



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
THE REVEREND CANON
JERRY MORITSUNE SHIGAKI

October 21, 1946 – October 5, 2023



November 18, 2023

1:00 PM

Saint Mark's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People, who are still here, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of all the Coast Salish tribes.

Welcome to Saint Mark's Cathedral. Out of respect for the liturgy we are about to celebrate, please turn off all cell phones and audible devices. Please, no photography during the liturgy.



THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

PRELUDE

Improvisation on *Houston* (tune of Hymn 490, "I want to walk as a child of the light")

Meditation on *Slane* (tune of Hymn 482, "Lord of all hopefulness")

Gerre Hancock

Ave Maria

Franz Schubert

(offered by Kelan Sato, violin (Jerry's grandson),
and Canon for Cathedral Music Emeritus Mel Butler, piano)

WELCOME

Canon Daugherty

All stand, as able.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

In Christ there is no East or West ♦ *sung by all*

McKee

1. In Christ there is no East or West, in him no South or North,
2. Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be!
3. In Christ now meet both East and West, in him meet South and North,

but one great fel - low - ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
Who serves my Fa - ther as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
all Christ - ly souls are one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

THE COLLECTS

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 493

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O GOD of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother Jerry. We thank you for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before. All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Presider **M**OST merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with the Shigaki family in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated for the Liturgy of the Word.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

read by Jacob Shigaki

ON THIS mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

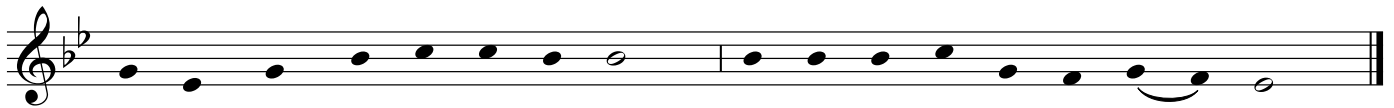
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 121 ♦ Levavi oculos ♦ St. Helena Psalter

Plainsong Tone V.1

The cantor introduces the Antiphon, all repeat it. The cantor chants the verses, all repeat the Antiphon as indicated.



My help comes from the Ho - ly One, the mak - er of heav - en and earth.

LLIFT up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
My help comes from God, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

God will not let your foot be moved; *
the One who watches over you will not fall asleep. **ANTIPHON**

Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
The Holy One watches over you *
and is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night. **ANTIPHON**

God shall preserve you from all evil, *
and is the One who shall keep you safe.
God shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore. **ANTIPHON**

READING

2 Corinthians 4:13-15

read by Lincoln Wong

JUST as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke" —we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

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

People Thanks be to God.

All stand, as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN O Kou Aloha No (Prayer of Queen Liliuokalani) ♦ sung by all

Words: Queen Liliuokalani, 1895

Music: Queen Liliuokalani (1838-1917)

Tune: LILUOKALANI, 6.7.7.6.

Arr. Dean B. McIntyre, 2003.

O kou a-lo-ha no A i - a i ka La - ni, A
 Kou no - ho mi - hi a - na A pa - 'a - ha - o la, O
 Mai na - na 'i - no - 'i - no Na he - wa o ka - na - ka, A -
 No - lai - la e ka Ha - ku Ma - la - lo kou e - he - u Ko

o kou oi - a - i' - o, He he - mo - le - le ho'i.
 o - e ku - 'u la - ma kou na - ni, ko - 'u ko'o.
 ka, e hu - i - ka - la, a ma - 'e - ma - 'e no.
 ma - kou ma - lu - hi - a, a mau loa a - ku no.

Arrangement by Dean B. McIntyre copyright © 2003 by The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: music@gbod.org. Permission is granted for local church worship and education nonprofit use with the inclusion of this complete copyright citation. It may not be republished, sold, or used for profit.

English translation (not for singing):

Your loving mercy is in heaven and your truth so perfect. I live imprisoned in sorrow; you are my light; your glory, my support. Behold not with malevolence the sins of humankind, but forgive and cleanse. And so, O Lord, beneath your wings protect us and let peace be our portion now and forever more.

THE HOLY GOSPEL *John 17:20-26*

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

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

JESUS prayed for his disciples, and then he said. “I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

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

REMEMBRANCES

The Reverend Canon Carla Robinson
The Reverend Rachel Taber-Hamilton

HOMILY

The Right Reverend Bavi “Nedi” Rivera

All stand, as able.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED *(spoken by all in unison)*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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 THE PEOPLE

led by Maria Weber

Presider In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Intercessor Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give to your whole Church in paradise and on earth, your light and your peace.

Assembly **Amen.**

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

Assembly **Amen.**

Intercessor May we who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, be led by your Holy Spirit in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Assembly **Amen.**

Intercessor May your faithful people receive pardon and peace, and be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind.

Assembly **Amen.**

Intercessor May all who mourn have sure confidence in your fatherly care, that casting all their grief on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

Assembly **Amen.**

Intercessor 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.

Assembly **Amen.**

Intercessor Give us grace to entrust Jerry to your never-failing love; receive him into the arms of your mercy, and remember him according to the favor you bear unto your people.

Assembly **Amen.**

Intercessor Increasing in knowledge and love of you, may he go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in your heavenly kingdom.

Assembly **Amen.**

Presider May we and all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, have our consummation and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory, and, with blessed Mary, blessed Mark, and all your saints, receive the crown of life that you promise to all who share in the victory of your Son Jesus Christ: who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Assembly **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All are invited to exchange a sign of peace, respecting others' desires for distance to be maintained.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Those who wish, are invited to please donate in Jerry's memory to support the diocesan Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) Ministry Fund as one way of supporting Jerry's legacy among us.

Please make checks payable to Saint Mark's Cathedral. Gifts may be mailed, or placed in one of the baskets located by the narthex.

Gifts may also be made by scanning the QR code on the right (select BIPOC Ministry Fund in the Giving Options drop-down menu).



ANTHEM

Resurrection

Source: John 11:25-26

(sung in Dinka, offered by the Choir of St. John South Sudanese Episcopal Church, Tukwila)

English translation: Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

All stand, as able.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and every where 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.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels
in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,
lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

San - to, San - to, San - to es el Se - ñor, Dios del U - ni - ver - so.
 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of hosts.

Lle - nos es - tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria. Ho -
 Heav - en and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na en el cie - lo. Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -

san - na en el cie - lo. Ho - san - na en el cie - lo.
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho -
 Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na en el cie - lo. Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -

san - na en el cie - lo. Ho - san - na en el cie - lo.
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Música: Misa Una Santa Fe, Ronald F. Krisman, 2010 GIA Publ

Presider Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
 To deliver us from the power of sin and death
 and to reveal the riches of your grace,
 you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,
 that she might conceive and bear a son,
 Jesus the holy child of God.
 Living among us, Jesus loved us.
 He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
 healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.
 He yearned to draw all the world to himself
 yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
 Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
 the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:
“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”
As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,
gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”
Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.
In the fullness of time bring us,
with Mary, Mark, and all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
to feast at the banquet prepared
from the foundation of the world.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever.

All AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All 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.

In silence, the Presider breaks the consecrated bread.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Cor - de - ro de Dios, que qui - tas el pe - ca - do del mun - do,
ten pie - dad de no - so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. Cor
de - ro de Dios, que qui - tas el pe - ca - do del
mun - do, da - nos la paz, da - nos la paz.

Argentine Folk Melody, Copyright © 2001, GIA Publication, Inc.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All may be seated for the time of Communion. All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table.

Please follow the directions of the Liturgical Ministers. Bread and wine are distributed at standing stations at the head of three aisles. The bread will be placed into your outstretched palm. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, simply ask for one at the time of Communion. If you wish to receive a blessing instead, please cross your arms in front of your chest.

Intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is not available at this time. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please cross your arms in front of your chest as you pass by the chalice. The full grace of the sacrament is received with only the bread.

COMMUNION HYMN *Blessed be the tie that binds*

Stanza 1: sung in Cantonese by the choir of Holy Apostles Episcopal Church, Bellevue.

Stanzas 2-4: sung by all in the language of their choice.

羅炳良等修自多本聖詩集, 1984
John Fawcett, 1740-1871

DENNIS S.M.
Johann H.G. Nägeli, 1773-1836
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

3 | 3 1 3 | 2 7 2 | 1 - 1 | 1 6 1 | 1 5 1 | 7 - 2 |

1. 福 哉 愛 主 聖 徒, 彼 此 以 愛 結 連, 和
2. 在 父 寶 座 面 前, 同 心 虔 誠 祈 禱, 同
3. 彼 此 同 當 憂 患, 彼 此 同 肩 重 擔, 彼
4. 我 們 離 別 之 時, 內 心 難 免 依 依, 身

1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love; The
2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers; Our
3. We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear; And
4. When we a - sun - der part It gives us in - ward pain; But

2 7 2 | 1 3 5 | 5 2 4 | 3 5 6 | 5 3 4 | 3 1 2 | 1 - ||

睦 相 處, 同 心 合 意, 在 地 如 同 在 天。
擔 憂 懼, 同 得 安 慰, 在 同 一 盼 望 目 標。
此 共 灑 同 情 眼 淚, 彼 此 慰 問 勸 勉。
雖 遠 離, 心 仍 契 合, 希 望 再 會 有 期。
fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com - forts and our cares.
oft - en for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
we shall still be joined in heart And hope to meet a - gain.

COMMUNION ANTHEM *Break now the bread of life*

Words: Mary A. Lathbury, 1877, alt.;
Music: William F. Sherwin

Sung in Khmer by the choir of Holy Family of Jesus (Cambodian) Episcopal Church, Tacoma.

Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord;
my spirit waits for you, O living Word.

Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me,
as when you blessed the bread by Galilee.
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;
and I shall find my peace, my All in all!

You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
your holy word the truth that rescues me.
Give me to eat and live with you above;
teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

O send your Spirit now, dear Lord, to me,
that he may touch my eyes and make me see.
Show me the truth made plain within your Word,
for in your book revealed I see you, Lord.

DRUM SONG *Wen' De Ya Ho* ♦ *a prayer in ancient Cherokee from the tradition of prayer songs*

Offered by The Reverend Rachel Taber-Hamilton. All are invited to join in singing as the song is repeated.

We n' de ya ho, We n' de ya ho,

We n' de ya, We n' de ya Ho ho ho ho,

He ya ho, He ya ho, Ya ya ya

Freely translated: "A we n'" (I am), "de" (of), "Yauh" –the– (Great Spirit), "Ho" (it is so).

Written as: A we n' de Yauh ho (I am of the Great Spirit, It is so!).

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Improvisation on hymns, "Love divine, all loves excelling," and "Lord of all hopefulness."*

All stand, as able.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

All Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE COMMENDATION

The ministers stand at the Paschal Candle, the symbol of our risen life in Christ.

Presider Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

All where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Presider You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; 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.

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

Presider Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Jerry. 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.

All Amen.

BLESSING *The Presider asks God's blessing on the Assembly. All respond: Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN *I, the Lord of sea and sky* ♦ *sung by all*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry. All who dwell in
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain. I have wept for
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a
 deep - est sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night,
 love of them, they turn a - way. I will break their hearts of stone,
 feast for them, my hand will save. Fin-est bread I will pro-vide
 I will make their dark-ness bright. Who will bear my light to them?
 give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I
 till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my life to them.
 send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you
 call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you
 lead me, I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Words and Music: Daniel L. Schutte, Copyright 1981, Daniel Schutte;
 and New Dawn Music, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Please remain standing for the closing procession.

VOLUNTARY Postlude on *Hyfrydol* (tune of Hymn 657, "Love divine, all loves excelling")

Carson Cooman

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

PRESIDER

The Most Reverend Melissa M. Skelton

PREACHER

The Right Reverend Bavi “Nedi” Rivera

DEACON OF THE WORD

The Reverend Polly Shigaki

DEACON OF THE TABLE

The Reverend Earl Grout

ASSISTING LAY MINISTER

Rose Hazard

VERGERS

Nancy Cleminshaw
Michael Seewer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

The Rev. Rong By
The Rev. Canon Jennifer King Daugherty
Torres Hui
The Rev. Canon Elise B. Johnstone
Roberta Newell
Sylvia Sepulveda
Jay Shoji

ACOLYTES

Alison Estep
Ray Miller
Alexandra Thompson

ALTAR GUILD

Emily Meeks
Sue Tait

LECTORS

Jacob Shigaki
Lincoln Wong

INTERCESSOR

Maria Weber

USHERS

Janet Miller
Chris Rigos
Sandra Piscitello
Kathy Sodergren

GREETERS

Barbara Erickson
Dwight Imanaka
Doug Kanaya
Stan Kawakami
Don Matsuda
Deborah Moore
Peter Tsai

OBLATION BEARERS

Kelan & Corey Sato, *Jerry's grandsons*

MUSICIANS

Kelan Sato, *violin*
Mel Butler, *piano*
Rebekah Gilmore, *cantor*
Choir of St. John South Sudanese Episcopal Church, *Tukwila*
Choir of Holy Apostles Episcopal Church, *Bellevue*
Choir of Holy Family of Jesus (Cambodian) Episcopal Church, *Tacoma*
The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton, *singer & drummer*
Canon Michael Kleinschmidt, *organist*

SOUND BOARD

Michael Perera

VIDEOGRAPHY

Chris Brown

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THE REV. CANON JERRY MORITSUNE SHIGAKI

October 21, 1946 – October 5, 2023

MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

THE REV. CANON JERRY MORITSUNE SHIGAKI was born on October 21, 1946, in Seattle, Washington. He was a third-generation Japanese American. The youngest of four children, he was born after the family's incarceration during WWII, in Minidoka, Idaho. He earned a BA in personnel management and business administration with a comprehensive study in sociology from the University of Washington in 1968. After graduation, he served as a caseworker for the Department of Social & Health Services in Seattle before returning to school to earn a Master of Social Work with an emphasis in human services from the University of Washington in 1975. In the mid-70s, he worked with the Southeast Asian refugee resettlement program, assisting mostly Vietnamese families to acclimate and settle into their new lives in Seattle.

After earning his master's degree, he continued his work both professionally and personally, centered around service to others. This included: continuing his role as a caseworker within DSHS, serving in the University of Washington's Equal Opportunity Program that assisted minority applicants in gaining admission to the University, working with the Center for Career Alternatives helping disadvantaged youth and adults to gain education and employment, supporting and coaching youth development in local basketball leagues, serving as an active member and past president of the Japanese American Citizens League, serving as one of the founding members of the Asian Counseling and Referral Services, and teaching English as a second language through various organizations (Seattle Central Community College and most recently, with EZ Language Club for Native Japanese Speakers).

With the encouragement of The Rev. Timothy Nakayama, Jerry went on a mission trip to Rome in 1989, where he was a Social Worker/Missioner for the Joel Nafuma Refugee Center, working with refugees from Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Soviet Union. After this experience, Jerry began to discern a call to ordained ministry. He graduated with an M.Div. from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary on June 2, 2000, ordained to the transitional diaconate on June 24, 2000, and was ordained to the priesthood on January 13, 2001.

Beginning in 2000, Jerry served as the Missioner for Ethnic Ministries for the Diocese of Olympia. In this position, Jerry coordinated and supported the development of ethnic and multi-cultural congregations, as well as facilitated meetings with people of color seeking Holy Orders or pursuing lay leadership positions. From 2005-2010, he worked closely with The Rt. Rev. Bavi Edna “Nedi” Rivera and others to strengthen diversity in the diocese. He also provided anti-racism training to congregations and governing bodies within the Diocese. He was an integral part of the Anti-Racism Task Force in 2007 and was part of the Hurricane Katrina Response Group. Finally, Jerry, along with The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton, was integral in the formation of The Circles of Color, a structure within the Diocese of Olympia, by which the perspectives and voices of people of color are magnified.

Through the years of his ministry, Jerry also served as a supply priest at many congregations. Among these were: Faith Episcopal Church, Poulsbo; St. Clare’s, Snoqualmie; Church of the Holy Apostles, Bellevue; and Holy Family of Jesus, Tacoma (Diocese of Olympia); at St Peter’s by the Sea (Diocese of Alaska); at St. Paul’s and St. John’s Episcopal Churches of West Kauai (Diocese of Hawaii); and at the Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission in Eagle Butte (Diocese of South Dakota).

Jerry’s lifelong work as a social worker and a priest revolved around social justice. He worked towards increasing opportunities for those less advantaged, celebrated diversity, and always strove and advocated for a more inclusive, just, and equitable society. His legacy will live on in the diverse communities where he worked with love, devotion, and passion for social change.

Jerry was preceded in death by his brother, Dale, and is survived by his daughter Christine (husband Kyle); grandsons Kelan and Corey; sister-in-law Karen; siblings Irene and John (wife Polly); and many nephews and nieces.

Those wishing to honor Jerry may donate to the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia (Memo: Jerry Shigaki) to support people of color in their ministry.

From the Family:

We are so grateful for you who have traveled from both near and far and for those who joined online and in spirit. We are comforted to see all of you who gathered with us to celebrate Dad. Today is a testament to his lifelong passion of connecting with others. We find solace in knowing that his legacy lives on in each of us and within the community that he so lovingly built and cherished, one relationship at a time. We thank you all for your continued support, prayers, and for being a part of this celebration.

*With love and gratitude,
Christine Shigaki and Family*



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