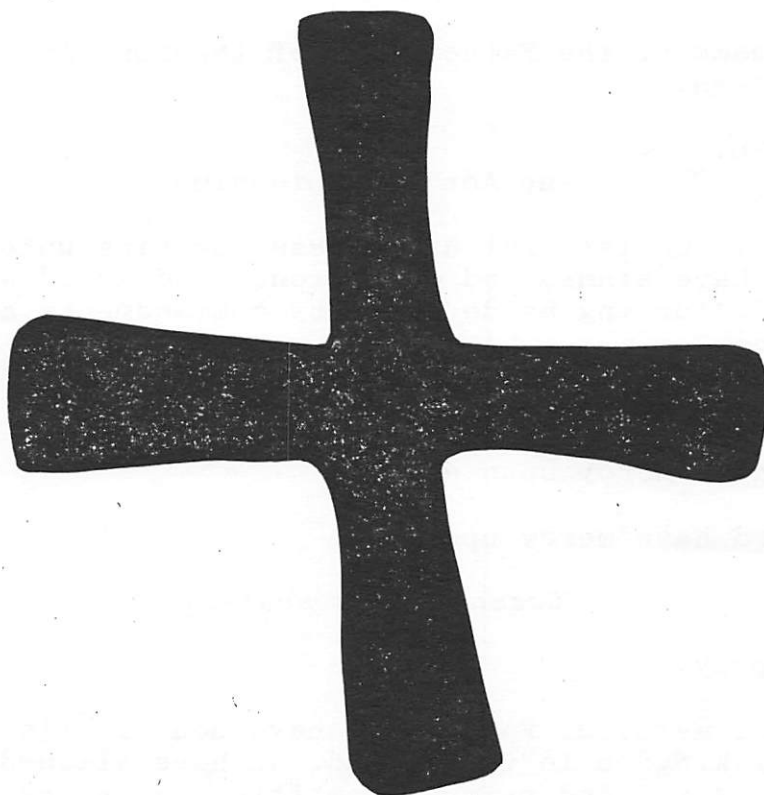


Memorial Service



A celebration of the completed life of

Joseph Lewis Pierce

June 5, 1993

The Daily Office of the Ecumenical Institute

The Memorial Service

The Preparation

Musical Selections

Rita Simo, Director, People's Music School

The Office

Community rises.

L. In the name of the Father. And of the Son. And of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

C. Amen.

The Act Of Confession

L. Beloved in Christ. Let us confess our sins unto Almighty God. We have sinned and done wrong. And acted wickedly and rebelled. Turning aside from Thy commandments and ordinances.

C. Lord have mercy upon us.

L. Christ have mercy upon us.

C. Lord have mercy upon us.

Community is seated.

L. Let us pray.

C. Most merciful Father. We have done little to forward Thy kingdom in this world. We have allowed self to blind us. And pains to embitter us. We have forgotten that whatsoever is done to the least of Thy children. Is done unto Thee. Pardon our shortcomings. Forgive our neglect. And give us a pure heart. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

L. Amen.

C. Amen.

L. Beloved in Christ. God hath had mercy upon us. We are free to live. For we are a forgiven people. "If we walk in the light. As He is in the light. We have fellowship with one another. And the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin."

L. Let us pray.

C. 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.

L. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory. Forever and ever. Amen.

C. Amen.

Community rises.

L. O Lord open Thou our lips.

C. And our mouths shall show forth Thy praise.

L. Praise ye the Lord.

C. The Lord's name be praised.

The Act of Thanksgiving

L. O come let us sing unto the Lord.

C. Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

L. For the Lord is a great God. And a great King above all gods.

C. Left O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Let the whole earth stand in awe of Him.

C. Right For He comes. For He comes to judge the earth.

C. Left He will judge the world with righteousness.

C. Right And the peoples with His truth.

L. Glory be to the Father. And to the Son. And to the Holy Ghost.

C. As it was in the beginning. Is now and ever shall be. World without end.

L. Amen.

C. Amen.

L. The Lord bless the reading of His holy Word.

C. And to His name be glory and praise.

L. Amen.

C. Amen.

Community is seated.

Here Shall The Old Covenant Lesson Be Read

Isaiah 40:28-31

Community rises.

L. We praise Thee O God.

C. We acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.

L. All the earth doth worship Thee the Father everlasting.

C. Left The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.

C. Right The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.

C. Left The noble army of martyrs praise Thee.

C. Right The Holy Church throughout all the world doth
acknowledge Thee.

L. Glory be to Thee O God.

C. Praise be to Thee O Christ.

L. Amen.

C. Amen.

Here Shall The New Covenant Lesson Be Read

Hebrews 11:32-39

L. Be sure that the Lord He is God.

C. It is He that hath made us and not we ourselves.

L. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

C. Left O go your way into His gates with thanksgiving.
And into His courts with praise.

C. Right Be thankful unto Him. And speak good of His name.

C. Left For the Lord is gracious. His mercy is
everlasting.

C. Right And His truth endureth from generation to
generation.

L. Amen.

C. Amen.

L. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our
hearts. Be acceptable in Thy sight.

C. O Lord our strength. And our redeemer.

L. Amen.

C. Amen.

Community is seated.

Here Shall The Appointed Witness Be Offered

Community rises.

L. Praise the Lord, all nations. Extol Him all peoples.

C. For great is His kindness toward us. And the
faithfulness of the Lord is everlasting.

L. Hallelujah!

C. Amen.

- L. I believe in God the Father Almighty.
- C. Maker of heaven and earth.
- L. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord.
- C. Left Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost.
- C. Right Born of the Virgin Mary.
- C. Left Suffered under Pontius Pilate.
- C. Right Was crucified dead and buried.
- C. Left He descended into Hell.
- C. Right The third day He arose again from the dead.
- C. Left He ascended into Heaven.
- C. Right And sitteth on the right hand.
- C. Left Of God the Father Almighty.
- C. Right From thence He shall come to judge.
- C. Left The quick and the dead.
- L. I believe in the Holy Ghost.
- C. Left The Holy catholic church.
- C. Right The communion of saints.
- C. Left The forgiveness of sins.
- C. Right The resurrection of the body.
- C. Left And the life everlasting.
- L. Amen.
- C. Amen.
- L. The Lord be with you.
- C. And with thy spirit.
- L. O Lord show Thy mercy upon us.
- C. And take not Thy Holy Spirit from us.
- L. Amen.
- C. Amen.

The Act Of Offering

Community is seated.

L. In godly sorrow let us pray for resignation.

Liturgist Prayer:

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, who alone art the Author and the Disposer of our life, from whom our spirits have come, and to whom they shall return; we acknowledge Thy sovereign power and right both to give and take away, as seemeth good in Thy sight; and we most humbly beseech Thee, that unto all Thy righteous dealings, we may yield ourselves with due resignation and patience, being assured that though we understand not the mystery of Thy ways, yet always in faithfulness, O Lord, dost Thou afflict us, and for Thy mercy's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

C. Amen.

L. In godly joy let us pray for comfort.

Liturgist Prayer:

O God, who art the strength of Thy saints, and who redeemest the souls of Thy servants; we bless Thy Name for all those who have died in the Lord, and who now rest from their labors. Especially we call to remembrance Thy loving kindness, and Thy tender mercies to these Thy servants. For their lives we give Thee thanks and praise. And grant, Lord, we beseech Thee, that we may also rejoice in the triumph of Thy saints, and profit by their example, that becoming followers of their faith and patience, we also may enter with them into an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

C. Amen.

L. In godly compassion let us pray for grace.

Liturgist Prayer:

Most loving Father, who willest Thy children to dread nothing but the loss of Thee, and to cast all our care on Thee who carest for us; preserve us from faithless doubts and anxieties, and grant that no clouds of this mortal life, may hide from us the light of Thine unchanging love. Renew within us, we beseech Thee, all joy and peace, in believing that we may ever abound in hope, by the power of Thy Holy Spirit, and show forth our thankfulness to Thee in trustful and courageous lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

C. Amen.

Here Shall the Obituary and Eulogy Be Read.

L. Let us pray.

Liturgist Prayer:

Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Resurrection and the Life; in whom whoever believes, shall live, though he die, and whoever lives, and believes in Him, shall not die eternally; who also has taught us, by His Holy Apostle Saint Paul, not to be sorry, as men without hope, for those who sleep in Him; we humbly beseech Thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life, we may rest in Him; and that, at the general Resurrection in the last day, we may be found acceptable in Thy sight; and receive that blessing, which Thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all who love and fear Thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech Thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. Amen.

C. Amen.

Community rises.

Here Shall The Doxology Be Sung

"Praise God From Whom All Blessing Flow"
(Tune: Jamaica Farewell)

L. Grace and peace be unto you.

C. From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L. Amen.

C. Amen.

Here Shall The Peace Be Passed To The Community

L. The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. And the love of God. And the fellowship of the Holy Ghost. Be with us all evermore. Amen.

C. Amen.

THE SCATTERING OF THE ASHES OF JOSEPH LEWIS PIERCE, JUNE 4, 1993
MONTROSE HARBOR ON LAKE MICHIGAN, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

February 26, 1993 8:42pm

There are 4 people I have known all my life
Joe is dying
so soon there will be 3
left

I won't miss Joe very much
but you get used to things
like there being 4 and then when Mark was born 5
instead of these new numbers

May 31, 1993 9:01am

last night Dale told me Joe died Friday night
today is memorial day
imagine that

MEMORIAL:

unlike so many things that Joe believed
it is true, I think,
that radio is not as good as it used to be

my father was a radio announcer
and so he cared especially
about that

maybe the navy was right
you can never know for sure
about his not being quite fit
for duty

he sure didn't like to follow orders

my father was born as a darkness was falling
he grew accustomed to a faint light and suspicious
of dawn

the light at the center of all virtue was dimmed
by the age and not his character
yet still it was dim

and the slow harvesting of my father's soul
is yet impeded by this vicious gray age
yet still it will rise:

if all goes well when time has climbed
her smooth stair to the top

you are the origin of a thousand gestures
that while you no longer make I do
every step I take of course is influenced
by the way you used to walk and you

used to walk as if angels cared about it
as if all passers-by should note
your fragile coat of ambition
your charm and your remote

anxiety.

I want to fill up the haunted space
he has left in the world near me.
I want to fill it up with happiness.
I want to erase it with joy.

-Greg Pierce
June 1, 1993

A Prayer from Soren Kierkegaard

And if Thou dost permit us to know the many
magnificent secrets of science, do not let us forget the
one thing necessary: and if Thou dost desire to
extinguish our vigor of mind or if Thou dost let us grow
old on earth so that our soul gets weary, one thing
there is that can never be forgotten, even if we forget
all else, that we are saved by Thy son. Amen.

"The self is a relation which relates itself to itself and in
willing to be itself grounds itself transparently in the Power
which posits it."

Soren Kierkegaard

Genesis 3:19

You are dust and to dust you shall return.