

Betty Briner  
Funeral

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
August 14, 2020

Celebration of the life of  
Elizabeth "Betty" Briner

Born March 26, 1933  
Entered into Eternal Rest, August 7, 2020

**PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

**INTRODUCTION**

P Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister, Betty, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life: We glorify you.

C **We glorify you.**

P Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life: We praise you.

C **We praise you.**

P Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope: We worship you.

C **We worship you.**

P To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

**HYMN #597** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

### **GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister, Betty. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

**First Reading:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 12:13-14

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones  
together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.

The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God, and  
keep his commandments; for that is the whole duty of  
everyone. For God will bring every deed into judgment,  
including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 84

L- How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of hosts!

My soul longs, indeed it faints

for the courts of the LORD;

my heart and my flesh sing for joy  
to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home,

and the swallow a nest for herself,

where she may lay her young,

at your altars, O LORD of hosts,

my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house,  
ever singing your praise.

**C - Happy are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.  
As they go through the valley of Baca  
they make it a place of springs;  
the early rain also covers it with pools.  
They go from strength to strength;  
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.  
O Lord GOD of hosts, hear my prayer;  
give ear, O God of Jacob!**

**L - Behold our shield, O God;  
look on the face of your anointed.  
For a day in your courts is better  
than a thousand elsewhere.  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than live in the tents of wickedness.  
For the Lord GOD is a sun and shield;  
he bestows favor and honor.  
No good thing does the LORD withhold  
from those who walk uprightly.  
O LORD of hosts,  
happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation

ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith — being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

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

## REMEMBRANCE

### GOSPEL READING: Matthew 6:19-34

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

"No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you

worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

A The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you O Christ.

## SERMON

HYMN #441 *Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand*

APOSTLES' CREED (*congregation stands*)

C 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.

## INTERCESSIONS

A Let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "I am the resurrection and the life." Jesus, full of compassion, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Betty, and dry the tears of those who weep. In your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Jesus, man of sorrows, you wept at the grave of Lazarus your friend; comfort us who mourn. In your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Jesus, firstborn of the new creation, you raised the dead; give to our sister life eternal. In your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Jesus, friend of sinners, you promised paradise to the repentant thief; bring Betty to the joys of heaven. In your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Jesus, bread of life, you nourished Betty at your table on earth; welcome her at your table in the realm of heaven. In your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Jesus, bright morning star, comfort us in our sorrows at the death of Betty, let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope. In your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection 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, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C      Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C      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**

### **COMMENDATION**

**P      Let us commend Betty to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer. Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Betty. 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.**

**C      Amen.**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

*~Lutkin*

**P      Let us go forth in peace.**

**C      In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN #536** *God Be with You Till  
We Meet Again*

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The Rev. James E. Person . . . . Pastor  
Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk.. . . . Organist

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk  
Soloist

*Hymn of Promise* ~Sleeth  
*Go Not Far From Me (PSALM 71)* ~Xingarelli

## A Prayer for Today

This is the beginning of a new day.

God has given me this day to use as I will.

I can waste it or use it for good, but what I do today is important, because I am exchanging a day of my life for it.

When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving in its place something that I have traded for it.

I want it to be gain, and not loss; good, and not evil; success, and not failure, in order that I shall not regret the price I have paid for it.

This day is all we have. Is there someone to whom an act of kindness – not tomorrow but today – could make a world of difference?

Today, whether we spend it well or throw it away, will be gone tomorrow. What is there to do that is worth our effort?

W. Heartsill Wilson