

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF  
Rev. BARBARA BEA TROXELL, OSL  
August 31, 1935 – September 17, 2025  
IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT  
Decker Hall, Pilgrim Place, Claremont, California



## PRELUDES

Recording-excerpt Fauré Requiem D Min

All sing "For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"-Charles Wesley, 1739 Tune

AZMON Carl Glazer 1839 [See page 5]

All sing "Pues Si Vivimos" -Mexican folk hymn. [See page 5]

THE WORD OF GRACE Rev. Martha Morales, OSL

WELCOME & WITNESS Sarah Dahl for the family

HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God"- Martin Rinkart, 1647, Tune NUN DANKET

Johan Cruger, 1647

[See page 6. remain seated for hymns]

PRAYER Rev. Katy Montfonte

God is with you! **(And also with you!)**

Eternal God, we praise you for the great company of all those who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors.

We praise you for those dear to us, whom we name in our hearts before you. (A moment for personal remembering)

Especially we praise you for Barbara, whom you have graciously received into your presence. To all of these, grant your peace.

Let perpetual light shine upon all of them; and help us so to believe where we have not seen, that your presence may lead us through our years, and bring us at last with them into the joy of your home, not made with hands but eternal in the heavens; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE INTERPRETATION Chorus The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm (Dedicated to My Mother) ©Bobbie McFerrin, 1990

SCRIPTURE- Isaiah 40:23-31 Sally Timmel

Chorus Response "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" George Matheson, 1882, Tune: ST MARGARET Albert Peace, 1884. Vss. 1 & 2

SCRIPTURE- Luke 12:16-32. Kae Lewis

Chorus Response "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" Vss. 3&4.

SCRIPTURE- Romans 8:14-17, 22-25, 28-39 Rev. Dr. Karen Dalton

WITNESS TO THE FAITH Rev. Martha Morales

CANTICLE "BENEDICTUS" Now Bless The God Of Israel ©Rev. Dr. Ruth

Duck 1985

[See page 7]



WITNESS TO BARBARA'S LIFE. Ms. Amy Criticos,  
Rev. Dr. Dwight Vogel, OSL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Rev. Dr. Dwight Vogel

God of love, we thank you for all with which you have blessed us, even to this day:

For the gift of joy in days of health and strength, and for the gifts of your abiding presence and promise in days of pain and grief.

We praise you for home and friends, and for our baptism and place in your Church.

Above all else, we thank you for Jesus, who knew our griefs, who died our death and rose for our sake, and who lives and prays for us.

In the name and spirit of the living Christ, we pray. Amen.

COMMENDATION Rev. Martha Morales

Oh God, With confidence we entrust Barbara to your unfailing love and overflowing goodness. Through your love that redeemed Christ's death to everlasting life with you, lift up this, your servant - your beloved daughter, to life fulfilled beyond our imagining. We give you but your own.

Accept her as she is with her frailties as well as her strengths.  
Enfold her in your everlasting arms. Embrace her as your beloved.

And strengthen us, through the gift of your Spirit, to live fully in the present moment - as well as face into the future with confidence - that you abide with us. Grant that the changes of life may leave us stronger as we journey through life.

Renewed by your love, help us to love in ever widening circles, so as to embrace your people everywhere, till at last we are united eternally through Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit.

We commend dear Barbara to your enduring care using her own prayer that she prayed whenever she embarked on a new project:

"O Thou, Holy, Other, Inclusive, Lover, One-to-be-adored, All, I give myself to you. I want to continue the Ancient Dialogue, the Eternal Struggle, the Working Out of Purpose, the Co-creating, the Loving. So I say Yes to You-- O Thou, Holy, Other, Inclusive, Lover, One-to-be-Adored, All. Amen."

GREGORIAN CHANT "In Paradisum" Cantor Dr. Bob Hurd

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

As practiced during Advent by the Eucharistic Circle at Pilgrim Place

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Moore, OSL and Rev. Katie Monfortte

[See pages 8 and following. All are welcome at Christ's table! During the Communion, please approach the nearest team of Servers from a side aisle. If possible, return from the center aisle. Servers have Gluten-free bread near the sound & video desk. Join in singing after the first Hymn during Communion. Texts are on page 14 and following]

A POEM. "Gather Up The Years" Pat Patterson, from 'Microclimates of the Heart'  
read by Amy Criticos

SACRED MUSIC: "Toccata From Symphony for Organ." Widor Karen Lull

BENEDICTION: *(If you are ordained, or would have been had churches been inclusive and supportive of all those called to ministry, stand if able and pronounce this blessing on us all)*

**Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage.  
Hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil.  
Strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak.  
Help the afflicted; Honor everyone.  
Love and serve our God;  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
And the blessing of our loving God—  
+Parent Creator, Christ Redeemer, Spirit Sustainer--  
Be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.**

POSTLUDE: (all sing) "Rejoice in God's Saints" Fred Pratt Green 1977; tune  
HANOVER William Croft, 1708 [See page 16.]

Reception follows in Abernethy Dining Room



MUSICIANS:

Cantor: Dr. Bob Hurd                      Organist: Karen Lull  
Combo: Bob Hurd, David Lutz, Rev. Dr. Cheryl Brown, Alan Davis  
Chorus: Resident volunteers led by Linda Shirbourn

PRESIDING:

Rev. Martha Morales, OSL, Rev. Dr. Dwight Vogel, OSL  
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Moore, OSL, Rev. Katie Monfortte

OTHER WORSHIP LEADERS & READERS:

Sarah Dahl, & Amy Criticos, Nieces  
Kae Lewis, Sally Timmel, Decades of Friendship  
Rev. Karen Dalton, Friend

USHERS: Janet & Rev. Ron Evans, Stan & Beryl Moore OSL

PARAMENTS: Judy Manley

COMMUNION SERVERS:

Gail Duggan & Rev. Dr. Mary Elizabeth Moore  
Rev. Jay Cambell & Rev. Katie Monfortte  
Cathy Gish-Persi & Rev. Diane Kenney  
Anne Steinle & Pia Moriarty  
Rev. Gary Oba & Allison Ahera Brown  
Carolyn Loper & Mary Douglas (in Pitzer Lodge)

TECHNOLOGY: Rev. Dr. Lew Fry & Ms. Nan Freund. Visuals: Karen Kendall

RECEPTION: UNIDINE, Gail Anderson, Mark Claiborne, Andrew Wong & team

HONORED IN ADDITION TO THE BELOVED PILGRIM PLACE RESIDENTS:

- All members of the Criticos, Dahl, Frost, Kendall, Hernandez, Oettinger, Lyman & Boutilier very extended family.
- The staff of Pilgrim Place, most especially the Pitzer Lodge team.
- Members of The Grail and the Order of Saint Luke.
- Barbara's & Gene's Support & Covenant Groups.
- Garrett-Evangelical Seminary, Pacific School of Religion and Union Theological Seminary faculty colleagues and the students from Barbara's era.
- Members of Claremont United Methodist Church and Clergy of UMC Cal-Nev Conference.
- The staff of VNA Hospice.

*Contemporary song and hymn texts in this service are reprinted with permission via OneLicense.net A717067. Please don't publish without license or permission. A recording of this service will be posted to [www.Troxell-Boutilier.org](http://www.Troxell-Boutilier.org) with a copy of the bulletin and the scroll of photographs. Please notify the volunteers at the video desk if you do not consent to your face being recorded.*

**O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING** words Charles Wesley 1739 music Charles G Gläzer arranged by Lowell Mason 1839

1. O For a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.
3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears that bids our sorrows cease, 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, & health & peace.
4. He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.
5. In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall fill your sins forgiven; anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.

**PUES SI VIVIMOS (IN ALL OUR LIVING)** traditional Mexican folk hymn

1. In all our living, we belong to God; and in our dying we are still with God; so whether living or whether dying we belong to God, we belong to God.
2. God sent Christ Jesus to be our Shalom; to show us mercy and healing love; so in our living and in our dying Christ is our Shalom, Christ is our Shalom.
3. Pues si vi-vi-mos, para Dios viv-i-mos. Y si mo-ri-mos para Dios mo-ri-mos. Se-a que vi-va-mos o que mir-a-mos, somos del buen Dios, somos del buen Dios.

**NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD** Martin Rinkart 1663, Music Johann Crüger, 1647, harmonized by Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices, who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us still in grace; and guide us when perplexed; and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given, to Christ and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven, the one eternal God, whom earth & heaven adore, for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more!

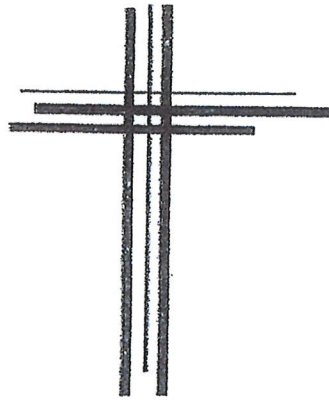


## **CANTICLE "BENEDICTUS" NOW BLESS THE GOD OF ISRAEL**

Lyrics Rev. Dr. Ruth C. Duck 1985. Tune: FOREST GREEN Traditional English.

Harmonized Ralph Vaughan Williams 1906 ©1992 GIA Publications

1. Now bless the God of Israel, who comes in love and power, who raises from the royal house deliverance in this hour. Through holy prophets God has sworn to free us from alarm, to save us from the heavy hand of all who wish us harm.
2. Remembering the covenant, God rescues us from fear, that we might serve in holiness and peace from year to year; And you my child, shall go before to preach, to prophecy, that all may know the tender love, the grace of God most high.
3. In tender mercy, God will send the day-spring from on high, our rising sun, this light of life for those who sit and sigh. God comes to guide our way to peace, that death shall reign no more.  
Sing praises to the Holy One! O worship and adore!



## *LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST*

### *THE GREAT THANKSGIVING*

*Presider:* God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the God of mercy and grace.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

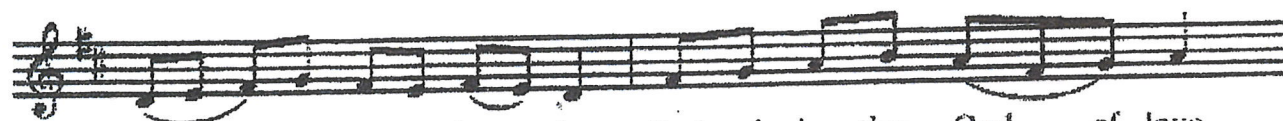
God of grace, we thank you for sending your Son into the shrouded world that dawning light might give hope to all who are broken, persecuted, alienated and excluded, and that we might know your reign drawing near. We thank you that in the darkening hour, you open our eyes to see your starlit beauty, part the wide heavens to send your gentle light, and offer your word to take our mortal flesh.

Jesus was promised by those who shared your dream of peace— John the Baptist, who cleared his way with words of desert fire, and Mary and Joseph who accepted his coming with tenderness and faith. We know that he draws near again to show us who we really are with honesty and love.

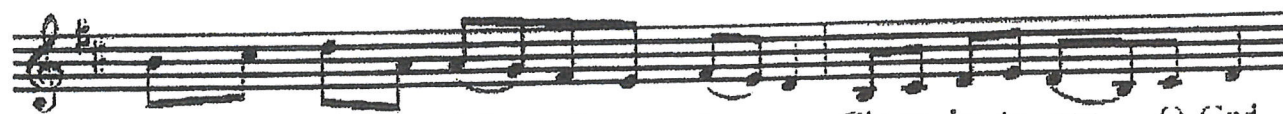
*Cantor:* Now we take up the song of hope that we might awaken to his coming among us and that the world might be touched by the footfall of his glory:



Melody: *Divinum Mysterium*



Ho - ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, God of jus-tice, God— of love,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo-ry be to you,— O God.



Bles-sed is the one who comes,— comes— in the name of God.



Ho - - - san - na in the high - est.

Adaptation © 2013 Bob Hind

*Presider:* We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts, that these fragile earthly things may be to us the body and blood of Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

*(The Presider takes the bread.)* Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

*(The Presider takes the cup.)* In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

*Cantor:* As on that night, so here and now Christ offers himself in touch and taste beyond all that words can hold. Great is the mystery of faith:

Melody: Divinum Mysterium



When we eat this bread and drink this cup,



we pro-claim your death, O Lord, un-til you come a-gain in glo-ry.

Adaptation © 2013, Bob Hurd

*Presider:* Therefore, we come to you in whom all is created in heaven and on earth, whose cross and resurrection make all things new. We offer you what you have bestowed on us, for you alone are the giver and Christ is the gift through whom we live.

Let your Spirit, O God, brood over us with your gentle power, that we may become what we receive and be for the world the body of Christ.



Bring your love to birth in us, your jus-tice and com-pas - sion.

© 2013, Bob Hurd

By this holy meal, make us hunger and thirst for the advent of your reign, where love and truth shall meet, and justice and peace shall kiss.



Bring your love to birth in us, your jus-tice and com-pas - sion.

*Presider:* Ignite in us a fiery impatience with the exploitation of our brothers and sisters and the abuse of your good creation. Give us courage and wisdom to heal harms and do what is right in the land.



Bring your love to birth in us, your jus-tice and com-pas - sion.



Hasten the advent of that day when the sounds of war will be forever stilled, the darkness of evil scattered, and all your children gathered in true communion and peace.



Bring your love to birth in us, your jus-tice and com-pas - sion,

*Presider:* Through Christ, we make our prayer with all created life to you, the God of glory, who fills all in all, now and forever.

Melody: based on Divinum Mysterium



A - men\_ A - men, A - - - men,



ev - er - more and ev - er - more. \_\_\_\_\_

Adaptation © 2013, Bob Hurd

Eternal Spirit,  
 Life Giver, Pain Bearer, Love Maker,  
 Source of all that is and that shall be,  
 Father and Mother of us all,  
 Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
 The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
 The way of your justice  
 be followed by the peoples of the world!  
 Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
 Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
 sustain our hope and come on earth.  
 With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
 In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
 In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
 From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
 From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
 For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
 now and for ever. Amen.

[JIM COTTER, *PRAYER AT NIGHT*;  
 CAIRNS PUBLICATIONS, 1991. USED BY PERMISSION.]

**Breaking the bread:**

Presider: we who are many are one body for we all partake of the one loaf. (as the bread is broken) **The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. the cup of which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.**

**Invitation to the table:**

Presider: the gifts of God for the people of God. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, know that you're welcome at this table to share in the bread and wine made Holy.

**Communion:**

[Texts of songs during the sharing of elements are on the next page if you wish to join in singing. Gluten-free bread is served near the audio-video desk. Communion Servers will come to your seat as needed, and can be approached in each corner of the room. As much as possible, approach the servers from the side aisles and return by the middle aisle. If you are participating in this service by video distribution, please know that you and whatever elements are available for you to eat and drink are blessed and you are loved.]

**Thanksgiving Prayer:**

Bountiful God, we give you thanks for the gift of your presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite your people of all faiths and spiritualities who have been fed by this blessing so that we may each faithfully proclaim the good news of your love. Strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another.

Send us out into a troubled and uncertain world to be rainbows of hope and blessed assurance, inspired by the courage, empathy, kindness, and vision of the saints, including Barbara. May the Souls of the Departed rest in peace. May Christ in our hearts be our Holy Traveling Companion out there so that we might share or advent hope, light in the darkness. O Come, O Come Emmanuel!



**Advent Hymn: O Come, Come Emmanuel** Based on Ancient antiphons from Advent Vespers. Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum 1710  
Adapted by Former Pilgrim Place Resident Eva Fleischner

1. O come O come Emmanuel, the darkness of this earth dispel. Bring light and justice here below, that we in paths of righteousness may go. Rejoice! Rejoice! the living God is near. Peace comes to earth and love dispels all fear.
2. O come O wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily. To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! the living God is near. Peace comes to earth and love dispels all fear.
3. O Come O Day-spring come and cheer our spirits by your advent here; Love stirs within the womb of night, and death's own shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! the living God is near. Peace comes to earth and love dispels all fear.

[Return to page 4]



Sung During Communion:

**HYMN OF PROMISE (In The Bulb There Is A Flower)** Natalie Sleeth, 1985

© Hope Publishing Co.

1. In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed an apple tree; in cocoons  
a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and  
snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until  
its season, something God alone can see.
2. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn for every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
from the past will come the future, what it holds a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
3. In our end is our beginning; in our time Infinity; in our doubt there  
is believing; in our life eternity. In our death and resurrection; at  
the last of victory, unrevealed until its season, something God  
alone can see.

**LET US GIVE THANKS FOR HER LIFE** ©Jim Manley 1994

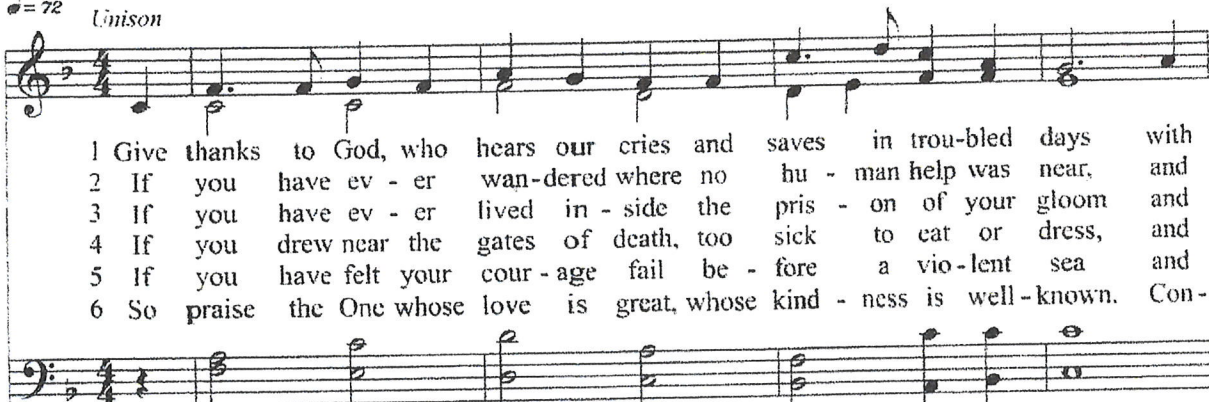
1. Let us give thanks for this life, God's child who walked here  
among us-- for the laughter that lighted her face, with beauty and  
humor and grace, let us give thanks for her life.
2. Let us give thanks for this love, caring, imperfect and human-- in  
seasons of struggle and joy, a love time will never destroy, let us  
give thanks for her love.
3. Let us give thanks for this faith, standing in storm and clear  
weather --questioning, truthful, and strong, that grew as the years  
moved along, let us give thanks for her faith.
4. Let us give thanks for each other, we were her friends and her  
family-- learning in heartache and hope, to comfort, to care, and  
to cope, let us give thanks for each other.
5. Let us release her to God, with anything unfinished between us,  
deeds and words done or not done, forgiveness for everyone, let  
us release her to God.
6. Let us give thanks for this life, God's child who walked here  
among us-- for the laughter that lighted her face, with beauty and  
humor and grace, let us give thanks for her life. Let us give  
thanks for her life!



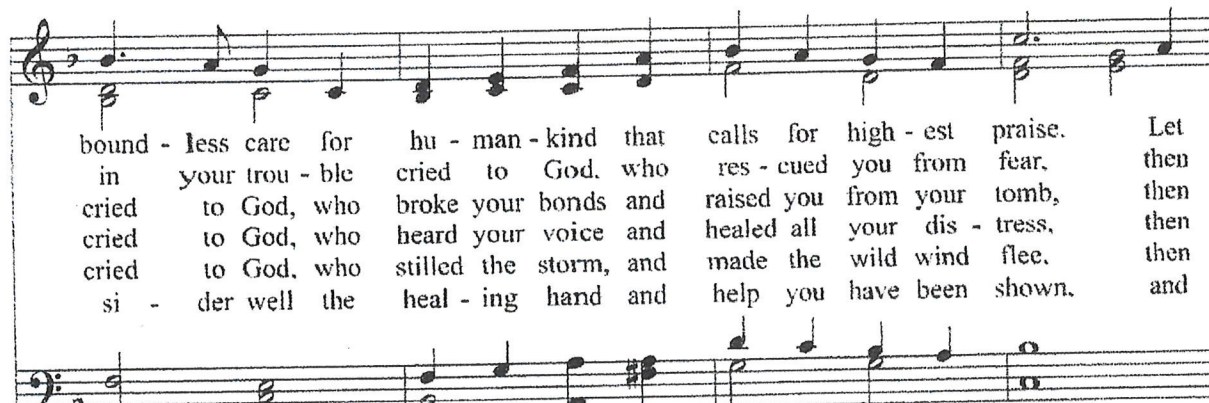
# Give Thanks to God, Who Hears Our Cries

♩ = 72

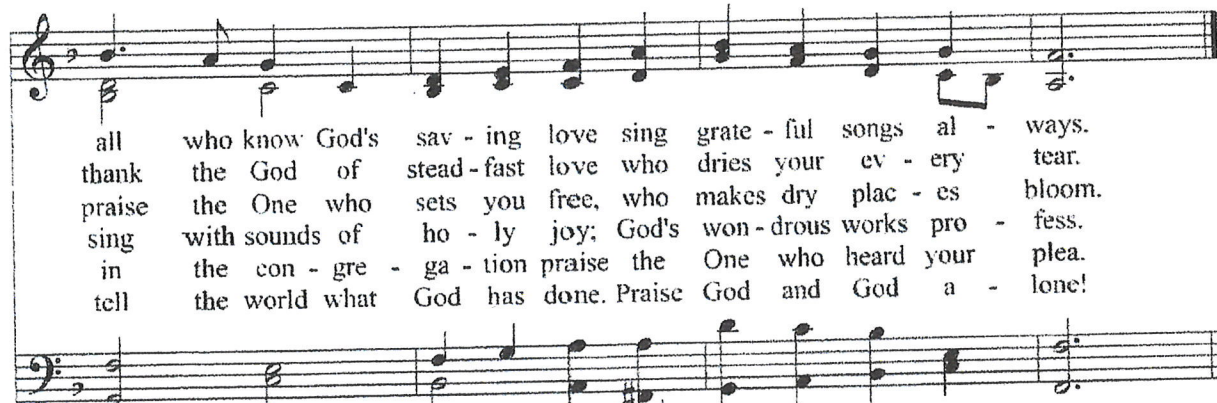
Unison



1 Give thanks to God, who hears our cries and saves in trou-bled days with  
 2 If you have ev - er wan-dered where no hu - man help was near, and  
 3 If you have ev - er lived in - side the pris - on of your gloom and  
 4 If you drew near the gates of death, too sick to eat or dress, and  
 5 If you have felt your cour - age fail be - fore a vio - lent sea and  
 6 So praise the One whose love is great, whose kind - ness is well - known. Con -



bound - less care for hu - man - kind that calls for high - est praise. Let  
 in your trou - ble cried to God, who res - cued you from fear, then  
 cried to God, who broke your bonds and raised you from your tomb, then  
 cried to God, who heard your voice and healed all your dis - tress, then  
 cried to God, who stilled the storm, and made the wild wind flee, then  
 si - der well the heal - ing hand and help you have been shown. and



all who know God's sav - ing love sing grate - ful songs al - ways.  
 thank the God of stead - fast love who dries your ev - ery tear.  
 praise the One who sets you free, who makes dry plac - es bloom.  
 sing with sounds of ho - ly joy; God's won - drous works pro - fess.  
 in the con - gre - ga - tion praise the One who heard your plea.  
 tell the world what God has done. Praise God and God a - lone!

WORDS: Ruth Duck, 2007, based on Psalm 107

MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon

TROXELL

8.6.8.6.8.6.

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## Lead Us Safely Home © Jim Manley 1991

1. Brown meadows in the summer sun  
Green branches where the rivers run  
This holy life so quickly done  
Oh, lead us safely home.
2. Dark streets where beggars sleep in doors  
Cold flats the palace of the poor  
This hard and hardy world of yours  
Oh, lead us safely home.
3. Hospital corridors of night  
Where walk the nurses of the light  
To tell us it will be all right  
Oh, lead us safely home.
4. Breakfast counters, corner bars  
City buses, railroad cars  
Formed from dust of dying stars  
Oh, lead us safely home.
5. Hold a baby at your breast  
Hike the trail to mountain crest  
And at the last a holy rest  
Oh, lead us safely home.
6. Stand for justice, strike for peace  
Strive for prisoners' release  
And when our little labors cease  
Then lead us safely home
7. Look into each other's eyes  
Beyond the laughter and the lies  
Oh God of heaven, make us wise  
And lead us safely home.
8. As in heaven, so on earth  
Christ has hallowed human worth  
And dying is a second birth  
So lead us safely home  
Oh, lead us safely home  
Oh, lead us, safe-ly home

POSTLUDE: (all sing)

### "Rejoice in God's Saints"

Fred Pratt Green 1977; tune HANOVER William Croft, 1708

1. Rejoice in God's saints, today  
and all days, a world without  
saints forgets how to praise.  
Their faith in acquiring the habit  
of prayer, their depth of adoring,  
Lord help us to share.
2. Some march with events to turn  
them God's way; some need to  
withdraw, the better to pray;  
Some carry the gospel through  
fire and through flood, our world  
is their parish, their purpose is  
God.
3. Rejoice in those saints,  
unpraised and unknown, who  
bear someone's cross or carry  
their own. They shame our  
complaining, our comforts, our  
cares; what patience in caring,  
what courage, is theirs!
4. Rejoice in God's saints, today  
and all days; a world without  
saints forgets how to praise. In  
loving, in living they prove it is  
true: the way of self-giving, Lord,  
leads us to you.



### Witness to A Life Well-Lived

My beloved wife, Barbara Bea Troxell, died serenely in our Pitzer Lodge home on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, shortly after her 90th birthday, with wonderful care from our gracious Assisted Living staff, SCAN and VNA Hospice staff, and with all kinds of visits and support from dear ones.

I've received many wonderful tributes to Barbara from a wide range of folk. Especially heart-warming has been messages from women clergy, former students and co-workers describing her as a pioneering spiritual guide, a loving pastor of pastors, and a source of encouragement and deepened faith, who lived as an ardent Jesus follower.

Barbara's career as a United Methodist included diverse roles as a parish pastor; campus minister within the YMCA movement at Ohio Wesleyan and Stanford Universities; District Superintendent, conference program staff, seminary professor, local church worshipping activist, public spokesperson for justice, civil rights, including women's rights, and pacifism, appointed member of national commissions and boards, ecumenical and interfaith representative. Consistently in each role she was a supportive and trusted counselor and confidant to those in leadership roles.

With her devotion to profound worship, she was also a vowed member of the Order of Saint Luke and at Pilgrim Place a stalwart in the Eucharistic Circle, honoring her passion for the sacramental and liturgical traditions of Christianity.

Barbara was born and happily raised in Brooklyn with summers at Vermont's Lake Dunmore. Her parents were educators and summer camp staff. Her father was the church organist at Kings Highway Methodist Church where she was shaped by music, a good Christian education and a strong faith. She sang in the choir, played basketball in the church league, held leadership roles in the Methodist youth fellowship and camping and felt a strong sense of calling to ministry from an early age before she knew that women could be ordained.

Barbara was stretched intellectually and spiritually at historically Quaker Swarthmore college, preaching in local rural churches while earning her degree in English literature with a minor in religion. She graduated from Union Theological Seminary in 1959 with a focus on New Testament studies and pastoral psychology. A study year followed at New College University of Edinburgh. Her Scottish sojourn included retreat

experience with the Iona Community, exposure to the Taizé Community, and real-world exposure to the travails of Palestine and Israel.

She was then ordained, the first woman to receive full membership in her New York United Methodist Conference and appointed to a pastorate as the first ordained woman that church had ever experienced.

Barbara visited Grailville, loved that community, and became a first Protestant and first clergy member of the International Grail as they pioneered in developing Catholic feminist theology and faith-based social action and service.

I have heard often how folks still look back at a wonderful team ministry including Barbara at Palo Alto Presbyterian Church in the early 1970s, and her mentoring as Dean of Students at PSR in Berkeley. In those years she deeply studied Jungian Analysis with the Guild for Psychological Studies and later also studied with the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation. These studies reinforced her life-long introspection, meditation, mysticism, her introverted aspect, and her disciplined journal-keeping.

In 1974 her Bishop called her to staff the California- Nevada Conference for four years and then become Superintendent of the Golden Gate District, a culturally diverse region stretching along the coast above and below San Francisco, exercising her pastoral and ecumenical gifts. It was during those years that it became widely known that more than one of the Jurisdictional Conferences advocated another pioneering UMC role for Barbara as a Bishop, but she declined and instead leaned strongly into her style of ministerial leadership-- a ministry of deep friendships, collegiality and inspiration for the next generation.

Barbara began a decade of marriage to Hugh Horan, who had been a Roman Catholic priest, and they moved to Chicago. She soon was Director of Field Education and Spiritual Formation on the faculty at Garrett-Evangelical, where for the next 12 years she emphasized mentoring students on practical aspects of church work and on claiming their authority as pastors, priests, prophets, and spiritual directors. She also taught United Methodist Studies.

Barbara's birth family was small in numbers. Neither of her parents had siblings, Barbara had no children, and she had one sister, Sally Criticos. Sally's daughters Amy and Sarah and their families are very



very dear to Barbara, their 'Aunt Bootie.' But in another sense her family was already enormous because of her close friendships with her former students, colleagues, parishioners, and ecumenical partners.

Her 'family' expanded by hundreds of us residents and staff in 2002 when she moved into our beloved Pilgrim Place community, which, at its best, functions as a family should, as we take care of one another.

Her family suddenly grew in another manner when she agreed to marry me in 2006. What a privilege I was gifted! I had become a resident in 2004, after the death of my first wife, Luana. Barbara and her small family were pulled into the welcoming embrace of my complex dispersed family, including what is now our five young great-grandchildren, our six grandchildren, their parents, my sibling's families and many other family members.

Barbara co-established and for several years led the Napier Initiative Council. Over the past 15 years that project has mentored over 160 graduating students at the five undergraduate Claremont colleges and provided \$450,000 and awards to 33 student-developed pioneering ecological and social change projects. Moderator Bear Ride, in reporting on Barbara's death, said "Barbara quickly became in her daily living the one who shows up, lends a hand, listens and cares deeply, skillfully leading our community on the board and as moderator. Our community regularly turned to her as the trusted presider at memorials and other times of prayer and worship, and the source of ongoing confidential spiritual direction, including for several women pastors."

Shortly before Barbara's death, she published her memoir "My Life Journey: Both Upwards And Downwards." I would love to get a copy into your hands if you wish, either as a 'real' book or a code good for a free e-book download.

If it is your tradition to do a memorial gift, consider going to the 'donate' page at [www.NapierInitiative.org](http://www.NapierInitiative.org) and selecting the giving opportunity "Barbara Troxell Prize" which funds an annual creative justice student-project award.

Thanks be to God for the opportunity we each have had to relate to the good and faithful and loving life of dear Barbara.

----*Gene Boutilier*

For Contemplation:  
**A Creedal Affirmation written by Barbara Troxell for the  
Commission on the Status and Role of Women of the United  
Methodist Church September 1978**

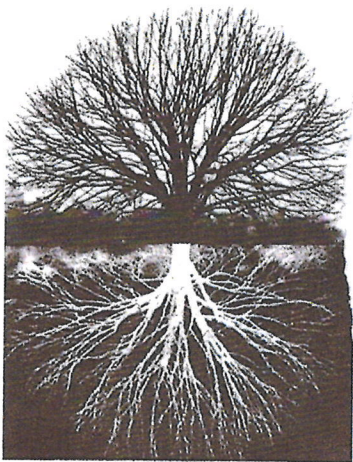
We are unique human beings linked with all of creation and gathered from diverse places to share a ministry faithfully, to raise questions hopefully, to work for justice lovingly.

**In whom and in what do we believe?**

**We believe in God**, eternal yet ever moving One, who creates and is creating, who keeps covenant with humankind, who sets before us the ways of life and of death

**We believe in Jesus**, the Servant-Advocate, who lived the way of thy dying/rising, who embodied justice and reconciliation, who, with authority, calls us to share this way and this embodying.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit**, sustaining Presence and transforming Power, who dwells among us in clarity and in mystery, who inspires us individually and corporately, who challenges, prods, emboldens.



**We believe in the Church**, community of faith and caring, covenant and promise, which nurtures our pilgrimage and through which we are called to be witnesses to God's trust, love, and justice.

**We believe our believing affects** our daily walking and talking, our doubting and struggling, our decisions and choice-making, our responses to persons and systems.

**We intend** in this community in these days to raise questions hopefully, to work for justice lovingly, to share a ministry faithfully .  
and by God's grace, passionately!