



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A parish in the Diocese of Pennsylvania

October 4, 2025, 1:30pm – *The Burial of the Dead and Requiem Eucharist*
Rite I



A service for the Burial of the Dead
and Requiem Eucharist
for
Barbara Sue Pecko-Zimmer
February 25, 1936 - September 20, 2025

Prelude

The Liturgy of the Word

Please stand if you are able while the following anthem is said.

Celebrant

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live;
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth;
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God;
whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold,
and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself,
and no man dieth to himself.

For if we live, we live unto the Lord.
and if we die, we die unto the Lord.

Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord;
even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

The Celebrant then says

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Barbara and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All may be seated for the readings and the psalm.

A Reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 14-15

There is a time for everything.
There's a time for everything that is done on earth.

There is a time to be born.

And there's a time to die.

There is a time to plant.

And there's a time to pull up what is planted.

There is a time to kill.

And there's a time to heal.

There is a time to tear down.

And there's a time to build up.

There is a time to weep.

And there's a time to laugh.

There is a time to be sad.

And there's a time to dance.

There is a time to scatter stones.

And there's a time to gather them.

There is a time to embrace someone.

And there's a time not to embrace.

There is a time to search.

And there's a time to stop searching.

There is a time to keep.

And there's a time to throw away.

There is a time to tear.

And there's a time to mend.

There is a time to be silent.

And there's a time to speak.

There is a time to love.

And there's a time to hate.

There is a time for war.

And there's a time for peace.

I know that everything God does will last forever. Nothing can be added to it. And nothing can be taken from it. God does that so people will have respect for him.

Everything that now exists has already been.
And what is coming has existed before.
God will judge those who treat others badly.

Celebrant The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 112:1-6

Praise the Lord.

Blessed are those who have respect for the Lord.
They find great delight when they obey God's commands.
Their children will be powerful in the land.
Because they are honest, their children will be blessed.
Their family will have wealth and riches.
They will always be blessed for doing what is right.
Even in the darkness light shines on honest people.
It shines on those who are kind and tender and godly.
Good things will come to those who are willing to lend freely.
Good things will come to those who are fair in everything they do.
Those who do what is right will always be secure.
They will be remembered forever.

A Reading from the book of Ephesians.

Ephesians 1:18-20

I pray that you may understand more clearly. Then you will know the hope God has chosen you to receive. You will know that what God will give his holy people is rich and glorious. And you will know God's great power. It can't be compared with anything else. His power works for us who believe. It is the same mighty strength God showed. He showed this when he raised Christ from the dead. God seated him at his right hand in his heavenly kingdom.

Celebrant The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Blue Hymnal #8 Morning Has Broken

Those who are able may remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away-- and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Remembering Barbara

Homily

The Rev. Conor Alexander

The Apostles' Creed

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith saying together the Apostles Creed,

Celebrant and People

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. **Amen.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. **Amen.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **Amen.**

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. **Amen.**

Grant to all who mourn, a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. **Amen.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. **Amen.**

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. **Amen.**

Grant us grace to entrust Barbara to thy never-failing love; receive her into the arms of thy mercy, and remember her according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. **Amen.**

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, Barbara may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with blessed Virgin Mary and all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn, Blue Hymnal 671 *Amazing Grace!*

New Britain

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Then facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The people say together

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

The people may sit or kneel as they are able.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

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

People and Celebrant

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The people may say together in unison

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

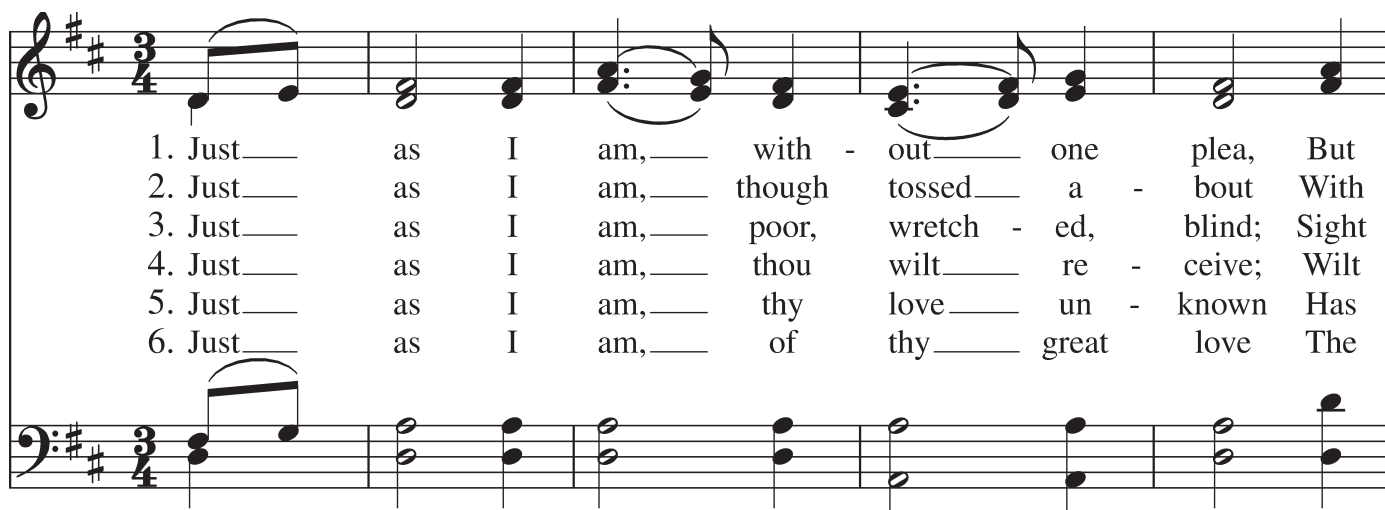
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Celebrant says

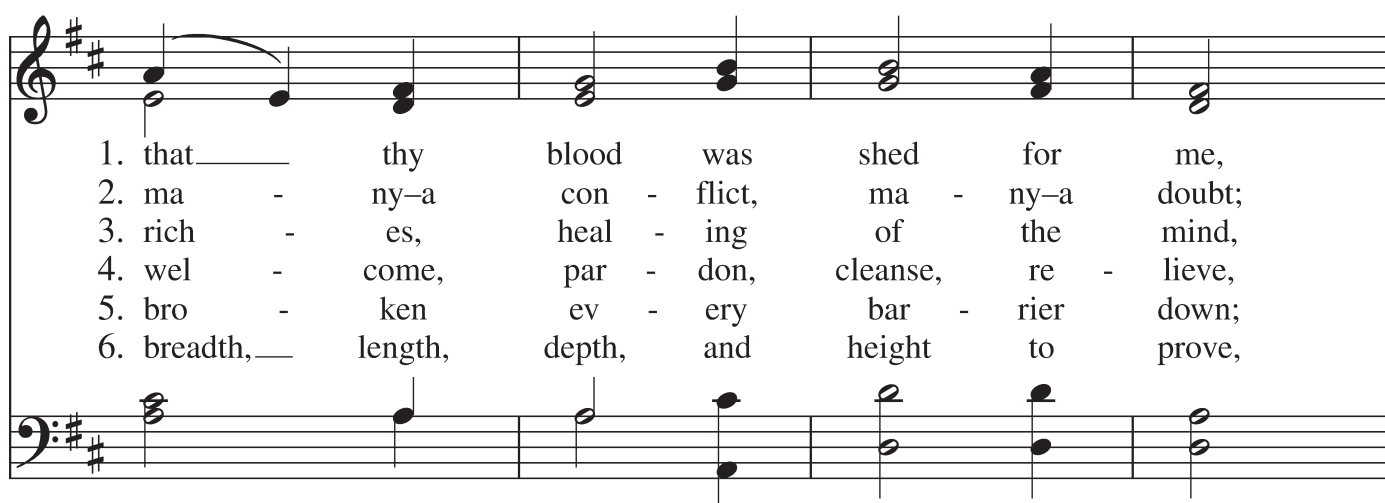
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion or, if you would prefer, you may cross your arms on your chest, and the Celebrant will give you a blessing

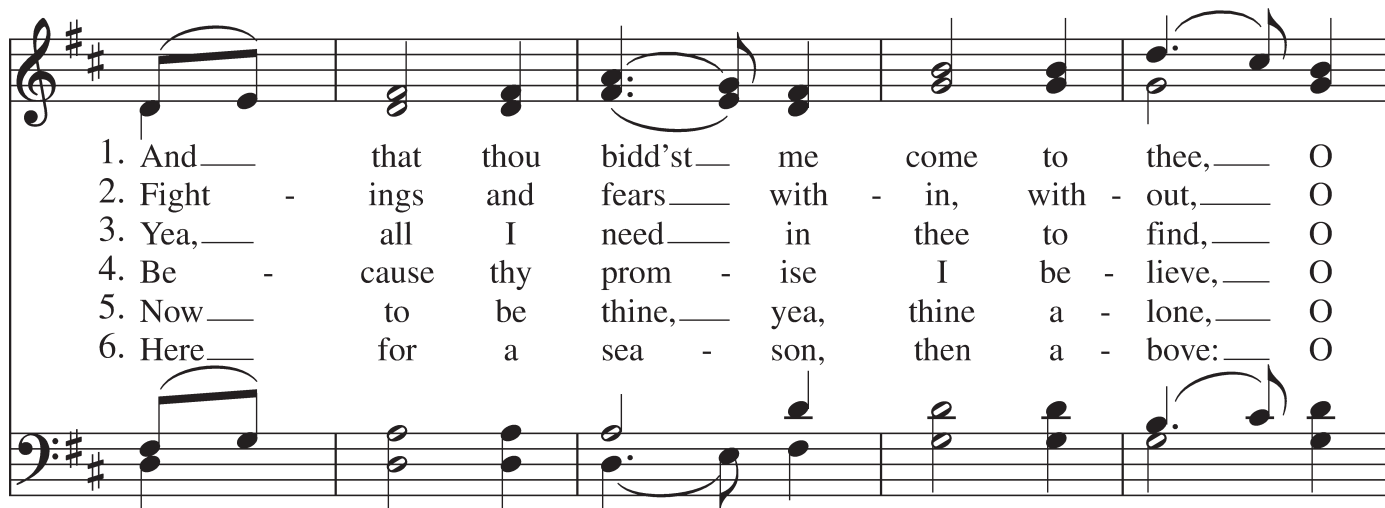
Communion Hymn Levas 137 Just As I Am



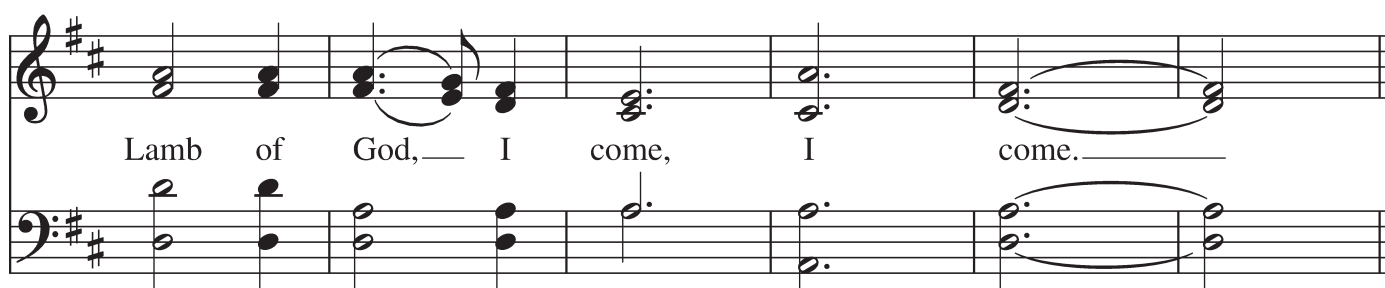
1. Just as I am, with - out one plea, But
 2. Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With
 3. Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight
 4. Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive; Wilt
 5. Just as I am, thy love un - known Has
 6. Just as I am, of thy great love The



1. that thy blood was shed for me,
 2. ma - ny-a con - flict, ma - ny-a doubt;
 3. rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,
 4. wel - come, par - don, cleanse, re - lieve,
 5. bro - ken ev - ery bar - rier down;
 6. breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,



1. And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O
 2. Fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out, O
 3. Yea, all I need in thee to find, O
 4. Be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve, O
 5. Now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone, O
 6. Here for a sea - son, then a - bove: O



Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871). Music: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868).

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Commendation

The Celebrant and other ministers take their places at the urn.

<i>Celebrant</i>	Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,
<i>People</i>	Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

<i>Celebrant</i>	Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou dist ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return."
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All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

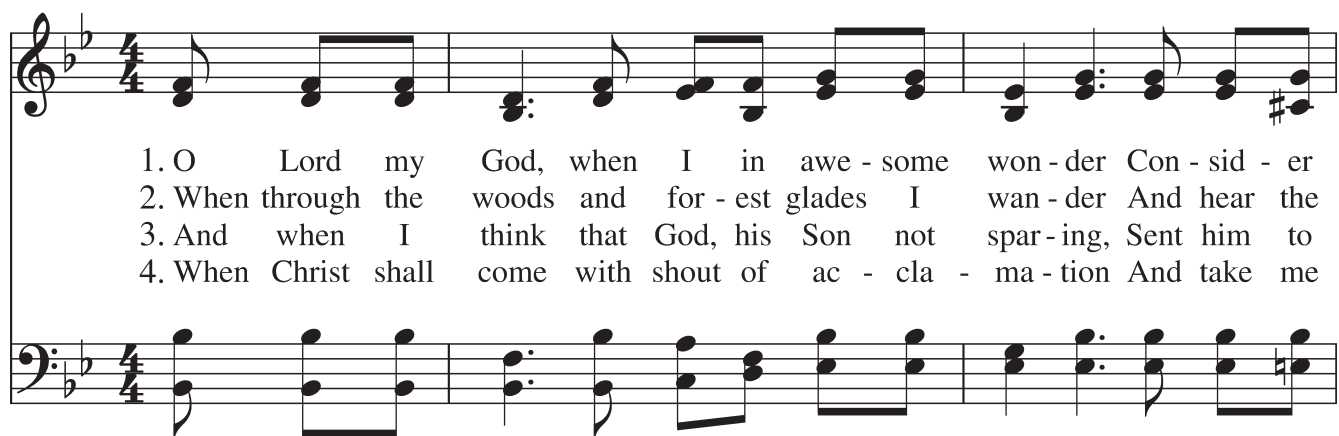
<i>People</i>	Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.
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The Celebrant says

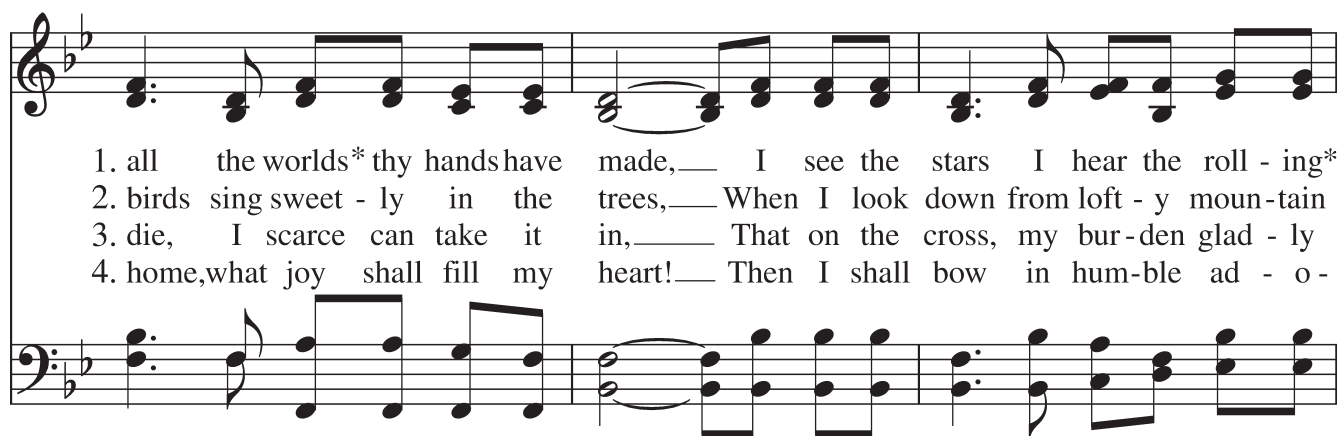
Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Barbara.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold,
a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming.
Receive her into the arms of thy mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

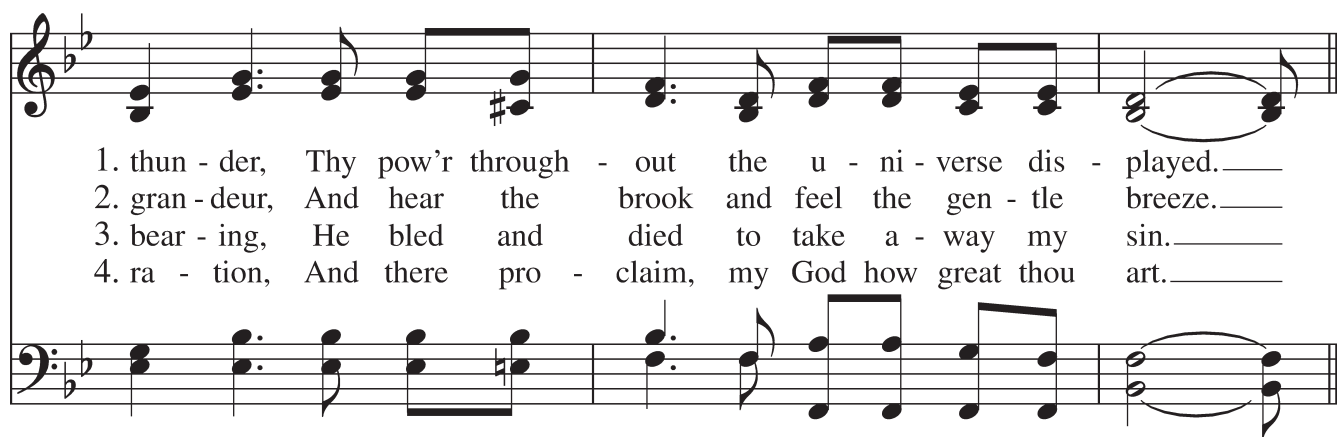
Hymn Levas 60 How Great Thou Art



1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der Con - sid - er
 2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
 3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to
 4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



1. all the worlds* thy hands have made, — I see the stars I hear the roll - ing*
 2. birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, — When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 3. die, I scarce can take it in, — That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
 4. home, what joy shall fill my heart! — Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



1. thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played. —
 2. gran - deur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze. —
 3. bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin. —
 4. ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my God how great thou art. —



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee: — How great Thou

* The translator's original words are "works" and "mighty."

The Committal

The following anthem is sung or said

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. He that raised up Jesus from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies, by his Spirit that dwelleth in us. Wherefore my heart is glad, and my spirit rejoiceth; my flesh also shall rest in hope. Thou shalt show me the path of life; in thy presence is the fullness of joy, and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

Then, while earth is cast upon the coffin, the Celebrant says these words

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Barbara; and we commit her body to the ground; 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 unto her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace. **Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

Then the Celebrant says

O Almighty God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, who by a voice from heaven didst proclaim, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: Multiply, we beseech thee, to those who rest in Jesus the manifold blessings of thy love, that the good work which thou didst begin in them may be made perfect unto the day of Jesus Christ. And of thy mercy, O heavenly Father, grant that we, who now serve thee on earth, may at last, together with them, be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord:

People **And let light perpetual shine upon her.**

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

The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words

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 for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised.

As St. Paul said, “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, 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.”

While we celebrate Christ’s victory over death, we do also experience human grief. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

A Message from Barbara

Having special family and friends in our lives is a gift. They can laugh with us, care for us, cry with us, and just be with us. I give thanks for my family and the friendships in my life.

Barbara Sue Pecko-Zimmer. What a wonderful gift to know her! Barbara was a great daughter, sister, wife, mom and an amazing grandma. She loved fearlessly. She was blessed with many wonderful friendships over her 89 years of life.

Barbara never missed a midnight run to White Castle to get a burger and a black coffee. She loved her yearly vacations to Avalon, New Jersey with friends and family. Happy in an over-packed car, she looked forward to the amazing smell of salt air. Trips to Avalon always felt like going home. She also loved her visits with friends to Big Bass Lake in the Poconos and to the Fantana's lake house. She relished her many trips to Columbus, Ohio to visit family. We remember many days at the Columbus Zoo with Aunt Sharon and Nick and Kort and Aunt Cecil and Katie and Luke as well.

Other beautiful memories include wonderful family dinners at the Pecko house always over cooked meats and the best-ever noodles and butter with home-made apple pie. We had freshly made coconut cake at Christmas, when all of the grandkids would get lost in a sea of wrapping paper! Great times, wonderful laughs!

We especially remember one special family adventure to the Philadelphia Zoo. We were so excited to spend the day. However, before even getting through the entrance, Barbara (Mom) discovered that she had locked the keys in the car! We ended up waiting most of the day to get her car unlocked and were not able to go to the zoo after all. What a day!

Of course, there were wonderful times with Barbara's close friends, Bobette and David Coulter at their beautiful lake house. It was such a relaxing retreat with great friends, great boat rides, and amazing food and drinks. We always had great laughs! Barbara and Bobette were like Thelma and Louise. They shared a wonderful friendship. Barbara loved her weekly phone calls with Aunt Sharon to catch up on all the fun times with family and friends. They were so much more than sisters-in-law. There was also thoughtful care packages sent weekly from Aunt Cecil. They made Barbara smile from the kindness. It warmed her heart to have been blessed with such a thoughtful sister-in-law and amazing friend.

Barbara remained strong in her faith throughout her life, and made many dear friends during her years at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, including Jeanie Wetzell and many others. She has cherished each person over the years of her life.

Barbara would want everyone to smile and enjoy all the memories of special times shared together. She loved her family to the fullest. Nothing could change that, even when she had two moody teenaged girls. Mom has never left us. No matter what choices we made, she was always there with open arms. We could not have asked for a better Mom.

Barbara was one the strongest women we have ever known. With everything she experienced in life, she always came through. She never gave up on her faith, friends or family. Barbara has shown Nicole and Collette what strength, courage, and unconditional love are. We are so honored that we can call Barbara Zimmer our Mom. What a true blessing in our lives!

- Written by Barbara's daughters, Collette Zimmer and Nicole Zimmer Rossi

Parish Staff

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St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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