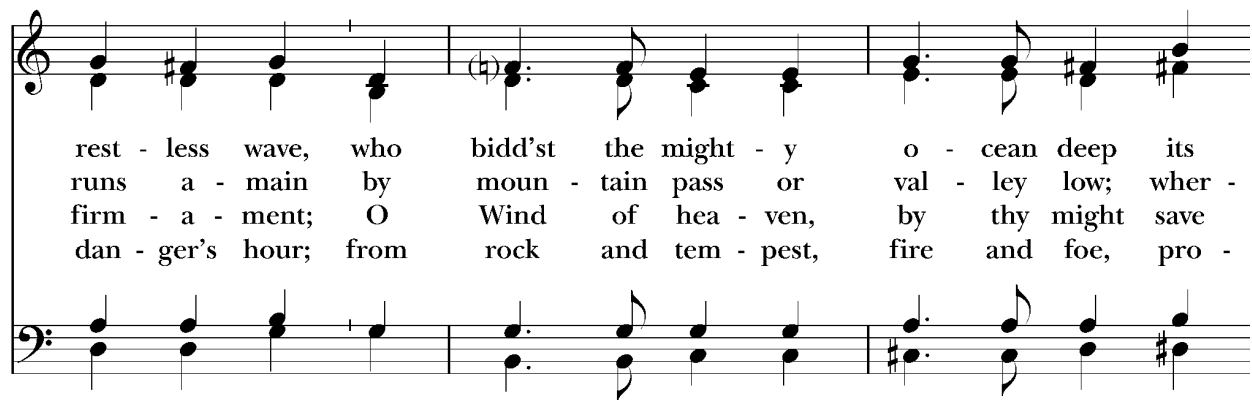
## **THE PEACE**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Please join in singing Hymn 579, Almighty Father*



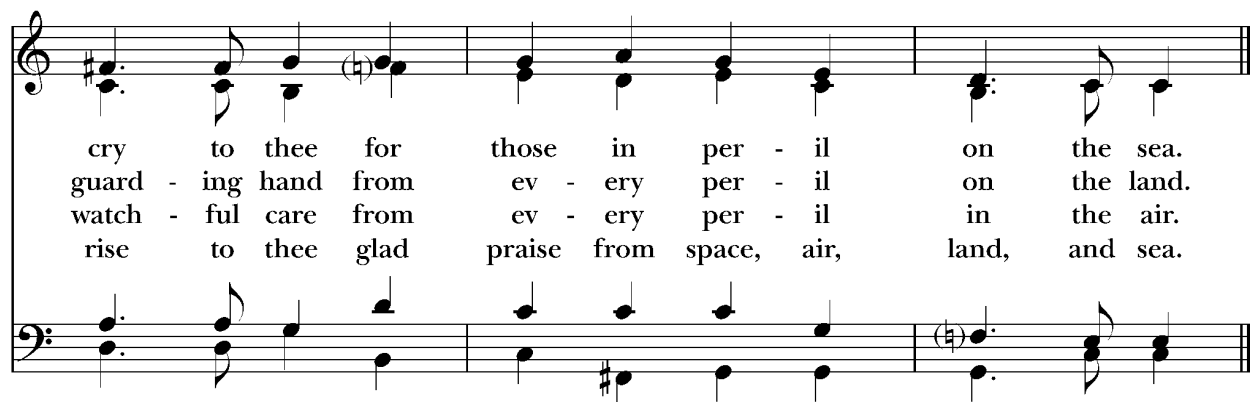
1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the  
 2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain o'er which our traf - fic  
 3 O Spi - rit, whom the Fa - ther sent to spread a - broad the  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, our peo - ple shield in



rest - less wave, who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep its  
 runs a - main by moun - tain pass or val - ley low; wher -  
 firm - a - ment; O Wind of hea - ven, by thy might save  
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed li - mits keep: O hear us when we  
 ev - er, Lord, thy peo - ple go, pro - tect them by thy  
 all who dare the ea - gle's flight, and keep them by thy  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 guard - ing hand from ev - ery per - il on the land.  
 watch - ful care from ev - ery per - il in the air.  
 rise to thee glad praise from space, air, land, and sea.

# The Great Thanksgiving

*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 God 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.

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:

**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.**

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 Saint Michael 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 for ever. *AMEN.*

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

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

**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**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

*Celebrant* 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.

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you**

**with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **THE SONG OF SIMEON**

Lord, you now have set your servant free  
to go in peace as you have promised.  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people Israel.

### **THE BLESSING**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **VOLUNTARY**

*Hallelujah from Exultate Jubilate*

*Mozart*

### **THE COMMITTAL**

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;  
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead  
will also give new life to our mortal bodies  
through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
My body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother Bob, and we commit his body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord make his face to shine upon him and be gracious to him, the Lord lift up his countenance upon him and give him peace. **Amen.**

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.  
*People*        **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*     Let us 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.**

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them in good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Celebrant*     Rest eternal, grant to Bob, O Lord;  
*People*        **And let light perpetual shine upon him.**  
*Celebrant*     May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

*Celebrant*     Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People*        **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**  
*Celebrant*     Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

# Robert “Bob” Wolfe

## 1919-2022

Robert Warren Wolfe was born on October 12, 1919 in Schenectady, New York. He grew up in Lawrence Park, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Penn State University in 1941 with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. After graduation he joined the United States Navy, and served over 20 years in the Naval Reserves, on active duty for both World War Two and the Korean Conflict. In 1950, he married Margaret (Peggy) White of Syracuse, New York. They were married for 32 years until her passing in 1982. Together they raised three children, Michael Wolfe of Santa Clarita, California; Martha Wolfe, of Lahaina, Hawaii; and John Wolfe, of Leander, Texas. He loved traveling the world, sailing the seas, and being continually challenged on the golf court.

In lieu of flowers, it was Bob’s wish that contributions be made to St. Michael and All Angels Church, which was a large part of his life for many years.

*The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised. The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty 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.” This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn. (The Book of Common Prayer)*