
A Service Celebrating the Life of
Jennifer Lee Jones-Paradis



August 11, 1968 to January 29, 2026

*May her soul and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

*February 21, 2026
St. George's Episcopal Church, Glenn Dale, Maryland*

Jennifer Lee “Jenna” Jones-Paradis

Jenna went to be with our Lord on January 29, 2026, at the age of 57. Born on August 11, 1968, at Walton Army Hospital in Fort Dix, New Jersey, she spent her formative years attending public schools in Easton, Pennsylvania, and Bethesda, Maryland. Jenna continued her education at Duke Ellington School of the Arts and graduated with honors from Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda. Jenna then pursued theater arts at Ithaca College in New York and later transferred to the University of Maryland, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Gerontology, graduating Cum Laude.

Jenna was deeply engaged in the theater community, participating in and producing numerous plays with Prince George's Little Theatre. As an active Progressive Democrat, she advocated for women's rights, mental health awareness, and elder care. Jenna was of the Christian faith and attended various churches throughout her life. Her interests included caring for companion animals, appreciating nature and birds, and quilting. She was a valued member of her family and respected by a broad circle of friends.

Professionally, Jenna devoted her career to serving the physical, mental, and social needs of older adults. She contributed her talents to the Smithsonian Institution and So Others Might Eat (S.O.M.E.) in Washington, DC, as well as several other non-profit organizations, where she oversaw volunteer programs dedicated to advancing their missions as well as her own heartfelt goals.

Jenna is survived by her husband Roger Paradis of New Carrollton, Maryland; parents Joy B. Grim and husband Joseph of Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania, Jay R. Jones and wife Linda of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; stepmother Diane Jones of Maineville, Ohio; siblings Todd G. Jones and wife Melanie of Sciota, Pennsylvania, Joseph Grim Jr. of Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania, and Wendy Harris and husband Jim of New Jersey; as well as beloved Aunt, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, and Nephews.

In Thanksgiving for Jenna Jones-Paradis

Prelude: Adagio For Strings / We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace

Music: Samuel Barber / arr. by Moses Hogan

Welcome The Rev. Connie Reinhardt, Rector

Opening Hymn: LEVAS #141 Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music: Robert Lowry (1826-1899) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Shall we gath - er at the riv - er where bright ang - el feet have trod;
On the mar-gins of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray
Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, Lay we ev - ry bur - den down;
Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, Soon our pil-grim-age will cease.



With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow-ing by the throne of God?
We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, All the hap-py gold - en day.
Grace our Spir - its will de - liv - er, And pro-vide a robe and crown.
Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er With the mel-o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv - er, The beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful - riv - er



Gath-er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

Opening Anthem

I am the resurrection and the life says the Lord.

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last will stand upon the earth;

and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God, whom I shall see and my eyes behold,
who is my friend and not a stranger.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord!

So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labor.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray together: **O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Jenna, and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Jenna's family and friends in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah 61:1-3

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion--
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm is read responsively, with the people responding with the verses in **bold**.*

Psalm 34:1-8, 17-19

I will give thanks to the Lord at all times:

God's praise will always be on my lips.

My soul will glory in the Lord:

the humble will hear and be glad.

O praise the Lord with me:

let us exalt God's name together.

I sought your help O Lord and you answered me:

and freed me from all my fears.

Look towards the Most High, and be radiant with light:

and your faces will not be ashamed.

In my affliction I cried out, and the Lord heard me:

and saved me from all my troubles.

Your angel O Lord keeps guard around those who fear you:

to rescue them in time of danger.

Taste and see how gracious the Lord is:

happy are those who find refuge in the Most High.

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them:

and rescues them from all their troubles.

The Lord is near to those who are broken-hearted:

the Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit.

The troubles of the righteous are many:

but the Lord sets them free from them all.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

Revelation 21:2-7

I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Remembrances

Cherie Jones Newman

Gospel Hymn: LEVAS #103 *Steal Away*

Words and Music: Traditional Spiritual Arranged by Edward C. Deas. © Sunday School Publishing Board.
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Steal a - way, steal a - way, steal a - way to Je - sus!



Steal a - way, steal a - way home, I ain't got long to stay here!



My Lord calls me, He calls me by the thun - der.
Green trees are bend - ing, Poor sin - ner stands a - tremb - ling;
Tomb - stones are burst - ing, Poor sin - ner stands a - tremb - ling;
My Lord calls me, He calls me by the light - ning.



The trum - pet sounds with - in - a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Homily *The Rev. Connie Reinhardt*

After the homily all stand as able as the Celebrant says:

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

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 of the People

God our Creator, in the assurance of your mercy, in thanksgiving for the life of your servant Jenna, and in confident expectation of the resurrection to eternal life, we pray saying, Holy One, hear our prayer.

Holy God, your will for us is abundant life; receive Jenna into the fullness of life in your presence. **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

God of new life, grant that, increasing in the knowledge and love of you, Jenna may go from strength to strength in a new life of perfect service, we pray. **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, you know the thoughts of our hearts and our search for faith; shed the brightness of your light on Jenna, who also sought understanding, we pray. **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

God who is beyond our knowing, you are greater than all our ideas and images of you; draw Jenna into the mystery of your being, we pray. **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we know you as perfect mercy and compassion; welcome Jenna in the grace of your love, we pray. **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

Creator God, we praise you as the giver of life. We remember and pray for all of Jenna's family and friends, that they may know the consolation of your love, and may hold Jenna in their love all the days of their lives, we pray. **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

God of our beginning and our end, the Church commends all who die to the care of Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit; and so we commend Jenna to you, giving thanks for the gift of her life. **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: O God, we entrust Jenna and all those we love to your love and care, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

If you would like to make a donation to the church in memory of Jenna, you can give electronically by texting stgeodragon to 73256, using a web browser to go to onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/give, or donate via Zelle to donations@stgeorgesglennedale.org. Baskets are available at the back of the church for cash or checks. (*For texts, message and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.)*



The Celebrant continues:

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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,
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 all your children; 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 God, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray,

**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 bread is broken. After a time of silence, all sing together

Fraction Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #S 155 Christ our Passover

Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri - ficed for us; there-fore let us keep the feast
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

*Wherever you are in your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe,
you are welcome to receive the bread and wine. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.*

*If you would like to come up for a blessing rather than the bread and wine,
simply cross your arms to your shoulders to indicate this to the priest.*

Please wait in your seat until an usher has directed you to go forward. Once you have received, please exit the Sanctuary following the directions of the ushers. If you receive the wine, please drop your cup into the bin at the door after you consume it.

Communion Hymn: LEVAS #154 *Taste and See*

Words: Psalm 34. Music: James E. Moore, Jr. © 1992 G.I.A. Publications. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness
of the Lord. O taste and see, taste and
see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall
Glo - ri fy the Lord with me. To - geth er let us
Wor - ship the Lord all you peo ple. You'll want for

al ways be on my lips; my soul shall glo ry in the
all praise his name. I called the Lord and he an - swered
noth - ing if you ask Taste and see that God is

Lord; for he has been so good to me.
me; from all my trou bles he set me free.
good; in him we need put all our trust.

D.C.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

All stand as able for the Commendation

The Commendation

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant Jenna with your saints,

where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created us, 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.

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Jenna. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her 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 Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God, who creates, redeems and sustains us, be with you now remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: LEVAS # 54 Nearer, My God, to Thee

Words: Sarah F Adams (1805-1848), Music: *Bethany*. Lowell Mason (1792-1872). Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Near - er, my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee! E'en though it
Though like the wan - der - er, the sun goes down, dark - ness be
There let the way ap - pear, steps un - to heav'n; All that Thou
Then, with my wak - ing thoughts, bright with Thy praise, out of my
Or if on joy - ful wings, cleav - ing the sky, sun, moon and



be a cross that rais - eth me; Still all my song would be
o - ver me, my rest a stone; Yet in my dreams I'd be
send - est me, in mer - cy giv'n; An - gels to beck - on me
ston - y briefs, Beth - el I'll raise; So by my woes to be
stars for - got, up - wards I fly, still all my song shall be



Near - er, my God, to Thee, Near - er my God to Thee, Near - er to Thee.

Postlude: Prelude in C Minor

Music: Fryderyk Chopin

All are invited to a reception in the parish hall.

Participants in the Service

Readers

Roy Peterson, Helen Rowe, Terry Doyle

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Jocelyn Tidwell

Ushers

Zulma Santiago, Madison Brady, Margaret McHale, Billy McNeel, Mary

Rogers, Rosa Soliz

Flowers

Nell Sydavar

Tech

Michael Mangiapane, Roy Peterson, Karen Sharp

Pianist

Ruslan Bondar

Celebrant

The Rev. Connie Reinhardt