

**Commendation and Committal for
Thomas 'Tom' Lee Clark**
June 2, 1939—February 7, 2008



**I lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid
hold of me.**

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For if we live, we live unto the Lord; and if we die, we die unto the Lord. Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Priest Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Thomas Lee Clark, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah:

THE SPIRIT of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion; to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46 *Deus noster refugium*

God is our hope and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved,; *
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea;

Though the waters thereof rage and swell, *
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the
same.

There is a river, the streams whereof make glad the
city of God, *
the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most Highest.

God is in the midst of her,
therefore shall she not be removed; *
God shall help her, and that right early.

Be still then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations,
and I will be exalted in the earth.

The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit*
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

A reading from Paul's Epistle to the Romans

All who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For
you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into
fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When

we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. Who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; *
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; *
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for his Name's sake.

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.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of
mine enemies; *
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

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.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit*
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

A reading from the Gospel according to John:

"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. And you know the way where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

A homily may be preached, the people being seated.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy.

Priest Let us pray.
Priest and People

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. **Amen.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, especially Linda, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope,

in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.
Amen.

Grant us grace to entrust Tom to thy never-failing love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people.
Amen.

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me;
and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

He that raised up Jesus from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies, by his Spirit that dwelleth in us.

Wherefore my heart is glad, and my spirit rejoiceth; my flesh also shall rest in hope.

Thou shalt show me the path of life; in thy presence is the fullness of joy, and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

Into thy hands, O Lord, we commend thy servant Tom our dear brother, as into the hands of a faithful Creator and most merciful Savior, beseeching thee that he may be precious in thy sight. Wash him, we pray thee, in the blood of that immaculate Lamb that was slain to take away the sins of the world; that, whatsoever defilements he may have contracted in the midst of this earthly life being purged and done away, he may be presented pure and without spot before thee; through the merits of Jesus Christ thine only Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord:

People And let light perpetual shine upon him.

May his soul, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our
Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you
perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that
which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to
whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**