

St. Matthias' Episcopal Church

Midlothian, Virginia



*Celebration and Thanksgiving
for the life of
Mary Sue Troy Baird
June 16, 1942 – June 15, 2024*

Service – July 20, at 11:00 a.m.

*A Celebration and Thanksgiving
for the Life of
Mary Sue Troy Baird*

Prelude: *Music of Meditation, ending with
"Prelude in E Minor" – Frederic Chopin*

John A. Murdock

Opening Hymn: *Here I Am, Lord, (Gather, 686)+*



1.I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2.I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3.I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin - est bread I will pro - vide. Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? _____
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? _____
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? _____



Here I am, Lord. _____ Is it I, Lord? _____



_____ I have heard you call - ing in the night. _____ I will



go, Lord, _____ if you lead me. _____ I will hold your



peo - ple in my heart. _____ heart. _____

“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 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.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: *Isaiah 25:6-9*

Eleanor Baird

Psalm 121 *Levavi oculos*

Emily Kelly

I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
 from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the LORD, *
 the maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved *
 and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
 shall neither slumber nor sleep;
The LORD himself watches over you; *
 the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
 nor the moon by night.
The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
 it is he who shall keep you safe.
The LORD shall watch over your going out and
 your coming in, *
 from this time forth for evermore.

Gradual Hymn: *It Is Well with My Soul*, (from *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*, 1988)*

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my
 2. Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should
 3. My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be

1. way, When sor - rows like sea - bil - lows roll;
 2. come, Let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol,
 3. thought— My sin— not in part, but the whole—
 4. sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,

1. What - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 2. That Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
 3. Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
 4. The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

1. say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 2. taste, And has shed His own blood for my soul.
 3. more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 4. scend, "E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "It is well with my soul". It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "It is well with my soul, It is well with my". The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "soul, It is well, it is well with my soul." The music is in a key with four flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor) and a common time signature.

Words: Horatio Spafford (1828-1888). Music: Philip P. Bliss (1838-1876).

Gospel: *John 14:1-6*

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

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

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Eulogy

Lisa Gilbert
Tim Baird

Homily

The Rev. Brenda S. Overfield

The Apostle's Creed

**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 Lord's Prayer

**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.**

For our sister Sue, 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 Sue 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 sister Sue eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

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

Hear us, Lord.

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

Hear us Lord.

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

Hear Us Lord.

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

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Sue, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her 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 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, Sue. 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.**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn: *Sing to the Mountains*, (Green, 435)+

Refrain



Sing to the moun-tains, sing to the sea. Raise your voic - es, lift your hearts.



This is the day the Lord has made. Let all _____ the earth re - joice. _____

Fine

Verse 1



I will give thanks to you, my Lord. You have an-swered my plea. _____



You have saved my soul from death. You are my strength and my song. _____

Go to refrain

Verse 2



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, _____



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. _____

Go to refrain

Verse 3



This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us be glad and re - joice. _____



He has turned all death to life. Sing of the glo-ry of God. _____

Go to refrain

Text: Psalm 118; Bob Dufford, SJ, b. 1943

Tune: Bob Dufford, SJ, b. 1943; acc. by Sr. Theophane Hytrek, OSF, 1915-1992.

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Postlude: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* – Martin Luther

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The Liturgy for the burial of the Dead is an Easter Liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings us deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

Book of Common Prayer, Page 507

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*The Rev. Brenda S. Overfield, Officiant
John A. Murdock, Director of Music and Organist*