



The Funeral Liturgy  
for  
**John Montgomery Keeler**

July 5, 1933 – March 31, 2022

Saturday, April 30, 2022  
11:00 a.m.

Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church  
44 Main Street  
Binghamton, New York

# The Burial of the Dead: Rite II

**Organ Prelude:** “Wie schoen leuchtet”                      Dietrich Buxtehude  
(How Bright Appears the Morning Star: Hymn 497)

**Choral Introit:** Alleluia    Randall Thompson

## The Procession

*All stand while the following anthems are said by the priest.*

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.  
Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die.  
And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives  
and that at the last day he will stand upon the earth.  
After my awaking, he will raise me up;  
and in my body I shall see God.  
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend  
and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,  
and none becomes his own master when he dies.

For if we have life,  
we are alive in the Lord,  
and if we die, we die in the Lord.  
So, then, whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord!  
So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

## Hymn 427: When Morning Gilds the Skies

*Laudes Domini*

- 1 When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:  
    May Jesus Christ be praised!  
When evening shadows fall, this rings my curfew call:  
    May Jesus Christ be praised!
- 2 When mirth for music longs, this is my song of songs:  
    May Jesus Christ be praised!  
God's holy house of prayer hath none that can compare  
    With "Jesus Christ be praised!"
- 3 No lovelier antiphon in all high heaven is known  
    Than "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
There to the eternal Word the eternal psalm is heard:  
    May Jesus Christ be praised!
- 4 Ye nations of mankind, in this their concord find:  
    May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound:  
    May Jesus Christ be praised!
- 5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, ye that see his face,  
    Sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
God's whole creation o'er, both now and evermore  
    Shall Jesus Christ be praised!

## The Prayers

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

*People*       ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day  
    our brother John.

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;  
    through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

# The Liturgy of the Word

*The congregation is seated*

## **A Reading from the Book of Lamentations Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.

“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,  
“therefore I will hope in him.”

It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.  
For the Lord will not reject for ever.

Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the  
abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly  
afflict or grieve anyone.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord

*People* ***Thanks be to God***

## **Choir Anthem: The King of Love Psalm 23**

**Peter Browne**

The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His, and He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul He leadeth,  
And, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love He sought me,  
And on His shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with Thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy Cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; Thy unction grace bestoweth;  
And oh, what transport of delight from Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise within Thy house forever.

## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans**

### **Romans 8:31-35, 37-39**

What then are we to say about these things?

If God is for us, who is against us?

He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us,  
will he not with him also give us everything else?

Who will bring any charge against God's elect?

It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?

It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised,  
who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will hardship, 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 convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels,  
nor rulers, 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.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord

*People*   ***Thanks be to God***

*(The congregation remains seated)*

### **Hymn 680: O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

*St. Anne*

- 1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal Home.
- 2 Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood or earth received her frame,  
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,  
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away;  
they fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

## **The Holy Gospel**

*The congregation stands*

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

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

## **The Holy Gospel: John 14:1-6a**

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places.

If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again

and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place 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."

*Priest*      The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Homily**

**The Rev. Glenn Mahaffey**

## **Hymn 420: When in Our Music God Is Glorified**

*Engelberg*

- 1 When in our music God is glorified,  
and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!
- 2 How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the  
world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!
- 3 So has the church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through  
centuries of wrong, borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!
- 4 And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove  
against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!
- 5 Let every instrument be tuned for praise!  
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!  
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*Worship Leader*

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism,  
let us proclaim our faith and say,

*All*

***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.***

## **The Prayers**

*The Leader and People pray responsively:*

For our brother, John, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said,  
"I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress;  
draw near to us who mourn for John  
and dry the tears of those who weep.

***Hear us, Lord.***

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend;  
comfort us in our sorrow.

***Hear us, Lord.***

You raised the dead to life;  
give to our brother John eternal life.  
***Hear us, Lord.***

You promised paradise to the thief who repented;  
bring our brother to the joys of heaven.  
***Hear us, Lord.***

John was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit;  
give him fellowship with all your saints.  
***Hear us, Lord.***

He was nourished with your Body and Blood;  
grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.  
***Hear us, Lord.***

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother John;  
let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.  
***Hear us, Lord***

### ***Celebrant***

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother, John,  
who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism.

Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death,  
and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love.

Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way;  
and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
to the ages of ages. ***Amen.***

### **The Peace**

***Celebrant***     The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
***People***        ***And also with you.***

*The People greet one another—keeping social distance between them.*



# The Holy Communion

## Choir Anthem: If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments,  
and I will pray the Father,  
and he shall give you another comforter,  
that he may abide with you forever,  
e'en the spirit of truth.

## The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Celebrant*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere 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.

Therefore we praise you,  
joining our voices with Angels and Archangels  
and with all the company of heaven,  
who forever sing this hymn  
to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*All*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.***

*Celebrant*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love  
which you have made known to us in creation;  
in the calling of Israel to be your people;  
in your Word spoken through the prophets;  
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.  
In him, you have delivered us from evil,  
and made us worthy to stand before you.  
In him, you have brought us out of error into truth,  
out of sin into righteousness,  
out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us,  
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;  
and when he had given thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,  
“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine;  
and when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them, and said,  
“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,  
***We remember his death,***  
***We proclaim his resurrection,***  
***We await his coming in glory.***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you,  
O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation,  
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts  
that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ  
and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,  
that we may be acceptable through him,  
being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ,  
and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints,  
we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church,  
and the author of our salvation.  
By him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours,  
Almighty Father, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

### **The Lord's Prayer**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

***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.***

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!***

## **Ministration of Communion**

*Celebrant*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## **Hymn 397: Now Thank We All Our God**

*Nun danket alle Gott*

- 1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
- 2 And may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
And keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills in this world in the next.
- 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,  
Eternal, Triune God, whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant* Let us pray

*Celebrant and People*

***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

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

*Celebrant*

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind;  
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!

*People*

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

*Celebrant*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant John.  
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.**

*The Congregation stands. The Family processes to the Chapel*

## Hymn 494: Crown Him with Many Crowns

*Diademata*

- 1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own:  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the Son of God before the worlds began,  
And ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man;  
Who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast,  
And takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.

- 3 Crown him the Lord of life who triumphed o'er the grave,  
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;  
His glories now we sing who died, and rose on high.  
Who died, eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.
- 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who over all doth reign  
Who once on earth, the incarnate Word, for ransomed sinners slain,  
Now lives in realms of light, where saints with angels sing  
Their songs before him day and night, their God, Redeemer, king.
- 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, enthroned in worlds above;  
Crown him the King, to whom is given the wondrous name of Love,  
Crown him with many crowns, as thrones before him fall.  
Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns, for He is King of all.

## **The Committal**

### *Celebrant*

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;  
I will never turn away anyone who comes to me.  
He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead  
will also give life to our mortal bodies  
through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices.  
My body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life;  
And in your hand are pleasures for evermore.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life,  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
We commend to Almighty God our brother John,  
and we commit his body to its resting place;  
Earth to earth; ashes to ashes; dust to dust.

The Lord bless John and keep him;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon him  
and be gracious to him;  
The Lord lift his countenance upon him  
and give him peace. **AMEN.**

*Celebrant* Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord  
*People* ***And let light perpetual shine upon him***  
*Celebrant* May his soul, and the souls of all the departed  
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

## **Hymn 432: O Praise Ye the Lord**

*Laudate Dominum*

- 1 O praise ye the Lord! praise Him in the height;  
Rejoice in His Word, ye angels of light;  
Ye heavens, adore Him by whom ye were made,  
And worship before Him in brightness arrayed.
- 2 O praise ye the Lord! Praise Him upon earth,  
In tuneful accord, all ye of new birth;  
Praise Him who hath brought you His grace from above,  
Praise Him who hath taught you to sing of His love.
- 3 O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;  
Each jubilant chord re-echo around;  
Loud organs, His glory forth tell in deep tone,  
And sweet harp, the story of what He hath done.
- 4 O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song  
To Him be outpoured all ages along!  
For love in creation, for Heaven restored,  
For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord.

## **The Dismissal**

*Priest* Alleluia. Christ is risen  
*People* ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***  
*Priest* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia!  
*People* ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia!***

## **Postlude\*\***

\*\* The postlude is our final offering to God in our worship.  
It is not a concert performance. Applause is not appropriate.

***Soli Deo gloria***

*We regret that we are not able to have a post-service reception  
because of the HIGH incidence of COVID in Broome County.  
The family will remain in the gym, if you wish to speak with them.*

# Participants

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The Rev Glenn Mahaffey  
*Celebrant*

Timothy E. Smith  
*Organist & Choirmaster*

Bill Palmer  
*Worship Leader*

Phyllis Amenda  
*Crucifer*

John Chaffee, Rayleen Kie,  
Phyllis Amenda, Bill Palmer  
*Eucharistic Ministers*

Michael Christian Dinkel  
John Montgomery Dinkel  
*Lectors*

Eli Richard Montgomery Keeler  
*Urn Bearer*

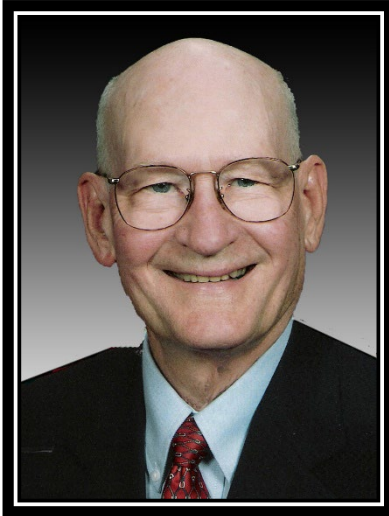
Jim Albert, Louise Akel, Nicole Huff,  
Debra Parmelee, Charlie Carpenter  
*Ushers*

Jeff Fellows  
*Building & Grounds Manager*



# John Montgomery Keeler

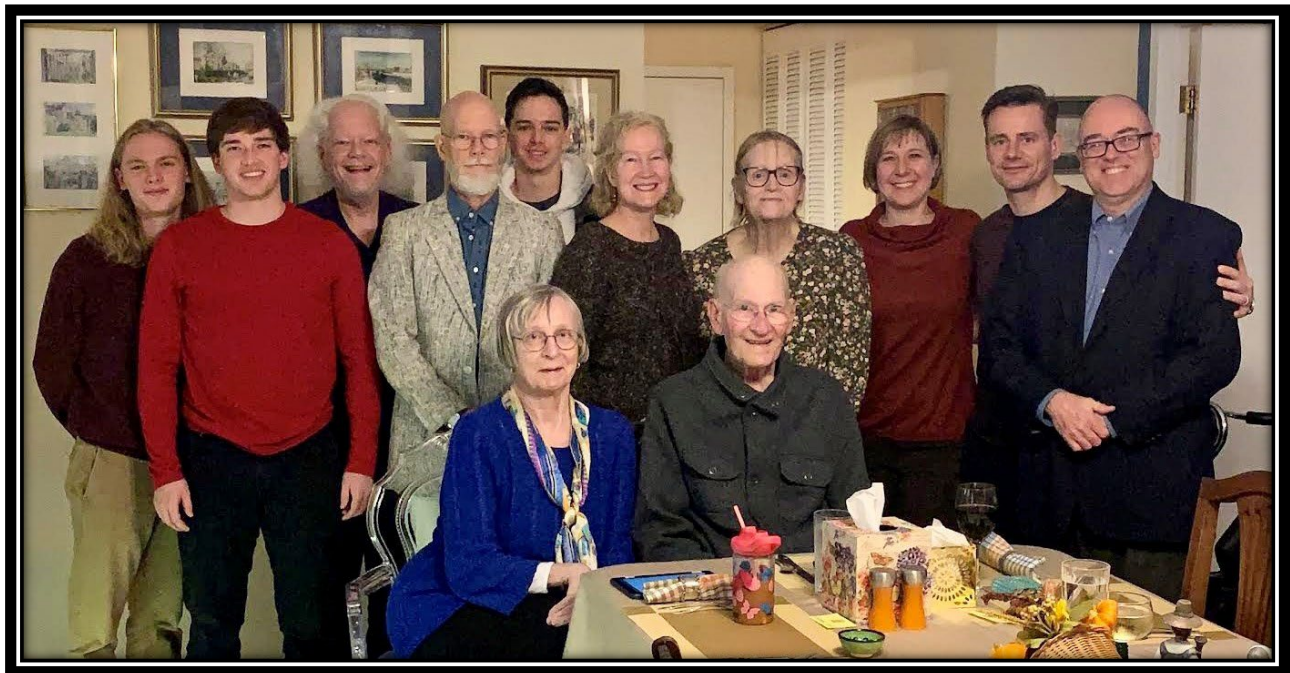
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John Montgomery Keeler, born 88 years ago at Lourdes Hospital, died on March 31, 2022 at his home in Binghamton, New York.

John was predeceased by his parents, C. Addison and Esther Bevier Montgomery Keeler. His brother, C. Addison Keeler, Jr. and his sister, Oppie Keeler Ludwig also predeceased him.

He is survived by his wife, Marcella (Marcy) M. Keeler; his children, Gregory C. Keeler and his wife Pamela Keeler, Binghamton; Matthew M. Keeler, Ridgefield, Connecticut; Ann E. Keeler and her husband, Matthew C. Dinkel, Silver Spring, Maryland; his stepdaughter Melissa G. McPherson-Lange and her husband Robert Lange, Arlington, Virginia; and three grandsons, Michael Christian Dinkel, John Montgomery Dinkel, and Eli Richard Montgomery Keeler.



*John D, Greg, Eli  
Michael, Matt K, Ann, Pam, Melissa, Robert, Matt D  
Marcy, John  
Thanksgiving 2021*

John graduated from Alexander Hamilton Elementary School, West Junior, and Binghamton Central. He was a graduate of Hamilton College where he majored in philosophy. His first job was with the Glens Falls Insurance Company. When the company wanted him to move and cover the whole state of Kansas, John decided he wanted to be a lawyer like his father and brother.

He was admitted to the Cornell Law School, but only after serving two years in the U.S. Army at Fort Sam Houston in Texas.

He returned to Binghamton and practiced law at Hinman, Howard & Kattell for 40 years and served as managing partner of the firm for 18 years. He brought the firm into the computer age and launched HH&K's first satellite office. He led by example and passed the Florida Bar exam—on the second try—remembering to go to the bathroom BEFORE the exam.

Upon John's retirement as managing partner of HH&K, one of his partners said, "Yours has been a record of building the firm, keeping it on an even keel, and dealing with a new generation of lawyers. Not only under your leadership have we avoided the pitfalls, we have scored new triumphs."

John lived a life of service to others. He was a dedicated volunteer, and an outstanding leader committed to serving his community, his profession, and his church.

John sat on the boards of numerous organizations. He carried on a family tradition with long and varied volunteer service to the United Way. He served as campaign chair and three terms as president.

He served on several foundation boards and enjoyed allocating other people's money to worthy local causes. The Hoyt, Dickenson, YMCA, and Binghamton University Foundation benefitted from his counsel.

John followed in his father's footsteps again with devoted service to Binghamton University. C. Addison Keeler was a member of the "Committee of 100" that founded Harpur College. John was chair of the BU Foundation and the Harpur Forum.

Binghamton University presented John Keeler with its Distinguished Service Award, citing “a life of achievement which serves as an example of the University’s aspirations for its students.”

John was a director of NYSEG/Energy East and the Security Mutual Life Insurance Company. John played volleyball at the YMCA, bowled at the Binghamton Club, played bridge with Binghamton University Women, and sang with the Livewire Players for more than 25 years at the Chamber of Commerce annual dinner. His favorite role was impersonating BU’s Lois DeFleur.

Gifted with a fine tenor voice, John sang in church choirs and community choral groups throughout his life. A Brooklyn theater company came to Binghamton to perform a musical version of the Helen of Troy story on the Roberson Museum stage. They recruited local singers to sing minor roles; John was Menelaus. The New York newspaper reviewer was not impressed. He wrote, “John Keeler should stick to the practice of law. A star of stage and screen he is not.” This became an oft-retold family joke.

John and Marcy joined Trinity in 1997 after Marcy retired from her position as organist at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Endicott. They wanted to sing in Peter Browne’s choir (which they did for 16 years) and walk to church (which they did at least three times).

John’s leadership skills were quickly recognized, and he served the church in many ways. He was elected to the Vestry and served four years as Warden. John Keeler and Bill Palmer were a formidable team. They dealt with the resignation of the rector, finding an interim rector, merger talks with Christ Church, and a Capital Campaign.

John Keeler was a gentleman and a gentle man. He was a man of unassuming presence and ever-present wit; a man of integrity, character, wise counsel and insights. John was beloved by his family; appreciated by friends, valued by his colleagues, and respected by his opponents.

Well done, good and faithful servant!



