A Celebration of Life

Preston Blair Settles
August 2, 2006 - February 27, 2022

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon Street | Boston, MA 02116
Friday, March 4, 2022 | 1:00 p.m.
Order of Services

Officiants
Rev. Morgan S. Allen, Rector
Rev. Willie Bodrick, II, Senior Pastor, Twelfth Baptist Church

Prelude on Organ and Piano
Processional Anthem
Solo
Opening Prayer
The Readings
Time of Remembrance
Solo
Eulogy
The Prayers
The Commendation
The Blessing
Solo
The Dismissal

The altar flowers are given in loving memory of Preston Settles by The Fessenden School and Brooks School communities.
Processional Anthem

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

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

For none of us has life in ourselves,
and none becomes their own master when they die.
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.

Solo

Take Me To the King—Athene Wilson

Opening Prayer

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother, Preston. 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 all of 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 Readings
Olive Osbourne, Teri Williams, Quincy Benbow, Michele Courton Brown

Time of Remembrance
Cheri Pereira, Logan Long, Noah Ciccolo, Caroline Gay, Manny Pereira, Mr. Tim Murphy, Mr. John Packard, members of the Brooks School and Fessenden School communities, Darryl Settles

Solo
*Amazing Grace*—Athene Wilson

Eulogy
Rev. Willie Bodrick, II

The Prayers
For our brother, Preston, 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 all who mourn for Preston, 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 eternal life.

*Hear us, Lord.*

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

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.

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, Preston. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock. 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 Blessing

Solo

Goin’ Up Yonder—Athene Wilson

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in Love.

Thanks be to God.

Brooks School and Trinity Church in the City of Boston

The Reverend Endicott Peabody, an Episcopal priest and then-headmaster of the Groton School, founded the Brooks School in 1926. Located in North Andover, Peabody named the new institution for the Reverend Phillips Brooks. Brooks, born in North Andover in the mid-nineteenth century, would become one of the United States great preachers, known best for his ministry here at Trinity Church. Brooks served this parish as its Rector (Senior Pastor) and led the conception and construction of this building, an icon of our city, which was completed in 1877. Following ministry at Trinity, Brooks became Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts. After Brooks’ death in 1893, citizens of the city, including the school children of greater Boston, funded the Augustus Saint Gaudens statue of Brooks, which stands next to the church. Another Brooks statue overlooks the North Andover Common.
Obituary

Preston Blair Settles
August 2, 2006 - February 27, 2022

Loving son of Darryl Settles and Lisa Owens, M.D. and devoted brother and best friend of Taylor Settles went on to his next journey on February 27, 2022.

Preston enjoyed his elementary school years at the Underwood School in Newton, MA, and fully immersed himself in town youth sports. He was known to run from one game to another sometimes not taking the time to tie his shoes.

Preston was an athlete and beloved friend to many during his middle school years at the Fessenden School in Newton, MA. He forged long-lasting friendships playing on the baseball, basketball, football, and lacrosse teams. He was a weekday border during the COVID-19 pandemic and cultivated long-term relationships with friends and faculty. Tim Murphy, Fessenden School administrator, reflected, “With an infectious smile, Preston’s Fessenden years were characterized by joyfulness, hard work, and fiercely loyal friendships. His impact on the Fessenden community was far-reaching. Preston believed firmly in the concept of brotherhood, and he was embraced and loved by fellow students, faculty, and staff.”

New to the Brooks School in North Andover, MA as a freshman, Preston quickly formed tight bonds within his dorm community, classmates, football, and basketball teammates. Preston had shared that going to Brooks had exceeded his expectations. Brooks School Head of School John Packard said, “In his far too short time at Brooks, Preston cast a long shadow. His ebullience, infectious spirit, and numerous talents earned him many friends and connections on our campus during this school year. In and out of the classroom, on football fields, basketball courts, his dormitory, and everywhere in between, he was a wonderful student, teammate, and friend. He made every group and community he was a part of more fun and joyful in his own intangible and inimitable way. The outpouring of support for Preston during these three weeks has underlined the extent to which he reached people in ways that mattered to them; in ways that
were important to them; in ways that will hold over time.” Preston had crafted a vision for his future that included studying business and law at Duke University where his grandmother, Ida Owens, was the first African-American to receive a Ph.D. at that school.

Preston never had a bad day and embraced all that he did with positivity, perseverance, and upbeat energy. He enjoyed making others laugh. Fearless and adventuresome, Preston loved challenging himself by trying new sports, including boogie boarding, snowboarding, and paddleboarding. He also enjoyed playing street hockey and fishing. On his 15th birthday, Preston reeled in a 357-pound tuna with his best friend Manny Pereira, with whom he enjoyed countless adventures.

Preston was anchored by a loving family that relishes time spent together. Preston enjoyed traveling with his family to places like Spain, Morocco, Mexico, Costa Rica, Jamaica, and the Bahamas. At age 13 he traveled alone to Sweden to visit with a Fessenden friend on summer holiday. One of his most memorable father-son getaways was to the 2017 Super Bowl in Houston.

Born just 16 months apart, one of Preston’s best friends was his sister Taylor. They were inseparable, sharing friends and supporting each other’s pursuits. They had their own special orbit, a special bond that fortified them.

Preston lived a short—but FULL LIFE. Preston was “that guy” who people gravitated to, someone whose magnetic personality, kind soul, sincerity, and devotion endeared him to many as their dear friend. He was a life changer—truly one of a kind. He will be sorely missed by family and friends.

In honor of Preston, and in lieu of flowers, the Preston Settles Charitable Foundation has been established to honor Preston’s Hope: Accelerating discOvery and Care for people wiTh hypErtrophic Cardiomyopa-Thy (PROTECT).

Along with his parents and sister, he leaves to cherish: grandfather Herbert Owens, uncles Jeffrey Owens, Alan Settles, and Ervin Settles, Aunt Rose Settles, and a host of extended family and devoted friends. He was predeceased by his grandmother Ida S. Owens and grandparents Rebecca and David Settles.
There is no turning back to yesterday or to last month, or to last year… No matter how much you wish you could go back and live there again or how much you wish you could change what happened, you just can’t go back… You have to keep moving forward, my beautiful friend. You have to summon all of your inner strength to let go of who you were then and use all of your courage and faith to focus on who you want to be now—who you want to be tomorrow. It might take everything you have to let go of yesterday, but once you do, you can start finding peace today.
Darryl

God Saw You
*Frances and Kathleen Coelho*

God saw you getting tired,
When a cure was not to be.
So He wrapped his arms around you,
and whispered, “Come to me.”
You didn’t deserve what you went through,
So He gave you rest.
God’s garden must be beautiful,
He only takes the best
And when I saw you sleeping,
So peaceful and free from pain
I could not wish you back
To suffer that again.

Lisa

Even So
*Alice Walker*

Love, if it is love, never goes away.
It is embedded in us,
like seams of gold in the Earth,
waiting for light,
waiting to be struck.
His Journey's Just Begun

Don't think of him as gone away
His journey's just begun
Life holds so many facets
This earth is only one
Just think of him as resting
From the sorrow and the tears
In a place of warmth and comfort
Where there are no days and years.
Think how he must be wishing
That we could know today
How nothing but our sadness
Can really pass away
And think of him as living
In the hearts of those he touched
For nothing loved is ever lost
And he was loved so much.

Preston’s legacy continues…

Preston’s Hope: Accelerating discOvery and Care for people wiTh hypErtrophic CardiomyopaThy (PROTECT), a foundation has been established.

Donations can be made via the link below:

https://www.tbf.org/donors/forms/preston-settles-memorial-fund