
A Service Celebrating the Life of
Kathryn Kerr Perkinson



May 7, 1948 to July 10, 2020

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

July 13, 2020 ~ St. George's Episcopal Church, Glenn Dale, Maryland

In Thanksgiving for Kathy Perkinson

Opening Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress is our God" – sung by Chris Oelkers

Opening Sentences

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: **Eternal God, your mercy is without end, and your steadfast love never ceases: Accept our prayers for Kathy and receive her into the land of light and joy, into the company of your saints; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Kathy's family and friends, especially Don and John, 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 Lesson from the Old Testament ~ Read by Dianne Niedner

Isaiah 66:12-14a

For thus says the Lord: I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of the Lord is with his servants.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 ~ Read by Dennis Perkinson

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

A Lesson from the New Testament ~ Read by Mary Marshall Levy

Revelation 7:9-17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Remembrances by John Perkinson and Don Perkinson

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the gospel.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 11:21-27

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother Lazarus would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant: 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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, who has knit together your people in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech you, to your whole church in paradise and on earth, your light and your peace. To you O Lord we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with Christ to our joyful resurrection. To you O Lord we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. To you O Lord we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care, that, casting all grief on you, they may know the consolation of your love. To you O Lord we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

To you O Lord we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant us grace to entrust Kathy to your never-failing love; receive her into the arms of your mercy, and remember her according to the favor which you have for your people.

To you O Lord we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of you, she may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in your heavenly reign. To you O Lord we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Officiant: Father of all, we pray to you for Kathy and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Please remain in your seats to share the Peace, and refrain from touching anyone not in your household.

Necessary Instructions for Holy Communion are given, and the service then continues with the Great Thanksgiving.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**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.

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 your sons and daughters; 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.*

Communion Hymn: "Softly and Tenderly"

The 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.*

The Commendation

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant Kathy 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 Kathy. 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 Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Dismissal Hymn: *Farther Along* - Dolly Parton, Emmylou Harris, and Linda Ronstadt

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*Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there is no gathering after the service.
Thank you so much for coming to celebrate Kathy's life.*

