



In Memoriam
Rev. Dr. James A. Langley
March 20, 1925 - June 7, 2018

Memorial Service for Rev. Dr. James A. Langley

2:00 pm

July 28, 2018

Prelude

Hymn Selections (Dr. Langley's favorites)
Lawrence P. Schreiber, Organist

***Reading**

A Window on the Word
Rev. Julie Pennington-Russell, Senior Pastor

Please stand, or rise in the Spirit, and read in unison:

**"Lord, thou hast been our home in all generations;
before the mountains were brought forth, or ever
thou hadst formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God."**

**"In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...
Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."**

"Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."

**"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord
and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."**

**"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth...
There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain,
for the old order of things has passed away." Amen and Amen.**

***Hymn (printed on pg. 4)**

Almighty Father, Full of Grace
Tune: MELITA (NAVY HYMN)

Welcome

Pastor Julie

Invocation

Rev. Bo Chang

Solo

O Divine Redeemer
Charles Gounod
Deborah Miller, Soprano

Remembrances

Mr. Robert Hudson
Rev. Dr. Jere Allen
Hon. Clyde Taylor
Rep. Steny Hoyer (letter)

Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:5-11
Rev. Paul Clark

***Hymn** (printed on pg. 5)

This Is Our Calling
Tune: ASSURANCE

Prayer

Rev. Dr. Joseph Lyles

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 1:3-5
Rev. Dr. Robert Cochran

Solo

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth
G. F. Handel
Deborah Miller

Eulogy and Homily

Rev. Dr. Bruce Salmon

***Hymn** (printed on pg. 6)

Emmanuel, God With Us
Tune: SOLID ROCK

Organ Solo

Largo from Xerxes
G.F. Handel

Benediction

Rev. George Stapleton



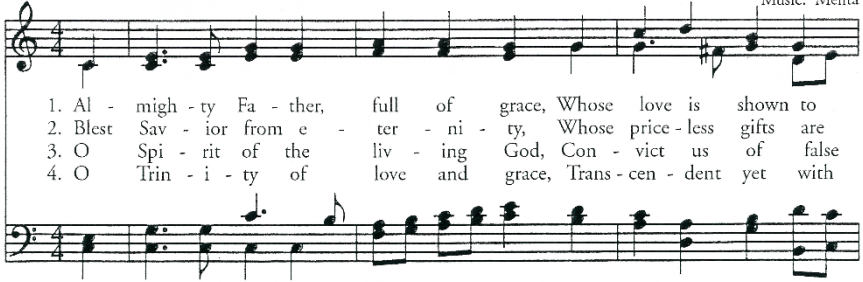
*The family is deeply grateful for
all expressions of sympathy, prayer and support.
Everyone is invited to a reception in Fellowship Hall.*

Almighty Father, Full of Grace

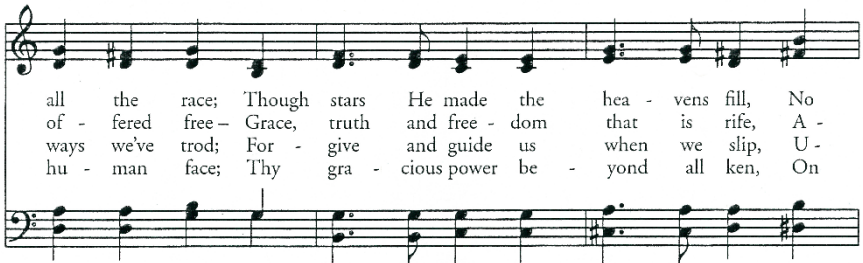
Text: James A. Langley (1999)

John B. Dykes (1861)

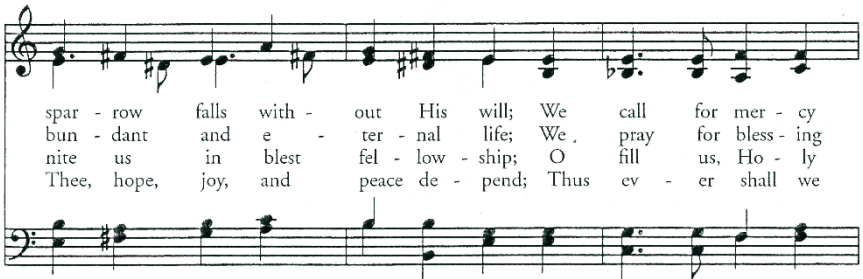
Music: Melita



1. Al - migh - ty Fa - ther, full of grace, Whose love is shown to
2. Blest Sav - ior from e - ter - ni - ty, Whose price - less gifts are
3. O Spi - rit of the liv - ing God, Con - vict us of false
4. O Trin - i - ty of love and grace, Trans - cen - dent yet with



all the race; Though stars He made the hea - vens fill, No
of - fered free - Grace, truth and free - dom that is rife, A -
ways we've trod; For - give and guide us when we slip, U -
hu - man face; Thy gra - cious power be - yond all ken, On



spar - row falls with - out His will; We call for mer - cy
bun - dant and e - ter - nal life; We pray for bless - ing
nite us in blest fel - low - ship; O fill us, Ho - ly
Thee, hope, joy, and peace de - pend; Thus ev - er shall we



un - to Thee: God's sav - ing grace, our earn - est plea.
un - to Thee: Christ's joy and peace e - ter - nal - ly.
Spi - rit free: In - dwell that we may Christ - like be.
of - fer Thee: Hearts that em - brace the Trin - i - ty.

Recommend singing first three stanzas softly with deliberation, followed by brief instrumental interlude, and fourth stanza with full instrument(s) and full voices. – Author

This Is Our Calling

Text: James A. Langley (2013)

Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1873)
Music: Assurance

1. Bless-ed Re - deem - er, sent from a - bove, Dy - ing in our stead, with in - fi - nite
 2. Called to seek jus - tice, pro - tect - ing the weak, Christ leads the van - guard, His gui - dance we
 3. Called to love mer - cy, Christ thus is known; Save from de - spair - ing when mer - cy is
 4. Called to walk hum - bly, dai - ly with God, Know - ing e - la - tion and chast - en - ing

love, Off - ring for - give - ness, to seek - ers who ask, Called to re -
 seek, Fight - ing in - jus - tice, with cour - age and strength, 'Well done' a -
 shown, Prac - tic - ing kind - ness, God's con - quer - ing might, Liv - ing the
 rod, Though we're un - wor - thy, He calls us friends, God's way de -

pen - tance, tak - ing God's task. This is our call - ing, act - ing on
 waits such, God's praise at length.
 gos - pel, re - flect - ing God's light.
 mand - ing, to hea - ven as - cends.

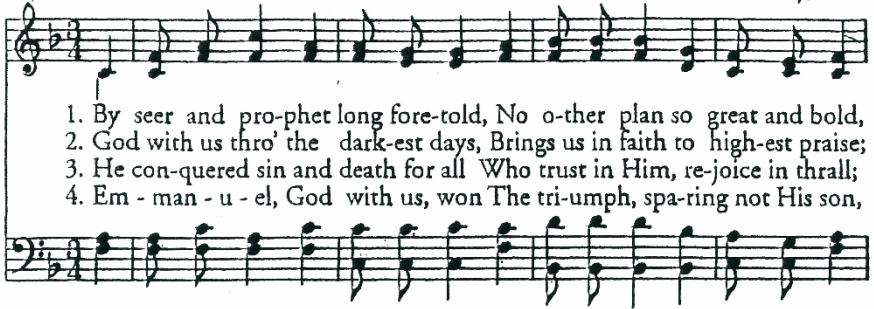
needs, Show - ing God's love by word and by deeds, This is our

call - ing act - ing on needs, Show - ing God's love by word and by deeds.

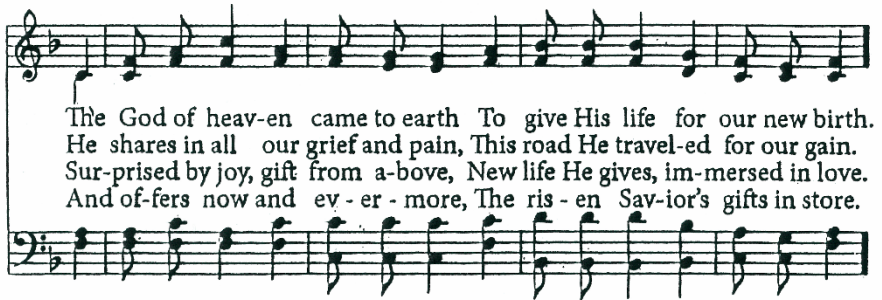
EMMANUEL, GOD WITH US

Text: James A. Langley (2012)


Music: Solid Rock
William B. Bradbury, 1863



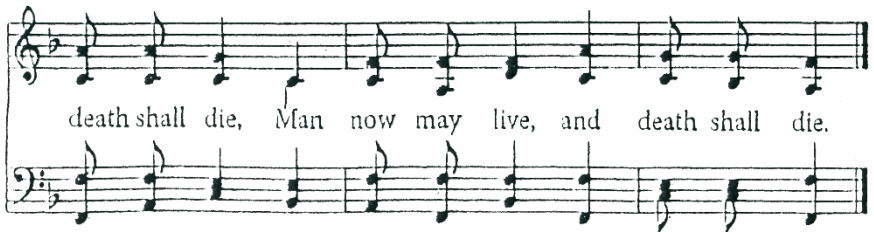
1. By seer and prophet long fore-told, No o-ther plan so great and bold,
2. God with us thro' the dark-est days, Brings us in faith to high-est praise;
3. He con-quer-ed sin and death for all Who trust in Him, re-joyce in thrall;
4. Em - man - u - el, God with us, won The tri-umph, spa-ri-ng not His son,



The God of heav-en came to earth To give His life for our new birth.
He shares in all our grief and pain, This road He travel-ed for our gain.
Sur-prise-d by joy, gift from a-bo-ve, New life He gives, im-mers-ed in love.
And of-fers now and ev - er - more, The ris - en Sav-ior's gifts in store.



'God with us' sounds the glo-ri-ous cry! Man now may live, and



death shall die, Man now may live, and death shall die.

Today's Participants
(in order of appearance)

Dr. Lawrence P. Schreiber is Organist-Choirmaster, First Baptist Church of Washington, D.C. (FBCDC)

Rev. Julie Pennington-Russell is Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church of Washington, D.C.

Rev. Bo Chang is pastor of Glory Baptist Church in Silver Spring, MD.

Deborah Miller is a soprano soloist at FBCDC.

Robert Hudson is a retired corporate executive and was President of the D.C. Baptist Convention in 1979-80.

Rev. Dr. Jere Allen is the Executive Director/Minister Emeritus of the D.C. Baptist Convention.

Hon. Clyde Taylor is a retired career Foreign Service Officer who with his wife Ginny enjoyed Jim's ministry from 1959-1964 and stayed in touch thereafter.

Rep. Steny Hoyer is the House Democratic Whip and the U.S. Representative for Maryland's Fifth Congressional District. He and his family were active members at Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church under Dr. Langley's leadership, and maintained a friendship over the years.

Rev. Paul Clark is the former Leadership Development staff minister for the D.C. Baptist Convention who served under the Executive Leadership of Dr. James A. Langley, and former Pastor of National Baptist Memorial Church in Washington, D.C.

Rev. Dr. Joseph Lyles is pastor of Fort Foote Baptist Church in Fort Washington, MD.

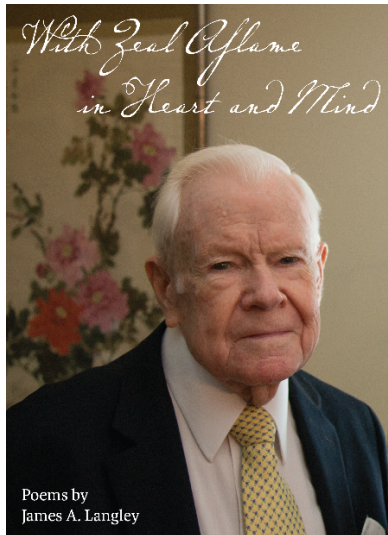
Rev. Dr. Robert Cochran is the current Executive Director/Minister of the D.C. Baptist Convention.

Rev. Dr. Bruce Salmon is the Retired Pastor of Village Baptist Church of Bowie, Maryland.

Rev. George Stapleton is a retired minister of the American Baptist Convention, graduate of George Washington University and Southern Theological Seminary, retiree of the U.S. Department of Interior, author of five books (the latest being *Just a Hillbilly*, dedicated to Jim Langley), and author of a Tribute to Dr. James A. Langley in the August issue of *Christian Ethics Today*.



Many of Dr. Langley's poems have been compiled into a booklet that is available at <https://goo.gl/1QFV5o>.



Our Brother, James Langley

The Rev. Dr. James A. Langley, a member of First Baptist Church of Washington D.C., died on June 7, 2018 of complications resulting from a fall. He was 93.

The youngest of three brothers, Jim Langley was born and raised in Opelika, Alabama. He was drafted into the U.S. Army after high school graduation in 1943. Following infantry basic training at Camp Fannin, Texas, he was sent to MIT for six months of study. There, with another soldier, he conducted Sunday evening services in the Walker Memorial Building for fellow troops. The 17th Airborne Division to which he was transferred had completed parachute and glider training, and he was reassigned to the 46th Medical Depot Company at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. The unit was sent to Marseille, France to provide support for the U.S. Seventh Army driving the *Wehrmacht* up the Rhône River Valley and eventually into Germany. He served first in support services for the Seventh Army in southern France, and later was in charge of medical supplies for the U.S. 8276th POW General Hospital near Marseille. He organized and conducted regular Sunday church services at the hospital.

After being discharged from the Army, he attended Baylor University, where he was elected President of the Freshman Class and named President of the English Society. During college he was the Pastor of the Baptist church in Malone, TX, and preached in youth revivals across Texas and beyond. After graduating in 1949 he was invited by Dr. A. Joseph Armstrong to give the principal address at the 1950 cornerstone laying ceremony for the Armstrong Browning Library at Baylor. He received a B.D. degree from Southwestern Baptist Seminary, an MDiv from Princeton Seminary, and a Th.D. from Southwestern Baptist Seminary, where he was a teaching fellow in Homiletics. At Princeton he served as Chaplain for the Baptist Students.

He married fellow seminary student Eugenia “Jean” Savage of Alexandria, Virginia in 1951 at Fountain Memorial Baptist Church in D.C. Jean was a schoolteacher, a homemaker, and for 20 years an employee and docent at the National Gallery of Art. They were married for 51 years, until her death in 2002.

Dr. Langley served as Pastor of Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. from 1957 to 1970, guiding the church to racial integration. He went on preaching missions to Mexico, Hong Kong, and Rwanda. In 1970 he was named Executive Director of the D.C. Baptist Convention. He held that post until his retirement in 1991, and for 18 of those years was Editor of the Convention’s publication, *Capital Baptist*, for which he wrote incisive editorials. He promoted the reception of African-American and ethnic congregations into the Convention, and the election of women to top leadership of the DCBC. He sought fairness in appointment of ministers and laity with varied theological persuasions as trustees of denominational boards. Until very recently, the DCBC was the only regional body affiliated with both the SBC and the ABC (American Baptist Churches USA), which had divided over slavery, and during his tenure Dr. Langley sought to be even-handed in relating to both. After retiring he served as Interim Pastor for several churches in the D.C. area.

Dr. Langley was a trustee and served on the National Advisory Council of the Americans United for Separation of Church and State. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, the General Council of American Baptist Churches USA, and a trustee of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He was named to the Human Rights and the Baptist Heritage Commissions of the Baptist World Alliance and was a member of the Washington Inter-Church Club.

His mother once told him, “Jim, wherever you go, join the church where you are, no matter how short your time in that town.” He heeded those words throughout his entire life. He joined First Baptist

in 2006 and was a faithful part of the FBCDC family. He served for a time as its interim minister for pastoral care, filled the pulpit on a number of occasions, and taught many inspiring Bible study classes.

After retirement, his passion became poetry. He wrote and published poems with such themes as the splendor of nature, God's love, historical events, and the Holocaust. During FBC's August Forum in 2016, he read his narrative poem "Holocaust Image," which was published that year in *Christian Ethics Today*. He viewed poetry writing as an extension of his ministry. In "God Speaks in Many Ways," one stanza runs:

Dostoevsky probing the psyche's depths,
An exquisite aria by Gounod,
Remembrance, near or far, of some saint's steps,
Millet's *Angelus*, a tyrant's overthrow.

Survivors include four children and five grandchildren: Carol Langley; James Langley, Jr. (Marielle), Alexandra and Holbrook; Jane Langley-Smith (Winston), Colin, Fiona and Liam; and Marilyn Langley.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Bacone College or the American Indian College Fund.

The First Baptist Church of the City of Washington, D.C.

- Julie Pennington-Russell.....Senior Pastor, jpr@firstbaptistdc.org
- Charlie Fuller Executive Pastor, cfuller@firstbaptistdc.org
- Alyssa Aldape .. Assoc. Pastor for Young Adults/Youth, aaldape@firstbaptistdc.org
- Kelly Magee-PrichardMin. of Children/Families, kmp@firstbaptistdc.org
- Lawrence P. SchreiberOrganist-Choirmaster, lschreiber@firstbaptistdc.org
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