

A Eucharistic Celebration of the Life of



Mary Lou Brookman Bryant
December 20, 1930 - March 26, 2026

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church
Keller, Texas

Sunday, May 3, 2026
2:00 pm

REMEMBRANCE

Flora Baird

OPENING SENTENCES

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.

PRAYER

Page 469, Book of Common Prayer

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 Mary Lou, 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.**

A READING FROM THE LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 4:32

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 23

King James Version

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

HYMN 680

O God Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne



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;

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.**

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 Martin 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 PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 1

Page 323, Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant

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,

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

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 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.


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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN 671

Amazing Grace

New Britain



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.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus. Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony* 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919). Harmonization Copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, we thank thee that in thy great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast given unto us a foretaste of thy heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be unto 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 thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

HYMN 618

Ye Watchers and ye Holy Ones

Lasst uns erfreuen

Unison



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - a - phs, cher - u -
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems



bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry
 ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou
 pro - phets blest, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ye
 ech - o - ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To



out, do - min - ions, prince - doms, powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'
 bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the
 ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the
 God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in



choirs, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Lord, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 song, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 One, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Unison

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

Words: John Athelstan Laurie Riley (1858-1945). By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Anselesene Catholische Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

COMMENDATION

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

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 thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and un to dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Mary Lou. 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.**

THE COMMITTAL

Celebrant

In the midst of life we are in death; of whom may we seek for succor, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Savior, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayer; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Savior, thou most worthy Judge eternal. Suffer us not, at our last hour, through any pains of death, to fall from thee.

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 Mary Lou; 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* 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.
- People* **Amen.**
- Celebrant*

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.

Mary Lou's family invites you to a reception immediately following the service in the parish hall.

Mary Lou Brookman Bryant passed from this world on March 26, 2026. She was 95 years old.

Mary Lou lived a long life filled to the brim with cherished connections to friends and family.

The eldest of three daughters born to Walton and Dixie Leath Dawson, Mary Lou was born in Fort Worth, but spent her formative years in Durant, OK. The family returned to Fort Worth for Mary Lou's senior year at Paschal High School.

Mary Lou had an irresistible passion for life. She channeled her innate curiosity about the world and the people who inhabit it into pursuits and interests as diverse as: two master's degrees from TCU; traveling internationally (sometimes with large groups of teenage students); fine art; inventing an elaborate multi-deck card game; movies; musicals; March Madness bracket savantism; learning how to #socialmedia as an octogenarian; reading All the Books; giving All The Books (always inscribed); pretending to smoke cigarettes because the rest of her Bridge Club did; hot coffee and French crepes; perfectly applied lipstick; leading the MU-AR-DA division of the JWCFW; facilitating weekend workshops at the Laos House in Austin; member of the vestry at St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church; party planning and puppy-sitting for Canine Companions; Queen of Frog Parties; oracle-like knowledge of the House of Windsor; and president of the Carter Park Elementary School PTA.

Her passion for life was matched only by her delight in sharing that passion with others. And share she did, both professionally, first as an educator at J.P. Moore and Como Elementary Schools, and later as a counselor, and personally, with her many friends and family members. She even published a little book about everyday delights aptly named "Something Shared."

As a teacher, Mary Lou believed every student could contribute to the classroom and made sure each child had a role they could execute with pride. This approach informed many other interactions as well. Her exceptional EQ blessed her with a knack for seeing people and appreciating what makes each of us special, reflecting these qualities back to us and helping so many of us become better versions of ourselves. In turn, her specialness shone through to us, too. She was an extraordinary lady with a unique soul who led a busy, beautiful, and brilliant life. She is loved. She is missed. And we are grateful to have known her.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Robert Bryant, beloved sister Donna Seydler, and Tom Brookman, her former husband and father of her children.

She is survived by baby sister Margaret Burris (Ron), children Robin Kinsel (Jeff), Mark Brookman (Nellie), and John Brookman (Bari), grandchildren Flora Baird (Katie Flanagan), Jake Kinsel (Bertha), Nathan Brookman (Cassidy), Melissa Johnson, Laura Diane Fiene (Dustin), Katherine Combs (Charlie), Allie Jacobs (Matt), John Thomas Brookman, Case Quattro, and Henry Brookman; nieces Dixie Connor (Max) and Charlotte Moseley, and nephews David (Loretta), Steven (Melody), and Kevin (Tony) Seydler; 11 great-grandchildren (with another due in October) and extended family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made in Mary Lou's memory to:

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church (stmartininthefields.org)

or to

Canine Companions (canine.org)