

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING

for the life of

**Cathy Millard Schreiner**

July 26, 1947 – June 5, 2025

St. John's Lutheran Church - Alexandria, Virginia

*Thursday in the Week after Pentecost*

*June 12, 2025 at 11:00 am*



**Pre-Service Music**

**Welcome**

**Opening Rite**

**P** In the Name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**P** In Holy Baptism, Cathy was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her sin. St. Paul says: "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?"

**C We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.**

*(Romans 6:3-5)*

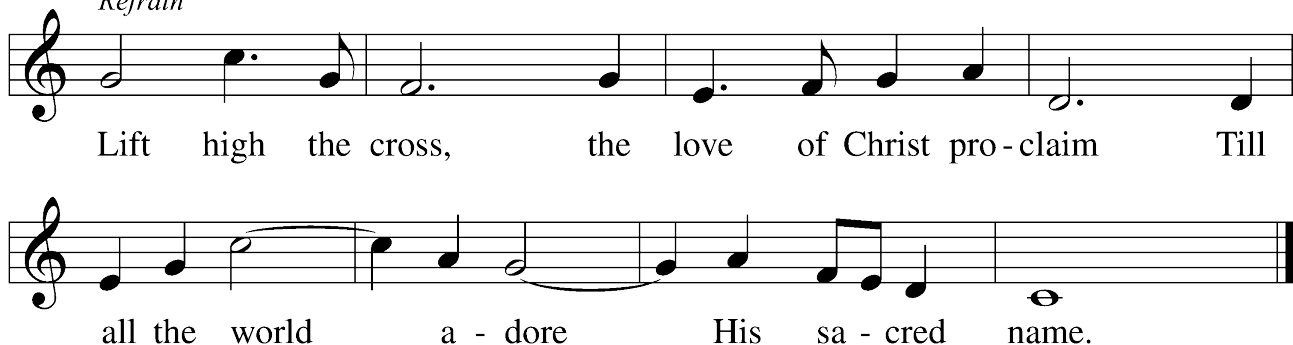
**P** Christ is risen!

**C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Gathering Hymn**

"Lift High the Cross" (LSB 837)

*Refrain*



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,  
 2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,  
 3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied  
 4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,

*Refrain*

Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.  
 Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.  
 As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
 Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
 Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.

Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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## Opening Sentences

**P** Through Holy Baptism, our gracious God forgives sin and creates new life. In Baptism, we are reborn to a new life where we know God as the loving, forgiving Father that He is. By the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, we become inheritors of eternal life through the cleansing blood of Jesus, shed for us and for our salvation.

The hope and joy which we have in Christ does not end at the grave. God's loving purposes for his people are not destroyed by death. Rather, death becomes the gateway to eternal life with God in heaven. The grave for God's people is not the end, but the beginning which brings about God's ultimate purpose for his people.

Today, we are gathered here to remember and to celebrate the life given to God's beloved daughter, Cathy, who now lives with Christ in heaven. We grieve, and yet we hope. We are sad, yet we are able to celebrate and give thanks for the hope of the resurrection. Our faith in Christ reminds us that no matter how painful death may be, it is ultimately victory, not defeat. Because Christ lives, Cathy lives. This is our faith, our hope, and our joy.

## Prayer

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray:

O God of grace and mercy, we give you thanks for your loving-kindness shown to Cathy and to all your servants who, having finished their course of faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## "The Footpath to Peace," by Henry Van Dyke

### A Life Remembered

#### First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,  
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

<sup>7</sup> And he will swallow up on this mountain  
the covering that is cast over all peoples,  
the veil that is spread over all nations.

<sup>8</sup> He will swallow up death forever;  
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,  
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for  
the Lord has spoken.

<sup>9</sup> It will be said on that day,  
"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.  
This is the Lord; we have waited for him;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**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 forever.**

**Epistle Reading**

Romans 8:31-39

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**Holy Gospel**

John 10:11-18

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father

knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Hymn

"Beautiful Savior" (LSB 537)

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of

God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd  
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is  
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines  
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -

serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.  
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Homily

### Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**P** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**G** 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 into hell. 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** *(please kneel or be seated)*

**P** Trusting in the promise of eternal life given to us in Christ's death and resurrection, we come before our Lord in prayer:

**P** O God the Father in heaven,

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** O God the Holy Spirit,

**C** **have mercy on us and grant us your peace.**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life. We give you thanks and praise for the hope of the resurrection and the life to come which we have in you. Give us your comfort in our need. Lord, in your mercy;

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

**P** Loving Father, give your gracious presence and your saving peace to Cathy's family: her two sons, Chris and his wife, Rachel, and Todd; her two grandchildren, Bennett and Elizabeth; together with all her relatives and friends. Surround them with your love and comfort them with your strength to meet the days ahead knowing that you are with them always, even to the end of the world. Lord, in your mercy;

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful God, you sent your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Lord, in your mercy;

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

**P** O God, the generations rise and pass away before you. You are the strength of those who labor, and the rest of the blessed dead. We rejoice in the company of your saints. We remember all who have lived in faith, all who have peacefully died, and especially those most dear to us who now rest in you. Give us, we pray, our

portion with those who have trusted in you and have lived out your gracious will in their lives. To your name, with the Church on earth, and the Church in heaven, we give all honor and glory, now and forever. Lord, in your mercy;

**G Hear our prayer.**

**P** Gracious God, hear our prayers and receive them for the sake of the crucified and risen One, our Savior Jesus Christ.

**G Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**G 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.**

*Please stand*

**Commendation**

**P** Into your hands, merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Cathy. In the sure and certain hope of our resurrection in Christ, we trust that you acknowledge a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming, and 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.

**G Amen.**

**Benediction**

**P** The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. The blessing of Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you always.

**G Amen.**

**P** Let us go forth in peace.

**G In the Name of Christ.**

**P** Christ is risen!

**G He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Sending Hymn

"There in God's Garden" (WOV 668)



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sa - vior!"  
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:  
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;  
 our greed has starved it, our de-spite has choked it.  
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
 see where the ten - drills of our hu - man  
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.  
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
 sor - row. I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,  
 this my resurrection;  
 into your hands, Lord,  
 I commit my spirit.  
 This have I searched for;  
 now I can possess it.  
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,  
 "Thanks to Christ whose Passion  
 offers in mercy  
 healing, strength, and pardon.  
 Peoples and nations,  
 take it, take it freely!"  
 Amen! My Master!

## Postlude



You are invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the memorial service.

Cards and expression of sympathy may be sent to the family at:

The Schreiner Family  
4400 Hadrian Court  
Alexandria, VA 22310

The family has directed memorial contributions be made to:

St. John's Lutheran Church  
5952 Franconia Road  
Alexandria, VA 22310

*Please indicate that your memorial is in memory of Cathy Schreiner.*



## **Serving This Day:**

Officiant/Preacher	Rev. John S. Meehan
Organist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Greeters	Jan Swicord
Ushers	Joe Godwin Barbara Pate
Readers	Carol Mooney – “A Footpath to Peace” Chris and Rachel Schreiner – “A Life Remembered” Todd Schreiner – Epistle Lesson
AV Team	Jurgen Gobien Greer Putnam



## **Acknowledgments**

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**Catherine Millard Schreiner**, known lovingly as Cathy, passed away peacefully at her home in Alexandria, Virginia, on June 5, 2025, at the age of 77. Born in Charleston, West Virginia, on July 26, 1947, Cathy made Alexandria her home for over 50 years, where she touched the lives of many through her caring, dedication, and service to her community.

Cathy graduated Shephard College in West Virginia with a degree in Elementary Education and taught 3rd grade before having children.

A devoted mother and grandmother, Cathy, is survived by her two sons, Christopher Schreiner and his wife, Rachel, and Todd Schreiner, as well as her two cherished grandchildren, Bennett (10) and Elizabeth (8). She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Richard Schreiner as well as her brother James Millard and sister Jacqueline Mann. Throughout her life, Cathy was a passionate advocate for those around her. She was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Alexandria, VA, since 1977, where she found a deep sense of community and fellowship.

Cathy's commitment to service extended beyond her church, as she was a dedicated alumna and past officer of Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority, where she was honored with many awards for her contributions. In addition, she was recently recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for her years of service with the Clermont Woods Community Association. Cathy's dedication to others, her kindness, and her willingness to help wherever she could, made a lasting impact on her community.

Cathy was a lover of yellow roses, sweet treats, and all things Christmas. She collected many keepsakes, most notably Hummels. She meticulously decorated her home for every season and holiday. Cathy's kindness, generosity, and unwavering spirit will continue to inspire those she leaves behind.