

“I am the resurrection  
and the life;  
he who believes in Me  
will live  
even if he dies,  
and everyone who lives  
and believes in Me  
will never die.”

John 11:25-26

# A Celebration of Christian Life for

✠ Sharon Louise Setzer ✠

June 16, 2023

11:00 a.m.

Born: March 25, 1945

Died: June 2, 2023

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## Preservice Music

Stand

### 507 Holy, Holy, Holy

sts. 1, 3



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide Thee,



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;  
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826  
Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823-76  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Remembrance of Baptism

*Romans 6:3-5*

- P** In Holy Baptism Sharon 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, in order that, just 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.**

## Reading

*Psalm 23*

The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.  
He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

## Kyrie

*Mark 10:47*

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.
- C** **Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray... O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Sharon and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in 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.

*Sit*

## 537 Beautiful Savior

*sts. 1-2*



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



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



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.

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

Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

*God is our help in every trouble.*

**P** A reading from Psalm, chapter 46.

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,  
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;  
God will help her when morning dawns.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
how he has brought desolations on the earth.  
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the chariots with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!”

The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

*“[Nothing] will be able separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

**P** A reading from Romans, chapter 8.

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

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? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

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.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

# 770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

sts. 1, 3



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
 Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819-86  
 Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

## Verse

- P** Alleluia, alleluia.  
 Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
- C** to Him be glory and power forever.  
 Alleluia.

*Jesus is "...the way, and the truth, and the life."*

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

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

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. 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, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to 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.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

### Apostles’ Creed

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

**C** **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 Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

# 464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

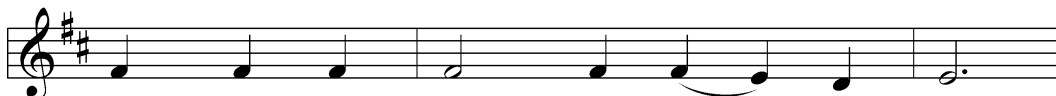
sts. ref-2, 5



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;  
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,  
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;  
 But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.  
 From death's dread sting Thy ser - vants free

*The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.*



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 That we may live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Symphonia Sirenium Selectarum, 1695. Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909, alt.  
 Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525-1594, adapt.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon - Psalm 46, "Our Refuge and Strength"

*"God is our refuge and strength,  
 a very present help in trouble."*

**Psalm 46:1**

## Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

- P** Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead. Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into one communion in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to Your whole Church in heaven and on earth Your light and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that all who have been nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give to the family of Sharon and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Receive our thanks for Sharon and for all the blessings You bestowed on her in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with her we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence that because He lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come will 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

*Matthew 6:9–13*

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

- 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.**

### Nunc Dimittis

*John 11:25–26; Luke 2:29–32*

- P** “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”
- C** **Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;  
Your word has been fulfilled.  
My own eyes have seen the salvation  
which You have prepared in the sight of every people:  
a light to reveal You to the nations  
and the glory of Your people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”

## Concluding Collect

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray... Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Committal

**P** May God the Father, who created this body; may God the ✠ Son, who by His blood redeemed this body; may God the Holy Spirit, who by Holy Baptism sanctified this body to be His temple, keep these remains to the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us pray... Almighty God, by the death of Your Son Jesus Christ You destroyed death, by His rest in the tomb You sanctified the graves of Your saints, and by His bodily resurrection You brought life and immortality to light so that all who die in Him abide in peace and hope. Receive our thanks for the victory over death and the grave that He won for us. Keep us in everlasting communion with all who wait for Him on earth and with all in heaven who are with Him, for He is the resurrection and the life, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## Benedicamus

*[Psalm 103:1]*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

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

## Benediction

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

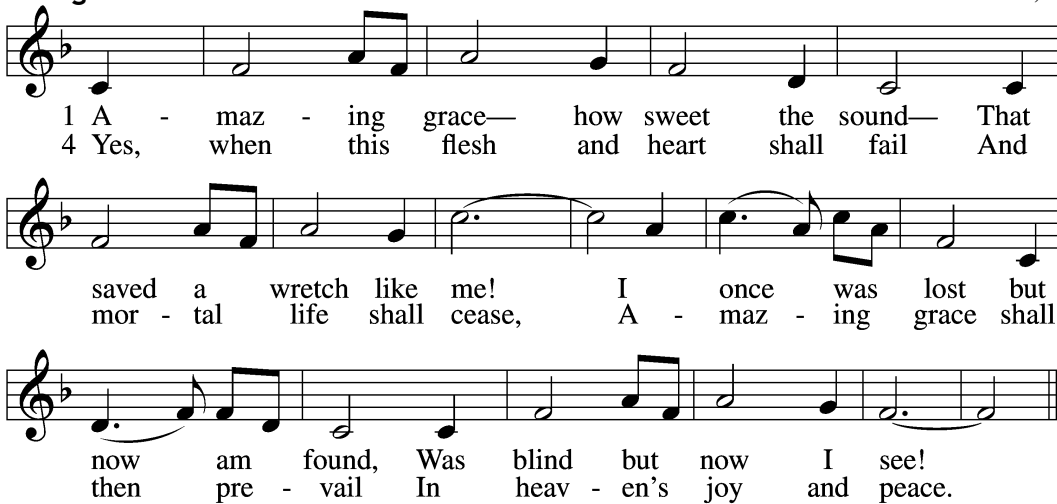
**C** **Amen.**

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

**C** **in the name of the Lord. Amen.**

# 744 Amazing Grace

sts. 1, 4



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.  
Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1829, Cincinnati  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Postlude

*Following the Service,  
everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall  
for a Luncheon and a time to greet the family.*

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*The family requests memorials be made to:*

*American Diabetes Association*

<https://www.diabetes.org/donate>



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**Pastor**

Rev. Rodney E. Bitely

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Mechanicsville, VA

**Organist**

Mr. Roger Sethmann

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Mechanicsville, VA

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**Acknowledgments**

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Service, 2023-06-16, Funeral - Sharon Louise Setzer.docx

*(continued from back cover)*

Sharon was known for her loving and playful nature, as well as her spiritual outlook on life. With a heart full of warmth and compassion, she lovingly gave her time and resources to the church and made a lasting impact on the lives of her friends and community. Her strong faith guided her throughout life, and she served her churches in various capacities through the years. For those close to her, Sharon provided a comforting presence throughout challenging times, demonstrating her unwavering love and commitment to her family. Sharon's departure has left a void in the hearts of all who had the privilege of knowing her.

As we remember Sharon, we celebrate her life and the countless memories she leaves behind. Her contagious laughter, her strong faith, and her spirit of adventure will be deeply missed, but her legacy will continue to inspire and guide us as it lives on in the hearts of those who were blessed to know her. May she find eternal peace, knowing that her love for life, creativity, dedication to family, and thirst for adventure will forever be remembered and celebrated. May you find solace in the knowledge that Sharon now rests in peace, surrounded by the love and light she brought to the world in the presence of Jesus.

A memorial service to celebrate Sharon's remarkable life will be held on June 16, 2023 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Mechanicsville, VA. In honor of her memory, the family kindly requests that donations be made to American Diabetes Association (ADA), a cause that resonates with Sharon's compassionate spirit.





It is with heavy hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of Sharon L. Setzer, on June 2nd, 2023. Sharon was born on March 29, 1945 in San Angelo, TX, to Wilma and Rudolph Weiser. Sharon lived a life full of faith, love, and adventure, touching the lives of many who were fortunate enough to know her.

Sharon's love for adventure was only surpassed by her love for her family. She shared a deep and loving bond with her husband, Steven H. Setzer, who was her partner and companion on countless memorable journeys for 60 years. Together, they created a treasure trove of cherished memories, embracing every opportunity to explore and discover the wonders of the world around them.

A devoted mother, Sharon is survived by her children Shari Puckett, James (Denise) Setzer, and Jennie Gayle, whom she loved and cherished deeply. Sharon's legacy of love, creativity, compassion, and adventure will forever remain in the hearts of her six grandchildren Melody, Steven, Matthew, Andrew, Jessica, and Ryan and one great child. She is also survived by her brother Norbert (Connie) Weiser; sister Kathie (Dave) Engle; sister-in-law Sylvia Setzer; along with three nieces Melanie, Stephanie, & Heather and a nephew Mike; her friends; and all those whose lives she touched. Sharon's dedication to her family extended beyond her immediate relatives. She nurtured lifelong friendships, and her friends became an extension of her family.

Sharon's adventurous spirit was contagious, inspiring her loved ones to go on "Great Adventures" where she would explore the communities around the many places she lived across the country. Sharon's magnetic personality and genuine warmth drew people to her, making every adventure a joyous and unforgettable experience. In addition to her love for adventure, Sharon had a deep appreciation for nature's beauty. She found solace in the great outdoors, whether it was working in the yard, strolling along sandy beaches, or marveling at the intricacies of a delicate flower. One of her favorite adventures was fishing on the lake with her husband Steve. During most of these excursions, Sharon would delight in out-fishing him by reeling in the most fish as well as the first catch of the day along with the biggest fish. Sharon's connection with nature fueled her adventurous spirit and allowed her to fully immerse herself in the wonders of the world.

*(continued inside back cover)*