

A Service Commending to God
Victoria “Vicky” Ehrhart Wilson
(June 17, 1942 - July 3, 2022)



Saturday, July 9, 2022
10:00 a.m.



The Episcopal Church of
St. John the Baptist

125 Canterbury Drive Aptos, CA 95003

A Word to Our Guests

To our Christian guests who are not Episcopalians: The Episcopal Church recognizes all baptized Christians as part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, and we encourage you to participate fully in this service (including receiving communion) as a sign of our Christian unity.

To our guests who are not Christians: We welcome you in the name of God and encourage you to participate in the service to whatever degree you feel comfortable. You are not required to say any of the responses or prayers along with us if you are not comfortable doing so. You are welcome amongst us as one of God's beloved children no matter what your level of participation in the worship service.

Memorial Gifts

In lieu of flowers, Vicky's family asks that donations in her memory be made to:

Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

125 Canterbury Drive
Aptos, CA 95003
www.st-john-aptos.org

and / or

CASA of Santa Cruz County

813 Freedom Blvd
Watsonville, CA 95076
<https://casaofsantacruz.org/>

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher:

The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller, Rector

Assisting Priest:

The Rev. Eliza Linley, Assisting Priest

Music Leader:

Andrew Carter, Director of Music Ministries

Acolyte:

Win Fernald

First Reading:

Robin Gaither

Second Reading:

Chris Cottle

Chalice Bearer:

Sally Lewis

Ushers:

Karen Greenleaf, Joan Valor

Altar Guild:

Eileen Fernald, Lise Crowley, Cindy Phillips, Andrew Pudan

Flowers:

Eileen Fernald

Hospitality:

Robin Gaither, Kathy Butler, Antonette Wood

Sexton:

Matt McCabe

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer (1979)

Ringling of the Bell (80 times)

The church bell is rung once for each year of the life of the deceased. This is a long-established custom of reflection on the life of the beloved, and is referred to in these words of 17th century English poet and priest John Donne: "Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

Opening Hymn: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymnal 1982 #376

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Opening Anthems

BCP 491

Presider 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. *John 11:25-26*

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. *Job 19:25-27*

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. *Romans 14:7-8*

Happy from now on
are those who die in the Lord!

So it is, says the Spirit,
for they rest from their labors. *Revelation 14:13*

Burial Collects

BCP 493

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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 servant Vicky, 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.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Vicky's family and friends 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.**

First Reading: Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

New Revised Standard Version

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

Book of Common Prayer Translation

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
 from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
 the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
 and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
 shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
 the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
 nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
 it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
 from this time forth for evermore

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9

New Revised Standard Version

We do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling—if indeed, when we have taken

it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Hymnal 1982 #680

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home;
 2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Gospel Reading: John 14:1-6

New Revised Standard Version

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

People Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 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.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Eulogy: Chris O’Malley (Vicky’s son-in-law)

Poem by Vicky Wilson: Read by Rob Bradley (Vicky’s son)

Sermon: Mother Tracy Wells Miller, Rector

Affirmation of Faith

New Zealand Prayer Book p. 481

All You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,
Good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
Your love for us in Jesus Christ,
Who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.

Prayers of the People

Intercessor God, your will for us is abundant life;
receive Vicky now into the fullness of life in your presence.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor You know the thoughts of our hearts and our search for faith; shed the
brightness of your light on Vicky, who also sought understanding.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor You are greater than all our ideas and images of you;
draw Vicky into the mystery of your being.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We know you as perfect Mercy and Love;
welcome Vicky in the grace of that love and mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We praise you as the giver of life;
gather all who mourn into the hope of renewed life.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor The Church commends all who die to the care of Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit; and so we commend Vicky to you,
giving thanks for the gift of her life.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Vicky, who was reborn
by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her death 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.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Because the sharing of the peace symbolizes being reconciled with one another before receiving
communion, it is particularly appropriate to seek out anyone with whom you may have had a
conflict recently and offer a sign of peace at this time.

† The Holy Communion †

Offertory Solo: What a Wonderful World

Bob Thiele and George David Weiss

Sung by Andrew Carter

Eucharistic Prayer

CRI/Voice, Dennis Bratcher

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 thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image, and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All **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.**

Presider Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,

to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection,

you gave birth to your church,

delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

and made with us a new covenant by water and the spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Presider Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit makes us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

People AMEN!

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP 364

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial,
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread and a moment of silence is kept.

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

Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Receiving communion is an act of renewing one's commitment to Christ and receiving grace to continue to follow him, so traditionally it is reserved for baptized Christians. However, we acknowledge that God can work outside of church tradition and will not refuse communion to anyone who wishes to receive it. Please join us in the circle, even if you choose not to receive communion, which you can indicate by crossing your arms over your chest as the servers come by. If you choose not to receive, the priest will say a blessing over you instead.

Distribution of Communion

The bread is distributed first. Please hold out your hands to indicate your desire to receive; the priest will place the bread in your hand. Gluten-free wafers are available if needed; they are in a separate gold container on the paten (plate) with the bread.

The wine will be served in the common cup (chalice) and from a flagon (pitcher) that is not shared with others. To receive from the non-shared flagon, you may use a cup from home or one of the plastic cups available on the usher's table. Hold out your cup as the servers come around so they can see that you would like to receive from the flagon instead of the chalice. If you would like to abstain from the wine entirely, cross your arms over your chest when the wine comes by.

For Online Participants: Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Those not physically present to receive communion can say this prayer while communion is being distributed: "In union, O Lord, with the faithful of St. John's, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen."

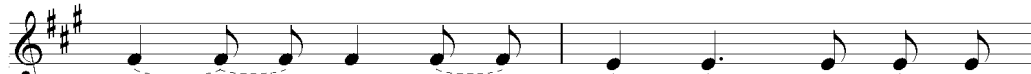
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Communion Hymn: I Am the Bread of Life

Hymnal 1982 #335



1 I am the bread of life; they who
 2 (The) Bread that I will give is my
 3 (Un-) less you eat of the
 4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion,
 5 (Yes,) Lord, we be - lieve that



1 come to me shall not hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world, and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of Man and
 4 I am the life. They who be -
 5 you are the Christ, the



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat of this bread, they shall live for
 3 drink of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve in me, e - ven if they
 5 Son of God who has



1 me un - less the Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er. they shall live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 die, they shall live for ev - er.
 5 come in - to the world.

Refrain

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

up, and I will raise them up on the

1-4 Final Ending

last day. _____

2 The
3 Un- day.
4 —
5 Yes,
(?)

Communion Hymn: Amazing Grace

Hymnal 1982 #671

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
*5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP 498

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

Presider Give rest, O Christ, to your servant Vicky with 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 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.

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

Presider Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Vicky. 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

Presider 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 eternal covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn: When the Saints Go Marching In

Worship & Praise #180

1 Oh, when the saints go march-ing in, oh, when the
 2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the
 3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the
 4 Oh, when they gath - er 'round the throne, oh, when they

saints go march-ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
 Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
 new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
 gath - er 'round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that

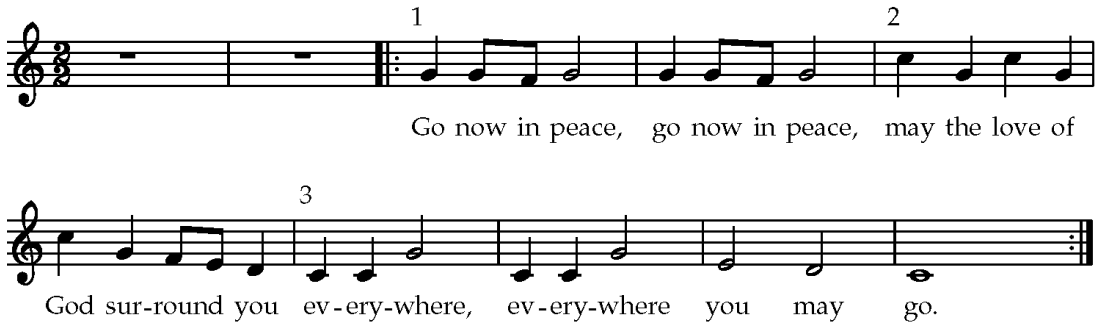
num-ber when the saints go march-ing in.
 num-ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.
 num-ber when the new world is re - vealed.
 num-ber when they gath - er 'round the throne.

The Dismissal

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

Dismissal Song: Go Now in Peace

Voices Found #166



1 2

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of

3

God sur-round you ev-ery-where, ev-ery-where you may go.

The flowers today are from the yards of many parishioners, including Vicky's own yard.

Please join us for a reception immediately following the service in the back yard. We ask that you sanitize your hands and wear a mask while going through the food line. There will be an opportunity to remember Vicky and share stories at the reception.

*“I want to age like sea glass.
Smoothed by tides, not broken.
I want my hard edges to soften.
I want to ride the waves, go with the flow.
I will catch a wave and let it carry me to where I belong.
I want to be picked up and held gently
by those who delight in my well-earned patina
and appreciate the changes that I went through to achieve that beauty.
I want to enjoy the journey and always remember
that if you give the ocean something breakable,
it will turn it into something beautiful.
I want to age like sea glass.”*

~ Bernadette Noll (adapted)

