CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Marilyn Jean Dickinson
and
Debra Joyce Dickinson





June 9, 1928 –

September 13, 2026

December 15, 1949 -

October 18, 2026

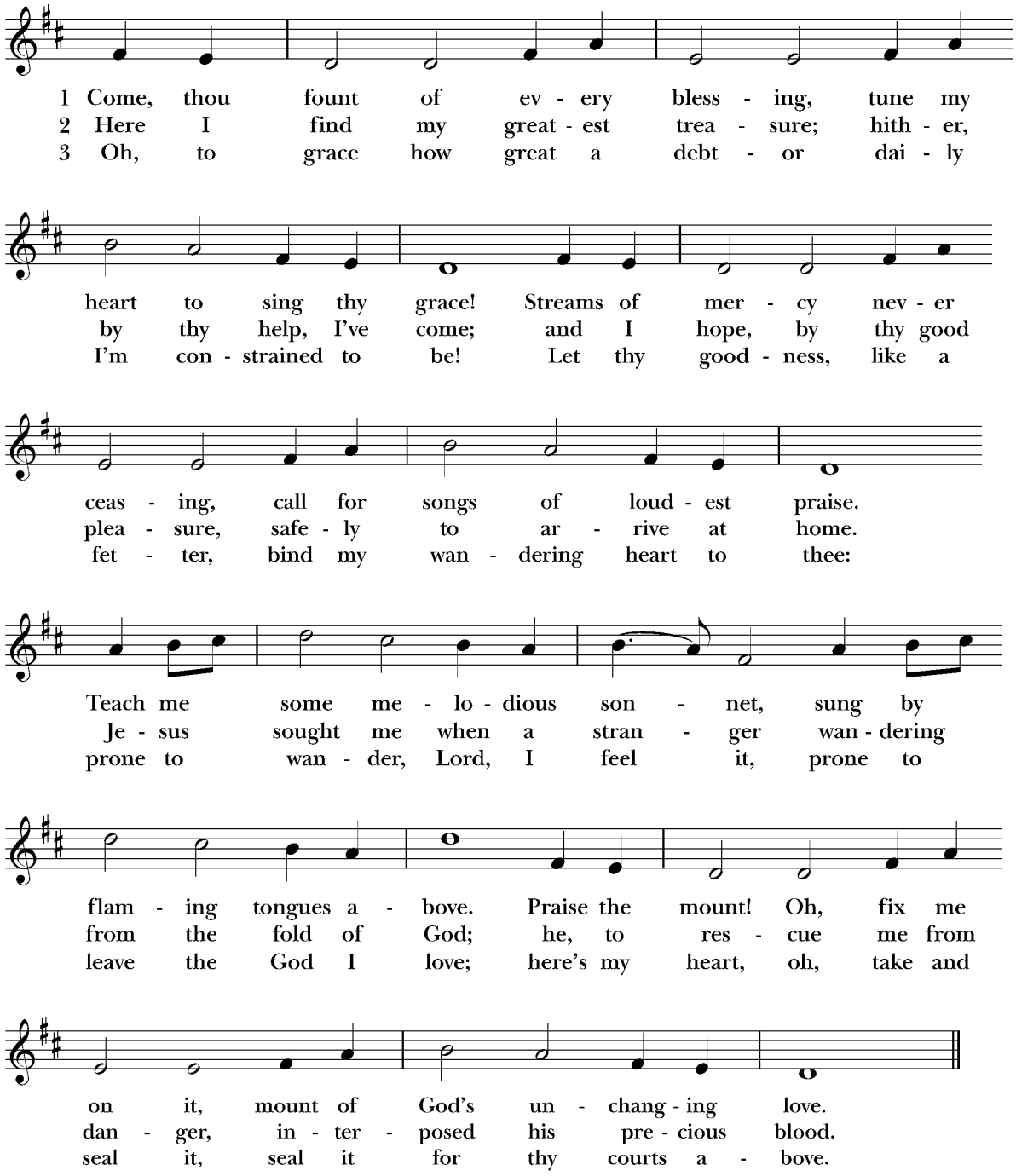
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

November 7, 2026

11 a.m.

Preludes: Aria — Flor Peeters
When peace like a river
It Is Well — Craig Phillips

Opening Hymn: Come Thou Font of Every Blessing (H686)
(*Please stand in body or spirit)*



Officiant:

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.

Officiant: The Lord be with you
People: And also with you.
Officiant: Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servants, Marilyn and Debra, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

(seated)

A Reading from the Book of Ruth

So Naomi said, 'See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.' But Ruth said,
'Do not press me to leave you
or to turn back from following you!
Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.
Where you die, I will die—
there will I be buried.
May the Lord do thus and so to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!'

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 30

1 I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up *
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

2 O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.

3 You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life
as I was going down to the grave.

4 Sing to the LORD, you servants of his; * give thanks for the
remembrance of his holiness.

5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, *
his favor for a lifetime.

6 Weeping may spend the night, *but joy comes in the morning.

7 While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed. *
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."

8 Then you hid your face, * and I was filled with fear.

9 I cried to you, O LORD; * I pleaded with the Lord, saying,

10 "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? *
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

11 Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; * O LORD, be my helper."

12 You have turned my wailing into dancing; *
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.

13 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; * O Lord my God,
I will give thanks to you forever.

A Reading from the Revelation to John

After this 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!"

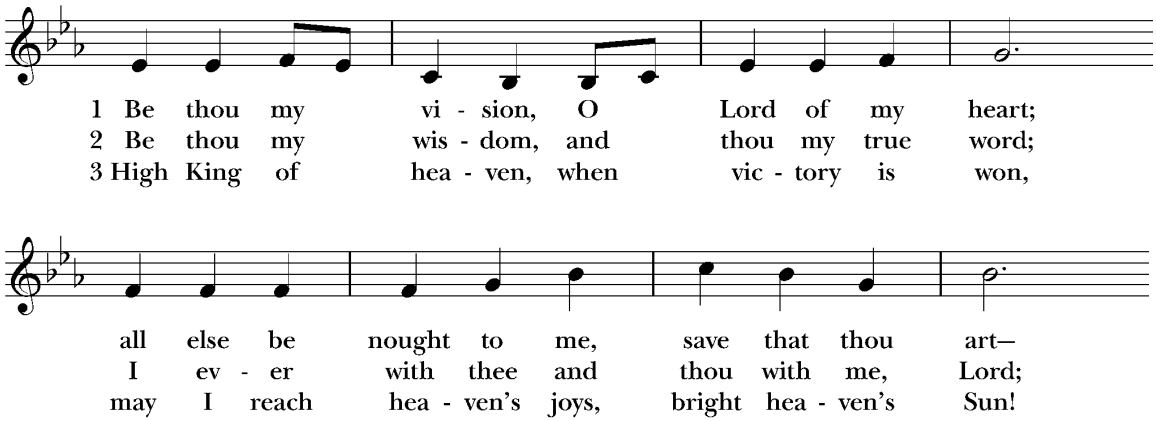
And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

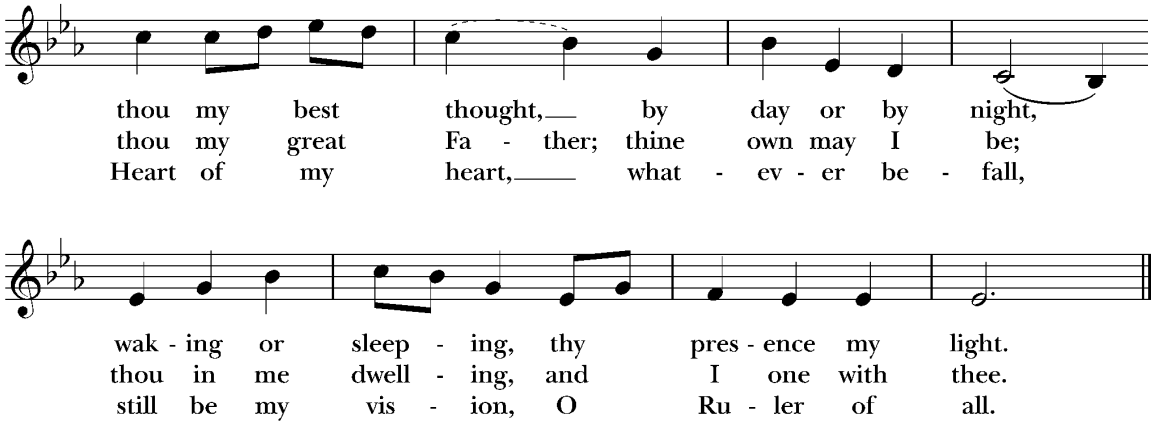
"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

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 who 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."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: Be Thou My Vision (H488) (*Please stand in body or spirit)*





A Reading from the Gospel according to John

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Officiant: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God.

Homily: The Rev. Kay N. Ashby
Remembrances

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,
(*Please stand in body or spirit)*
Officiant and People:

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 ***(Please stand, sit or kneel as you find most comfortable for prayer)***

For our sisters Marilyn and Debra, 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 Marilyn and Debra, 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 our sisters eternal life.
Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sisters to the joys of heaven.
Hear us, Lord.

Our sisters were washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give them fellowship with all your saints.
Hear us, Lord.

They were nourished with your Body and Blood; grant them a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.
Hear us, Lord.

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

Officiant: Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sisters Marilyn and Debra, who were reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that their deaths 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.**

Hymn: Jerusalem, my happy home (H 630)



The Commendation

(*Please stand in body or spirit)*

Officiant:

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

Officiant: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servants Marilyn and Debra. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, these sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming. Receive them 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 Committal

(*Please stand in body or spirit)*

Officiant:
Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me; I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Marilyn, and we commit her remains to their resting place; * earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord make his face to shine upon her and be gracious to her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace. **Amen.**

Officiant: The Lord be with you
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People:

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 forever and ever. Amen.
Rest eternal grant to Marilyn, O Lord; And let light perpetual shine upon her.

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

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.
Officiant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Largo (from Xerxes) Georg F. Handel

Participants:

Officiants: The Revs. Joe & Kay Ashby

Organist: Mr. William Kendrick

Readers: Mrs. Barbara Anderson
Mr. Douglas Comery
Mr. William Kendrick

Prayers: M.L. Schultze

Acolyte: Mr. David Rotthoff

Please join us in the Guild Hall following the service
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.