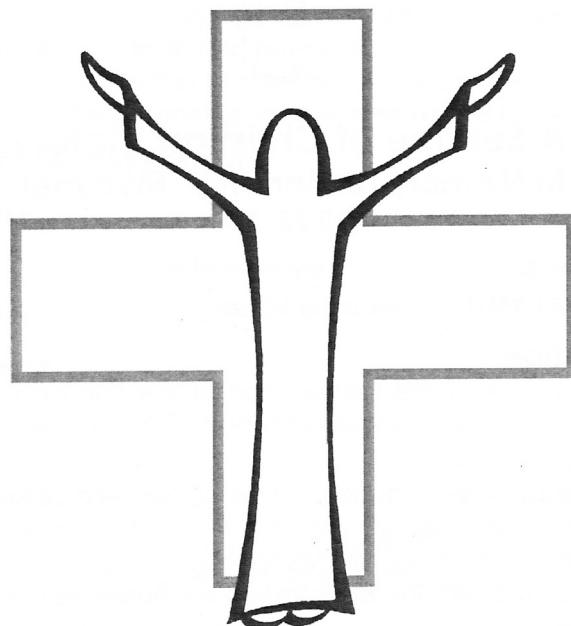


Celebration of the Life and Faith

of

Susan R. Mueller

December 31, 1946 - August 12, 2018



Service of Christian Burial
Saturday, August 25, 2018

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
110 North Gammon Road
Madison, WI 53717

ENTRANCE RITE

PRELUDE Fugue In Eb Major "St. Anne" J.S. Bach *Bruce Bengtson, Organist*

PROCESSIONAL "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" J.S. Bach *All stand.*

PLACING OF THE PALL

INVOCATION (All: "Amen.") - BAPTISMAL AFFIRMATION (Romans 6:3-5)

PRAYER (All *respond*: "And also with you." ... "Amen.")

HYMN "Guide Me Ever, Great Jehovah" Tune: Cwm Rhondda

1. Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore;
Feed me now and evermore.
2. Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, shield me with your mighty arm;
Shield me with your mighty arm.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore;
I will raise forevermore.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING from Ezekiel 37 *The Valley of Dry Bones*

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will attach sinews to you, and cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, a rattling, and behold, the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALMODY from Psalm 16 (spoken responsively)

All are seated.

All sing Refrain:

Keep me safe, O God,

for in you I take refuge.

I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;

apart from you I have no good thing."

As for the saints in the land, they are the glorious ones,

in whom is all my delight.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

surely I have a delightful inheritance.

I will bless the LORD who counsels me;

even at night my heart instructs me.

All sing Refrain (above)

I have set the LORD always before me;

because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the grave,

nor will you let your holy one see decay.

You have made known to me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy;

at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

All sing Refrain (above)

EPISTLE from 2 Timothy 4 Final words from St. Paul

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching ... fulfill your ministry.

The time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. ... The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

ALLELUIA VERSE

All stand.

Alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
to him be glory and power forever. Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL from St. John 6

Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day." ...

I tell you the truth, whoever believes has everlasting life. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia. Our Lord says: "Heaven and earth shall pass away,
but my words will never pass away." Alleluia!

THE APOSTLES' CREED *(All remain standing to speak together:)*

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.

MESSAGE The Rev. Andrew Jones

All are seated.

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Verses 1, 2, 4

1. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
2. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
4. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. It

there is ha - tred, let me bring your love. Where
there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned, in

there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord, And
there is dark - ness, on - ly light, And
giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, and in

where there's doubt, true faith in you.
where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.
dy - ing that we're born to e-ter - nal life.

Verse 3

3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek So much to be con -

soled as to con - sole. To be un-der-stood as to un-der -

stand. To be loved as to love with all my soul. D.C.

Text: *Prayer of St. Francis*; adapt. by Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997
Tune: Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997; acc. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942
© 1967, OCP
Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each petition, all say, "Hear our prayer," and at the conclusion, "Amen."

THE TABLE OF THE LORD

OFFERTORY HYMN "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!"

Tune: Hyfrydol

1. Alleluia! sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation Has redeemed us by His blood."
2. Alleluia! not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us, Faith believes, but knows not how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him Whom the angels now adore,
Shall our hearts forget His promise: "I am with you evermore"?
3. Alleluia! King eternal, You the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary, Earth your footstool, Heav'n your throne:
You within the veil have entered, Robed in flesh, our great high priest;
You on earth both priest and victim In the Eucharistic feast.

SURSUM CORDA *(The congregation speaks the bold sections.)*

All stand.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE *(ending with: "... to proclaim the glory of your Name:")*

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. **Hosanna in the highest.**
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER (All:) 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.

INVITATION - DISTRIBUTION

Following the family, one seating section at a time, circle the altar counter-clockwise to the first open space ahead of one of the pastors. Those not wishing to receive the common cup may simply take the bread and dip it into the wine. To receive only a blessing, approach the altar with arms folded over your heart.

After you have received the Body and Blood of the Lord, return by a side aisle.

CHORAL ANTHEM "Oh, How Blest Are You Whose Toils Are Ended" Carl Schalk

1. Oh, how blest are you whose toils are ended,
Who through death have unto God ascended!
You have arisen from the cares which keep us still in prison.
2. Christ has wiped away your tears forever;
You have that for which we still endeavor;
By you are chanted songs that ne'er to mortal ears are granted.
3. Come, O Christ, and loose the chains that bind us;
Lead us forth and cast this world behind us.
With you, th'Anointed, finds the soul its joy and rest appointed.

VOLUNTARY "The Blackbird.....Welsh song" Celtic Harp, Ken Stancer

CHORAL ANTHEM "King of Glory, King of Peace" David Charles Walker, Robert Brewer

1. King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee;
and that love may never cease, I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request, thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast, thou hast spared me.
2. Wherefore with my utmost art, I will sing thee;
and the cream of all my heart, I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried, thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied, thou didst hear me.
3. Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.
Small it is in this poor sort to enroll thee;
e'en eternity's too short to extol thee.

Text: George Herbert

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.

PRAYER OF COMMENDATION (All: "Amen." ... "Thanks be to God!")

BENEDICTION (All: "Amen.")

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ
People: **Thanks be to God**

RECESSIONAL "Hallelujah Chorus" from Messiah G. F. Handel

All are welcome to join the family immediately following the Service in the motorcade to Sunset Memory Gardens for a brief Rite of Interment. The family will then return to the church and join those who have stayed for the light luncheon, which will already have begun at noon in the Activity Center on the lower level (an elevator is next to the stairs).

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Susan's family wishes to thank all who came from far and near, including the many clergy, to honor Susan and her ministry by your presence today. Special thanks to all who helped lead today's Service, including:

Organist: Bruce Bengtson, Cantor, Luther Memorial Church, Madison (retired)
Presiding Minister: Rev. Daniel Kowert, Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
Preacher: The Rev. Andrew Jones, Rector, St. Andrew Episcopal Church, Madison
Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee
Deacons: Laura Norby, Evelyn Payson
Lay Readers: Steve and Nancy Sanborn



Susan R Mueller was born on December 31, 1946 to Dr. Stanleigh and Olive (nee Pellage) Richards in Evanston, Illinois. She attended New Trier High School in Winnetka, Illinois, and graduated in 1964. She then came to UW-Madison to study classics and graduated with studies in Latin, Spanish, and Education. After spending her junior year in Italy, she returned to Madison where she met William Mueller who was then the organist at St. Francis House (The Episcopal Student Center on the UW Campus). They were married there on June 22, 1968 and just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

With her language skills, beaming personality, and strong Christian faith, Susan touched a large and diverse group of people. She taught Latin and Spanish at the former Holy Name Seminary for 16 years until

it closed in 1995. During this she began Studying for the Deaconate in the Episcopal Church and was ordained a Deacon in 1984. She was assigned to various parishes in Madison including St. Francis House, Grace Church, St. Dunstan's, and St. Andrew's. She continued to expand her ministry, running the Deacon's School for the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee. For all of this work and much more she was raised to the position of Archdeacon for the Diocese in 2006. This resulted in her "Reverend" title being replaced by the title "Venerable." (Her husband likes to point out that things continued normally at home and he was not asked to genuflect before entering the house.) Susan went on to work for Renaissance Learning and traveled the country teaching and promoting their computerized reading software.

She was diagnosed with dementia 10 years ago and as it started to take its toll she became more home bound and lost the ability to stay in contact with those around her. The dementia didn't dampen her radiant personality however. She interacted with everyone from the grocery store personnel to church members, making them feel special. Even in her final days she continued her pastoral gifts by complimenting all of the medical personnel who treated her. She would compliment their smiles, jewelry, and attire. To her, everyone was special.

On August 12, 2018, while still at home and surrounded by her husband and children, the Venerable Susan Richards Mueller was called to her eternal home, at the age of 71 years, 8 months and 12 days. She leaves to mourn her passing her husband, William, and their two children, Kathryn and David (Nicole), along with her three grandchildren, Sofia Roberts, Wesley Roberts, and Aspen Mueller, as well as many dear friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Susan's burial will take place at Sunset Memory Gardens in Madison, Wisconsin. Suggested donations would be to the Alzheimer's Association, the Grace Church Food Pantry, or the Outreach Ministry of the Lutheran Church of the Living Christ.