

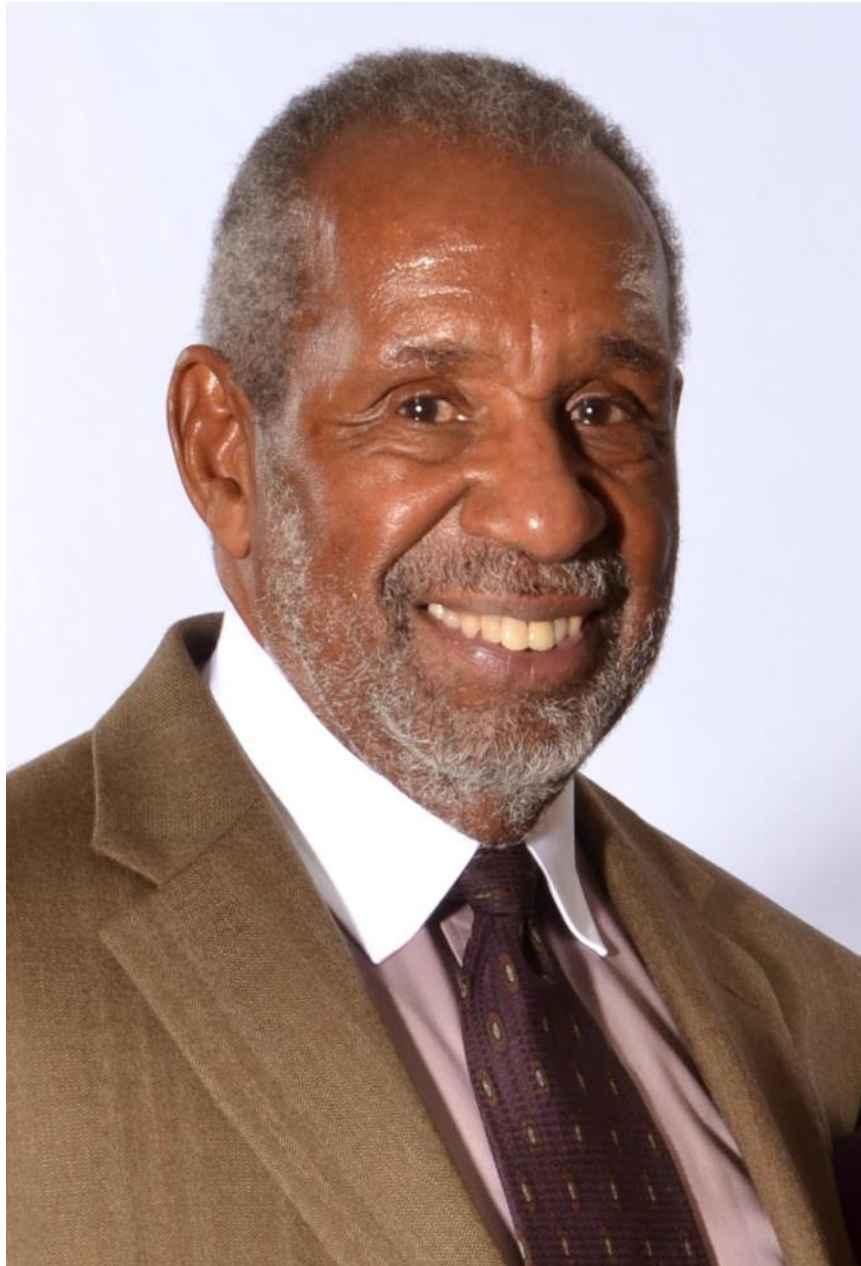
CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
BRYANT ROLLINS

DECEMBER 13, 1937- MAY 27, 2022

COMMENDED UNTO GOD:

JUNE 25, 2022

ELEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



St. John's Cathedral
Jacksonville, Florida

Celebration of the Life of Bryant Rollins

Officiant: The Reverend Elyse Gustafson
Canon for Music: Timothy S. Tuller
Special Music Director: Cedric Williams

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn 599

“Lift every voice and sing”

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Remembrance

Salim Rollins

Special Music

With a strength not my own
Kathy Williams, Soloist

Gale Jones-Murphy

Remembrance

Chief Ray Alfred

Hymn 439

“What wondrous love is this”

The People are seated.

The First Reading

Deuteronomy 34:1a, 4-10

Theron Williams

Lector A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land. The Lord said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, “I will give it to your descendants”; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.’ Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The People stand

Hymn 671

“Amazing grace”

New Britain

The Gospel

Mathew 5:1-10, 14-15

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People are seated.

Homily

The Reverend Elyse Gustafson

Special Music

This little light of mine
Mama Blue

Prayers of the People

Laura Lane

The Intercessor then says

For our brother Bryant, 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 Bryant, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People Hear us, Lord.

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

People Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

People Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

People Hear us, Lord.

Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

People Hear us, Lord.

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

People Hear us, Lord.

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

The Celebrant continues

Father of all, we pray to you for our brother Bryant, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord, after which the People are seated.

Special Music

The Lord is my light
Jacksonville Gospel Chorale

Lillian Booknight

The Commendation

The Reverend Patricia McElroy

The People stand.

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.

The Officiant then says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Bryant. 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.

Hymn

We shall overcome

Adapted by Zilphia Horton

We shall overcome, we shall overcome We shall overcome someday. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall overcome someday.

We are not afraid, we are not afraid, We are not afraid today. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall overcome someday.

We are not alone, we are not alone We are not alone today Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We are not alone today.

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand, We'll walk hand in hand someday. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall overcome someday.

We shall all be free, we shall all be free, we shall all be free someday. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall overcome.

Worship Leader, Reese Dickerson

Blessing

Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Toccata in B minor

Eugène Gigout

Family

Shirley Stetson, Wife
Malikkah Rollins, Daughter
Salim (Fatma) Rollins, Son
Katlin (Abraham) Schroeder, Stepdaughter
Stephen (Lisa) Kessler, Stepson
Miles Rollins-Waterman, Grandchild

Azza Rollins, Grandchild
Asad Rollins, Grandchild
Mackenzie Kessler, Grandchild
Colby Kessler, Grandchild
Nathaniel Schroeder, Grandchild
Elodie Schroeder, Grandchild
Judith Rollins, Sister

Community Impact

For many decades, Bryant was deeply active in the Jacksonville community alongside his wife of 27 years, Shirley Stetson. Together, they taught, trained, and mentored hundreds of organizations and community leaders. Those participating in the opening processional offer a snapshot of their impact and legacy, representing the following organizations:

Baptist Health
City of Jacksonville
Community Hospice of Northeast Florida
Duval County Public Schools
Episcopal Diocese of Florida
First Friday Community Group
Florida Blue
Girl Scouts of Gateway Council
Habijax
Harden & Associates
Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce
I.M. Sulzbacher Center
Jacksonville Civic Council

Jacksonville Fire & Rescue
JASMYN
Jacksonville Human Rights Commission
LISC
OneJax
Schultz Center for Teaching & Leading
Shell Oil & Shell Chemical
St. John's Cathedral Truth & Reconciliation Community
Study Circles Initiative
The Tributary
University of North Florida
United Way
904WARD

Immediately following the service, the family invites you to join them for a lunch reception in Taliaferro Hall.