



A LITURGY IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF  
**RONALD BLACKBURN-MORENO**  
AUGUST 16, 1949 – NOVEMBER 4, 2021

**Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill**  
Episcopal/Anglican

**ZABRISKIE CHAPEL**

3606 Seminary Road  
Alexandria, Virginia

**November 11, 2021 6:00 p.m.**

**THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD, RITE II**

*Page numbers refer to the red Book of Common Prayer.  
Numbered hymns can be found in The Hymnal 1982.*

**Prelude:** “Turn! Turn! Turn!” (*To Everything There Is A Season*) text: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8  
“Lamento Borincano”  
“Preciosa”

Pete Seeger  
Rafael Hernandez  
Rafael Hernandez

**Opening Sentences**

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**Collect**

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**Opening Hymn 671:** “Amazing grace! How sweet the sound”

*New Britain*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## The First Lesson: Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

read by William Smith, Jr.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God*

## Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

read by Joel Davila and Luke Davila

- 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.

## The Holy Gospel: John 10: 11-16

read by The Rev. Sam Sheridan

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John

Response: *Glorify to you, Lord Christ*

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Homily: The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.

The Apostles' Creed

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## The Prayers

led by The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.

For our brother, Ronald, 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 Ron, 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 raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

**Hear us, Lord.**

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

**Hear us, Lord.**

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

**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.

*The Celebrant concludes with the following collect:*

Father of all, we pray for Ronald, 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 COMMENDATION

*The Clergy take their places at the urn.*

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

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.

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

*The Celebrant, facing the urn, says*

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

## The Dismissal

Clergy: Let us go forth in the name of Christ

People: **Thanks be to God**

Closing Hymn 376: "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee"

*found in* The Hymnal 1982

*Hymn to Joy*

## TRIBUTES FROM FRIENDS AND THE FAMILY:

**Alex Rodriguez** – Friend of the Family; **Ron Harrison** – Friend of the Family  
**Cid Wilson** – President/CEO of HACR; **Hilda Crespo** – Vice President of Public Policy at ASPIRA  
**Myrna Rivera** – Founding CEO and Advisor of Consultiva Wealth Management;  
**Rich Davila** – Son; **Laura Blackburn** - Daughter

# RONALD BLACKBURN-MORENO

August 16, 1949 – November 4, 2021

The son of Ana Maria Moreno and Donald Blackburn, Ronald Blackburn Moreno, was born in New Jersey and moved to Puerto Nuevo, Puerto Rico at the age of 7 where he grew up with his sister Marguerite and his brother Richard.

A passionate advocate for education and a proud Puerto Rican, he spent all of his adult life working with different organizations focused on Latino youth education and empowerment.

His family and friends will remember Ron's wit, his wonderful ability to re-tell history in fascinating ways, and his willingness to take out his guitar at a moment's notice to delight us with his wonderful voice.

Ron is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Evelyn; his daughter, Laura Blackburn (sp. Pablo Inca); four sons: Jan Blackburn, Gabriel Blackburn (sp. Julie Zeng), Peter Davila (sp. Trish Davila), Rich Davila (sp. Susan Dunsworth); 2 granddaughters: Ana & Lucia; 7 grandsons: Daniel, Adam, Matthew, Joel, Luke, Nicolas & Xavier; a great grandson, Daniel Jr.; his sister, Marguerite; his nieces and nephews and the other members of his extended family.

He will be missed, but more importantly... he will be remembered.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Ronald Blackburn-Moreno Youth Fund at the ASPIRA Association.

### Ronald Blackburn-Moreno Youth Fund

ASPIRA Association, Inc.  
1220 L Street NW Suite 701  
Washington, DC 20005  
Donation Page: <https://www.aspira.org>



**MISSION STATEMENT:** Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition, striving to be in relationship with God and each other as Christ has taught us, actively attempting to sense and to serve God's plan with great love. We are guided by Mark 16:15: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," to learn, discern, and proclaim the Good News by being active ministers in the various communities where we live and serve.