

A Celebration of the Life of

ALEXANDER JAY ADAM

January 11, 1984 – January 25, 2007



Friday, the second of February
in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven
at three o'clock in the afternoon
Church of the Heavenly Rest
New York City

THE HOLY GOSPEL – John 14:1-6

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "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."

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Philippa A. Turner

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE PRAYERS

ANTHEM

"For the beauty of the earth"
St. Bernard's Singers

John Rutter

THE COMMENDATION

Prayer Book, page 499

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

HYMN 208

"The strife is over"

Victory

POSTLUDE

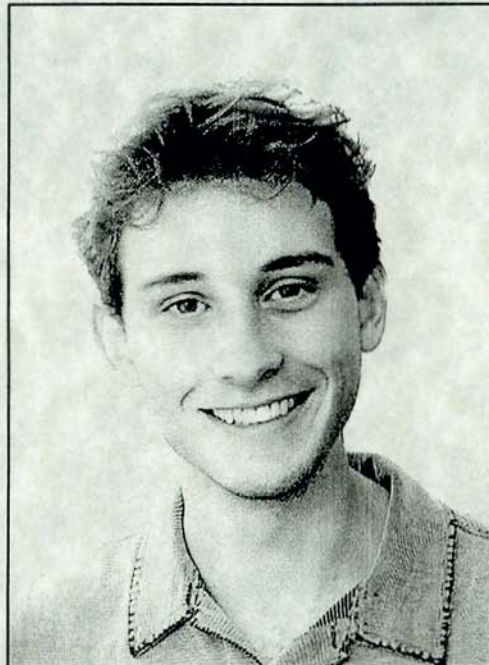
Fugue in E flat

Johann Sebastian Bach

*All are invited to a reception immediately following the service at
The House of the Redeemer
7 East 95th Street*

OFFICIANT
The Reverend Philippa A. Turner

ORGANIST
Mollie Nichols



Homily Preached At Alex Adams Memorial Service - The Rev. Philippa A. Turner

Alex all who knew him - as we heard in all the moving eloquent remembrances - were never at a loss to describe him with words of wit, wonder, laughter, love, care, compassion –

Words we know he could probably molded transform into something even more moving funny and striking.

Alex – it is too too soon to be standing here today to celebrate his life, but celebrate it we do, no matter how brief the journey – for it was full, rich and in it he did not waste a minute truly

Living

Giving

Sharing.

I'm sorry I didn't know him longer. A few intense weeks. But I saw in him – his searching eyes, his kind manner even in the midst of pain – such courage,

Such dignity

Such honour

Such love

Yes, even in those difficult moments, humour

Such care

In this liturgy today we celebrate in word in song in prayer we remember , we give back

Alex,

Yet all in the context of eternal life.

How can we bear to let go , and yet, as the beautiful prayer puts it – in giving back we do not lose him for the expanse of Gods heart is so vast that it contains us all, it's just our understanding of time is different. Alex is now embraced in eternity. In my Father's house, it says, there are many rooms, I go to prepare a place for thee.

He, Alex, has entered far too soon, but he is not alone. He has s gone before, defying death,²³ and Alex, our faith proclaims and hope trusts, is embraced in that love where there is no more pain, no more weeping – where everything has been made new.

And that great company of those who have gone on before abide and live in love so there is nothing lonely about it at all.

Alex said to me a few weeks ago that he hoped that a part of him would remain behind. Well we all know that that part is his love and our love which bind us to him and him to us, forever. Time and Space and Death can not take that away.

The Psalmist declares that he lifts up his eyes to the _____ from whence comes his help.

Alex loves the mountains – on of his most joyful moments perhaps – accomplishment – victory – awe

was reaching the peak of a mountain and appreciating this vast and beautiful and magnificent creation of which we are all a part.

His fight against cancer is one in which we all stand in awe at his tenacity and giving back, right to the end.

And yet – a new beginning, in which, in a way we will learn with trepidatic and sorrow, yet also with faith and hope – his new life, his eternal love will live in us – always.

May we go forth from this place strengthened – comforted by this hope, by his memory, his words ringing in our ears and buoyed up by the angelic voices heard here today carrying him to the heart of God.

Amen