# Memorial Service of Mary Anne Emma Erickson February 4, 2017





# Celebration of the Life and Resurrection of Mary Anne Emma Erickson February 04, 2017

#### **PRELUDE**

#### WELCOME

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister Mary Anne, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

# GATHERING HYMN: Beautiful Savior



#### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In her baptism, Marry Anne was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, she shall be clothed with glory. Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, **We glorify you.** 

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, **We praise you.** 

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope,

We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.** 

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Mary Anne. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed u in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

TIME OF REMEMBERANCE: Mary Pygott, daughter; Mary Ritzema, granddaughter

**ANTHEM:** How Great Thou Art (Richard Edmonds, Soloist)

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones

together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

#### 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 right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I 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 my whole life long.

### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

# GOSPEL HYMN: Children of the Heavenly Father



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra.

- 1 Chil dren of the heav'n-ly Fa ther safe ly in his bo som gath er; 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho ly courts they flour ish.
- 3 Nei ther life nor death shall ev er from the Lord his chil-dren sev er;
- 4 Though he giv eth or he tak eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for sak eth;



stjär-nan ej på him-la-fäs-tet, få-geln ej i kän-da näs-tet. nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en. From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them. un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth. the lov-ing pur-pose sole - ly to pre-serve them pure and ho - ly.

## GOSPEL READING: John 14:1-6

[Jesus teaches us], "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God. believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

#### SERMON

# HYMN OF THE DAY: On Eagle's Wings

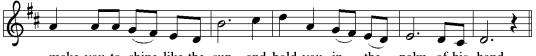


1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,





And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath on dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un-der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.



3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by



#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,

# hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,

# hear our prayer.

Help us, 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. God of mercy,

# hear our prayer.

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain 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 in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

#### **COMMENDATION**

Let us commend Mary Anne to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence for reflection.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Mary Anne. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

#### Amen.

### **BLESSING**

May the silence of the hills, the joy of the winds, the peace of the fields, the music of the birds, the fire of the sun, the strength of the trees, and the faith of a little child, in all of which is God, go with you and be with you today and always. Amen

## SENDING HYMN: Here I Am, Lord



## Assisting with Today's Service:

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Tor K. Berg
Piano: Lucy Kay Osborne

Altar Guild: Donna Hillard

Usher: Walt Stoll
Sound Technician: Jason Liang
Reception Coordinator: Nancy Funsinn

Memorials may be made to the First Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.

# Mary Anne Emma (Holt) Erickson July 16, 1930—January 3, 2017

Born in Seattle, Mary Anne was the daughter of Mary Gatz Holdt, whose parents emigrated from Poland and Arthur Holt whose parents emigrated from Sweden, all in the late 1800s.

The Holts lived on Beacon Hill in Seattle, a blue collar area filled with immigrants. The extended family lived within close vicinity of each other. She was five years older than younger brother Art, and they shared great memories of singing to make washing and drying the nightly dinner dishes a fun chore. Mary Anne had many friends from both the Beacon Hill and Mount Baker communities.

After graduating from Franklin High School, Mary Anne entered the University of Washington, where she joined Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and made lifelong friends. She graduated from the UW in the very first dental hygiene class in 1952, and became the first college graduate in her family.

Mary Anne was introduced to her future husband, Waldo Erickson by mutual friends. It was love at first sight, and they were married in June of 1953 at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Ballard. Daughter, Mary Caroll was born a year later; then Christine (Tina) and Kay followed. In the early 1960s the family moved from North Seattle to Bothell. Mary Anne loved living in Bothell with it's small town atmosphere. She also loved learning about the Swedish heritage she and Waldo shared. Together they danced the polka, made lefse, röllepulse and various Swedish cookies. It was always a great treat when friends and family could dance to Waldo playing Swedish folk songs on his accordion. Mary Anne and Waldo also loved listening to Broadway music. Throughout her life, Mary Anne loved to sing along to the radio, whether it was in an elevator, grocery store, or watching TV.

A favorite family vacation tradition was an August week at Lafferty's Pleasant Beach Resort, at Lake Chelan, often shared with the Price family or extended family. Eventually, Mary Anne and Waldo bought a cabin in the Hood Canal area which provided many weekends of fun and relaxation closer to home. They also took various road trips to Mount Rainier, the Pacific coast, Vancouver and Victoria. In 1968 Mary Anne started a tradition of family trips to Mazatlan and Puerto Vallarta.

Mary Anne was a supporter of anything to do with music and science. She went to every performance and supported every fund raising effort by each of her kids and grandkids.

Waldo passed away suddenly when Mary Anne was 51. Although, devastated, Mary Anne kept her head high and her example helped us forge ahead. She worked as a dental hygienist at Neil McGee's Bothell office until she was 72. She loved knowing her patients and hearing about their lives and activities! After she retired, she travelled with a UW alumni group to Italy twice, and to Ireland. She traveled with each of her daughters on several trips to the East Coast, Hawaii and to Mexico. Her last trip to Mexico was just one year ago. In 2006 she and her daughters fulfilled lifelong dreams of traveling to Sweden to visit their ancestors' homeland and relatives.

Mary Anne was a lifelong volunteer; she was an active member of First Lutheran Church for 53 years! She was a longtime Altar Guild and WELCA member. She loved helping out at church bazaars, luncheons and activities for WELCA. Her church friends were very precious to her; she always spoke so highly of each of you! She also volunteered at the Bothell Library and in granddaughter Ingrid's classroom. She helped with babysitting the grandchildren and even great-grandchildren. She had the knack of getting babies to fall asleep! She really loved all the children and they loved her!

Mary Anne was a lifelong learner. She listened to NPR and the TV news daily, read The New Yorker and was a master of trivia. She loved spring, summer and fall. She loved a good game of scrabble, especially when the power was out and she could play by candlelight. She enjoyed Words with Friends on her iPad and had 5 games going at the same time! She kept in touch with friends and family via email, even at age 86. And she loved following the Seattle Seahawks, UW Huskies and WSU Cougars. She was interested in exploring maps, planning trips and learning about geography, and loved to learn about places friends and family were going to visit since she was a happy armchair traveler, too.

Mary Anne is survived by daughters Mary Caroll (Calvin), Christine Anne (Dean), Kay Louise (Julie); grandchildren Ingrid (Mark), Mary (Elliot), Erik (Kim) and Sarah (Ryan); and her great-grandchildren Lucia, Jacob, Karley and Lucas. She is also survived by her brother Art Holt and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Mom, you've given us a great legacy of love and we will keep it burning brightly!