

In Celebration for the Life of
Timothy Ernest Allmond, Jr.



December 26, 1955 — March 12, 2025

Lutheran Church of the Reformation
Washington, DC
Saturday, May 10th † 11 a.m.

☪ ☪ ☪ GATHERING ☪ ☪ ☪

The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship.

Prelude

Joyful, Joyful

Composed by Ludwig van Beethoven

Adapted by Roger Emerson

Arranged by Mervyn Warren

Performed by the Reformation Choir

Soloist: Gabrielle Levy

(NOTE: Tim was the soloist for this piece when he sang this song with the Reformation Choir)

Welcome

Hymn

Give Me Jesus – Traditional Negro Spiritual

Arranged by Hall Johnson

Performed by Lillie Harris, Tim's sister

Accompanied by Paul Leavitt

Please rise in body or spirit.

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, Timothy, 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, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Reflections

Jonathan Glover
Joan Morgan
Terry Johnson

Musical Selection

Nearer My God to Thee

Music by Lowell Mason
Text by Sara F. Adams
Arranged by James Stevens

Performed by Rock Creek Singers
Soloist: Rick Bennett

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. A brief silence.

O God of grace and glory,

we remember before you today our brother, Timothy.

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.**

Please be seated.

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.**

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God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung and preached.

First Reading

Corinthians 13:1-13

¹If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

²And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶It does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease, as for knowledge, it comes to an end. ⁹For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully even as I have been fully known. ¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:29-57

⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory."

⁵⁵"Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Music Selection

Then Came You

Music and Lyrics by J. T. Hatfield

Performed by Dana Nearing

Accompanied by Alex Tang

Reflections

Matt Williams

Micah Yarbrough

Musical Selection

My Help

Music and lyrics by Jackie Gouché
Performed by Seasons of Love soloist

Homily

Pastor Kevin Vandiver

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Apostle's 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.**

**Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.*

Musical Selection

From "Wicked"
Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Performed by Potomac Fever

For Good

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.

Reflections

Ryan Williams
Brent Allmond

Musical Selection

Never Ever

Music and lyrics by Robert Seeley and Phillip Littell

Performed by the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC
Accompanied by Paul Leavitt

☪ ☪ ☪ **SENDING** ☪ ☪ ☪

God blesses us and sends us in peace.

Commendation

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

Silence is kept.

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

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.

Help us, 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. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he 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, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The family deeply appreciates your many prayers and love during this time. Please greet them at the reception downstairs in the Parish Hall following this service. In keeping with Tim's ideals of service, memorial offerings may be made to the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington (www.gmcw.org) or the Parkinsons Foundation at www.parkinson.org

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Kevin Vandiver, PhD
Director of Music: Paul Leavitt
Stream Team: Andy Weaver, Matt Cook

Timothy Ernest Allmond Jr.

Timothy Ernest Allmond Jr., 69, of Silver Spring, MD, passed away on March 12th, 2025, surrounded by family. He was born on December 26, 1955, in Suffolk, Virginia, to Timothy Ernest Allmond, Sr. and Emma Sue Bagby Allmond.

Tim was a man of faith, music, and community. He graduated with honors from Windsor High School in Windsor, Virginia, in 1974 and went on to earn a degree in psychology and music from the College of William and Mary in 1978. While at William and Mary, he became a proud member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity as a member of the first chapter at the college.

From an early age, Tim accepted Christ at Jones Grove Baptist Church in Windsor, Virginia, and later became a faithful member of the Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Washington, DC, where he also shared his musical talents, performing at various locations across America and Europe.

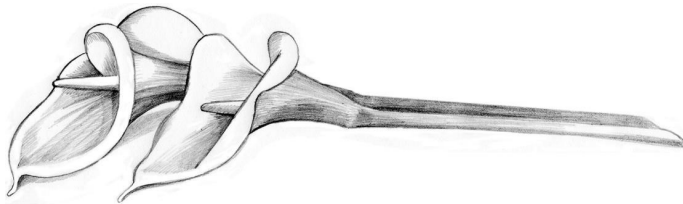
Music was Tim's lifelong passion—he played the trumpet and piano during his younger years, but cherished singing most of all. In college, he was a member of the William & Mary Choir and Botetourt Chamber Singers. For his senior recital, he founded the first gospel choir at William & Mary, the Ebony Expressions, which is still in existence today. Tim also performed with the Washington and Baltimore Opera Choruses for many years and continued singing at churches and studying voice with the late Dr Leon Fleming and later with Paul Leavitt. In 1999, he joined the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington where he lent his voice for over 25 years as a proud Tenor. As a member of the Chorus, he performed for President Obama during his pre-Inaugural concert in 2009 on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and also performed at the Kennedy Center Honors for Elizabeth Taylor and later for Jerry Herman. His musical career is a testament to his love for classical and choral music.

As a profession, Tim was an insurance underwriter for several insurance companies in the Washington and Baltimore areas. Before his disability due to Parkinsons Disease, he also was a trainer at St. Paul Insurance Company.

Tim struggled with a multitude of illnesses including Young Onset Parkinsons, diagnosed at age 42 and sustained many major surgeries over the years. He was a fighter and continuously beat all odds and bounced back almost every time. He finally succumbed to advanced Parkinsons complications and pneumonia and his bright light was extinguished on the afternoon of March 12, 2025.

Tim was preceded in death by his parents Timothy and Emma Sue Allmond, and his two brothers Terry Allmond and Calvin Green. He is survived by his beloved husband Robert Klein, together for over 27 ½ years; his siblings Barbara Flowers of Middletown, DE; Joan Morgan (Willie) of Greensboro, NC; Irene Tucker of Silver Spring, MD; Vernon Allmond (Chekela) of Mt. Juliet, TN; Lillie Haris (Steve) of High Point, NC; step mother Brenda Cuffee of High Point, NC, and a host of nieces, nephews, grand nieces, grand nephews, cousins and friends across the country.

A memorial service is being held at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation, 212 East Capitol St. N.E., Washington, DC on May 10, 2025 at 11:00am. His ashes were buried in a private ceremony in Windsor, Virginia on April 5. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington DC and the Parkinson's Foundation in Tim's memory.



Love Letter to Timothy

Dearest Timothy:

How do I begin? I met you virtually in an America Online chat room in July of 1997. After conversing for a couple of weeks, you convinced me to meet you, even though you had no photo to share! Something in the back of my mind told me I need to meet this man! And, from the first time I laid my eyes on you, I knew there was something very special about you.

We quickly became soul mates and we could even finish each other's sentences. We loved learning about each other's lives. Our backgrounds were so different, yet they strangely complemented each other. I had many occasions early on to listen to your absolutely gorgeous voice as you were still singing weekly as the featured soloist at the First Presbyterian Church in Annapolis, MD, under the direction of your beloved mentor and voice teacher, Dr. Leon Fleming. I loved your spirit, your sense of humor, your passion for music and for life and I quickly fell in love with you. You were exactly what I had been looking for to complete my life.

Our first weeks were a whirlwind and we spent as much time together as possible and it was only several weeks before I stayed with you at your home in Laurel, MD. I officially moved in at the beginning of December 1997. My commute to work quadrupled in length, but it was well worth it.

It was not long (less than a year later) before you began to have unexplained symptoms which led to your diagnosis with Young Onset Parkinsons Disease. You handled this with such grace and we began a journey of living life with Parkinsons. Having Young Onset Parkinsons, we knew that the progression of the disease would be very slow.

During those early years together, we each became part of each other's extended families. At first, our families didn't quite know how to take our presence at family events together, but eventually we both felt that we were accepted and loved by both of our families. We never missed the annual Allmond Family reunions and it was then I learned what a remarkable family you had. Tim, you came from "good people!" Some of our moments with our families were some of our most precious memories.

I truly value all of our 27 ½ years together. Travels took us all around the world. And, I was never so proud of your sharing your voice in various locations in Europe, the Caribbean and throughout the US. In 1999, you told me you were not sure if you were good enough to join the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington. You definitely underestimated your ability and with my urging, you auditioned and our journey with the chorus began...for over 25 years! I immediately joined the Support Section, so I could be with you during this journey and not become what was known as a "chorus widow!"

Some of our best memories over the years were experienced as part of GMCW. You had the chance to sing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on the eve of President Obama's inauguration with him and his family close by. I was able to join in and sing with you at the Kennedy Center Honors as we took part in the celebration for Elizabeth Taylor. And you later sang again at the Kennedy Center Honors for Jerry Herman. However, you were not a stranger to the Kennedy Center stage, as you sang for years with the Washington Opera Chorus, as well as with the Baltimore Opera Chorus. And, you sang with the Chorus several times at the Kennedy Center. The years with the Chorus culminated in your receiving the coveted Circle of Excellence Award and we were both honored a couple years ago as we received the Chorus' highest honor as Harmony Award recipients.

Some of the funniest memories with the Chorus included your first solo appearance in your first concert when you somehow changed the lyrics during your part, even though most people had no idea except for a few of us in the know. That was not the end of your struggle with lyrics. I remember a skit at one of the Chorus Retreats where you were trying to sing "You gotta have a gimmick," and you kept singing "you gotta get a gimme." And when you were the star of the No Talent Show in 2004, in the closing act, you forgot the closing verse, so you just started singing the same verse several times in a loop until you finally figured it out! We also received "Crystal Awards," as the cutest couple (twice) and you received one for an incident at one of the concerts. When the curtain rose at the beginning of the 2nd half, I saw feet swiftly running across the stage to get into place and something told me, that's Tim...and sure enough it was you!

One of my favorite memories was going on road trips with you and both of us singing our hearts out listening to Aretha or Mahalia Jackson. Sometimes, we got a tune in our head and we just made up nonsensical lyrics, bantering back and forth. We had so much joy doing that!

Throughout the years, I learned so much from you! You taught me to appreciate sacred music, classical music, opera and gospel music and I am so thankful for that. Your adoration for your idol, Leontyne Price, opened up my eyes to the beauty of her amazing, incomparable voice. You also taught me about kindness. That is why almost anyone I talk to describes you as a sweet man, because that is what you were, the sweetest soul I have ever known! I can honestly say that we hardly ever had an argument and never went to sleep mad at each other. It just never happened! With that said, we both had strong opinions and only you knew how to deal with my stubborn nature!

I loved traveling with you and experiencing different cultures. We had a chance to travel to Mexico, the Caribbean, France several times, England, Switzerland, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Latvia, Lithuania, Austria and Hungary. I always handled the logistics for our trips, which you were so happy to let me do and you went along for the rides. I regret that I never had the chance to show you Italy or make it to Thailand as we wished.

There was a phrase you loved when I described you. You would always ask me, "what is that term you use to describe me?" I said "high maintenance," and you would always chuckle and say, "Yes, I am high maintenance," and took great delight in it. Yes, I admit, you were a handful sometimes, but I will treasure the time I had with you and wouldn't trade it in for anything!

We always knew we were meant to be together and I am so happy that we expressed our feelings to each other again just months ago, followed by one of your wonderful hugs. Oh, how I miss those heartwarming hugs and your bright, optimistic spirit. As your difficulties became more pronounced, you took each challenge head on and rarely complained. I was always there with comforting words of encouragement. I just knew you were going to bounce back until you didn't. I was still hopeful until several weeks before your death, until I finally realized that the end was near. You were always a fighter, even in the past several months and up to your final days.

Tim, I don't believe you ever realized how special you were and the impact you had on so many people. To hear stories from family members and from chosen family members from the Chorus, you had a significant impact. I also wish you knew how much you accomplished in your life. You made your mark, Tim, and you should be so proud!

I would do absolutely anything to talk with you once more, to hug you once more, to show you how deeply I love you once more. I am missing you dearly and I will always carry the memories in my heart. I still feel your spirit and it will never go away.

To paraphrase a couple of the musical selections in today's celebration of life, I want you to know that "because I knew you, I have been changed for good." And I absolutely "take each moment" I had with you "as a gift."

You changed my life for the better, Tim! I can't imagine loving anyone ever again as much as I loved you!

Your loving husband and soulmate forever,

Bob