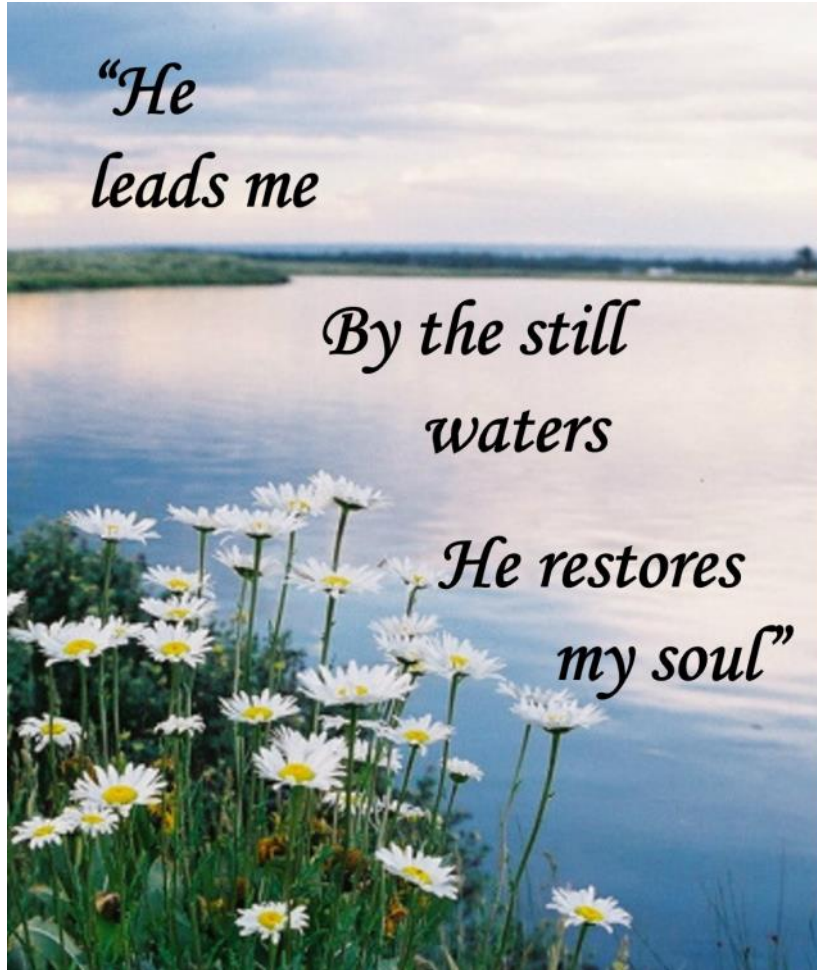


A Celebration of Life for  
Margaret Botkin  
April 25, 1962 - March 20, 2023



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
March 25, 2023

# In Loving Memory of Margaret Botkin

## *Opening Song - #671 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (vs 1,2, 5)*

*All stand while the Presider says:*

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.

Presider:     The Lord be with you.  
**People**       **And also with you**

*Presider addresses the gathered family and friends in welcome and sympathy then continues:*

Presider: Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our loved-one Margaret Botkin. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console 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 people sit for the readings.*

**Old Testament Reading :** Lamentations (3: 22-26, 31-33)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.

“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,  
“therefore I will hope in him.”

The Lord is good to those who wait for him,  
to the soul that seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly  
for the salvation of the Lord.

For the Lord will not  
reject forever.

Although he causes grief, he will have compassion  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;  
for he does not willingly afflict  
or grieve anyone.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 23 - (*Please read aloud in unison*)**

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.

**New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians (1: 3-4)**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**The Gospel** (John 6:37-40) (*please stand as you are able*)

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

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

“Come to me, all you who 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.”

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Homily/Eulogy

Song following the Eulogy

“Empty Chairs” by Don McLean

I feel the trembling tingle of a sleepless night  
Creep through my fingers and the moon is bright  
Beams of blue come flickering through my window  
pane  
Like gypsy moths that dance around a candle  
flame

And I wonder if you know  
That I never understood  
That although you said you'd go  
Until you did I never thought you would

Moonlight used to bathe the contours of your face  
While chestnut hair fell all around the pillow case  
And the fragrance of your flowers rest beneath my  
head  
A sympathy bouquet left with the love that's dead

And I wonder if you know  
That I never understood  
That although you said you'd go  
Until you did I never thought you would

Never thought the words you said were true  
Never thought you said just what you meant  
Never knew how much I needed you  
Never thought you'd leave, until you went

Morning comes and morning goes with no regret  
And evening brings the memories I can't forget  
Empty rooms that echo as I climb the stairs  
And empty clothes that drape and fall on empty  
chairs

And I wonder if you know  
That I never understood  
That although you said you'd go  
Until you did I never thought you would

## **The Apostles' Creed** *(please stand as you are able)*

Leader: Please join in saying the Apostles' Creed together:

**All: 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.**

### **Prayers of the People:**

Leader: For our beloved Margaret, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Leader: Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Margaret, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People: ***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 Margaret eternal life.

***Hear us, Lord.***

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

***Hear us, Lord.***

Comfort us in our sorrows of Margaret's death, let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

***Hear us, Lord.***

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

**Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you**

*(The People offer each other a sign of peace (namaste, peace sign, hugs, handshakes...))*

Presider Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of our lips that acknowledge his Name.

Offertory Music - "May the Angels Be Your Guide", Journey songs #555

## MAY THE ANGELS BE YOUR GUIDE

555



May the an - gels be your guide, may they lead you in - to par - a -



dise, and take you home to the new Je - ru - sa - lem.



1. There is one thing I ask of God; for this I  
2. When I cry out, — hear my voice. Have mer - cy,  
3. I shall see God's — good - ness, for - ev - er



1. long, — for this I hope: 7 to dwell in the house of  
2. Lord, — and an - swer me. Do not cast me a - way in  
3. dwell with the liv - ing. Hope in God, — and take



to Refrain

1. God ev - 'ry day of my life.  
2. an - ger, for — you are my help.  
3. heart; place your trust in the Lord.

Text: Based on *In Paradisum* and Psalm 27:4, 7, 9, 13-14; Michele MacAller and Kathy McGrath.

Music: Michele MacAller and Kathy McGrath.

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# The Holy Eucharist

*(please stand as you are able)*

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

**People We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Presider 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 people stand, sit, or kneel. Then the Presider continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: *(All)*

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Presider continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also (+) that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

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.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*(The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.)*

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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

*(All are welcome and invited to receive communion. Extend hand to receive the gluten free bread. You may then dip/intinct the bread into the wine in the cup. If you prefer not to have wine, you may consume the bread without wine. If you are not ready to receive communion with us, you may come forward, cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing instead.)*

Communion Music - G847 Precious Lord, Take My Hand (vs 1-3, 1)

### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Presider:        Let us pray.

**All                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:**

*(The Presider and other ministers take their places near the urn)*

Presider        Give rest, O Christ, to your servant Margaret, with all your saints:

**People:            Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing,  
but life everlasting.**

Presider        You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth and to the earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

**People:            All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song; “Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.”**

Presider: Into your hands, O merciful savior, we commend your servant Margaret. Acknowledge, we humbly ask 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 Presider then says*

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Presider: Because Christ has risen and assures us that where he is, we will be also, let us go forth rejoicing in the name of the Lord that Margaret is safe in God's care.

**People Thanks be to God.**

**Closing Song -**

**I'll Fly Away**

**(on Back)**

## I'll Fly Away

1. Some glad morn-ing when this life is o'er,  
 2. When the shad-ows of this life have gone,  
 3. Just a few more wea-ry days and then, } I'll fly a-  
 fly a-way,

way;  
 fly a-way; } to a home on God's ce-les-tial shore,  
 like a bird from pris-on bars has flown,  
 to a land where joys shall nev-er end, }

I'll fly a-way, fly a-way. I'll fly a-way, O glo-ry,  
 fly a-way, fly a-way, fly a-way,

I'll fly a-way, fly a-way. in the morn-ing. When I die, hal-le-

WORDS: Albert E. Brumley (Isa. 55:6; 2 Cor. 5:8)

MUSIC: Albert E. Brumley

I'LL FLY AWAY  
94.94 with Refrain

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