



August 23, 2025



Barbara Young Summers
March 4, 1951 – May 6, 2025

The Burial of the Dead: Rite Two

All stand while the following anthem is said.

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.

Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die.

And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith,
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God.

I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies.

For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord.

So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord!

So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

Hymn 657

Love Divine, all loves excelling

Hyfrydol

SEE NEXT PAGE

The Presider then says

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister, Barbara. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Be gracious to Barbara's family in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

The people sit.

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

The Lessons

A reading from the First Book of Kings

1 Kings 19:11-13a

Matthew Young

The word of the Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 23

Jill Fleishman

The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.


He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name’s sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.


You spread a table before me in the presence of those
who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

VERSE 1



1.You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord,who a - bid e in his shad-ow for



1.life, say to the Lord: "My ref-uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

to Refrain

REFRAIN



And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings,



bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the




sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

(last time to Coda) to Verses

VERSE 4



4.For to his an-gels he's giv-en a com-mand to guard you in all of your ways; up-



4.on their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot a-against a stone.

to Refrain

(Please be seated)

Eulogies

Mary Kay Young and Chris Young
Robin Kornblum

Music (sung by all)

I can see clearly now the rain is gone



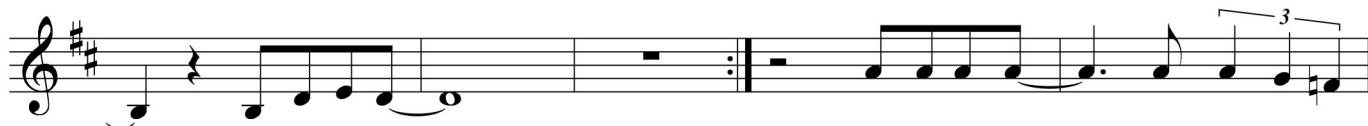
I can see clear - ly now the rain ___ is gone.
Think I can make ___ it now, the pain ___ is gone.



I can see all ___ ob - sta - cles in my way. Gone are the dark
All of the bad ___ feel - ings have dis - ap - peared. Here is the rain -



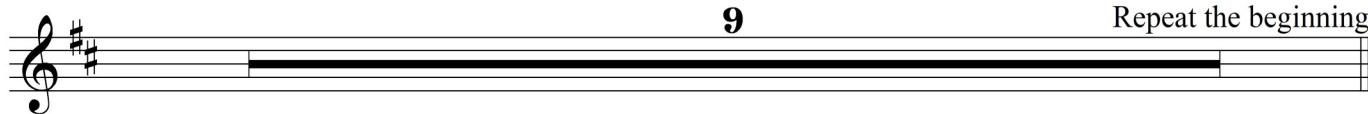
___ clouds that had ___ me down, It's gon-na be a bright, ___ bright,
- bow I've ___ been pray - ing for. ___



___ sun-shin - y day. Look all a - round, ___ there's noth - ing but



blue sky. Look straight a - head,, ___ there's noth - ing but blue sky. ___



9

Repeat the beginning

Homily

The Rev. Benjamin R. Badgett

As the dust settles
This air feels new,
Illness brings
A new point of view,
A steadfast faith holds me
Helps me to hear and know
A world that whispers
Come and grow

Each day with you, wrapped in a sigh
Our love's a beacon that will never die
Together we'll face what the days will bring,
Bound by the love of our family ring

My heart as open as the skies,
Our family love helps me rise,
I let go of maps and sail the breeze,
Find the joy in mysteries,
We carry the load, and we never part,
Faith keeps us whole, with an open heart,

Each day with you, wrapped in a sigh,
Our love's a beacon that will never die
Together we'll face what the days will bring,
Bound by the love of our family ring

I've walked through shadows,
And felt the hope of fresh rain,
Each moment's gift a sweet refrain

Each day with you, wrapped in a sigh,
Our love's a beacon that will never die
Together we'll face what the days will bring,
Bound by the love of our family ring

Our love's a beacon that will never die
Together we'll face what the days will bring,
Bound by the love of our family ring
Bound by the love of our family ring

(Please stand as you are able)

The Apostle's Creed

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

Presider and People

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Karen Hardison

For our sister Barbara, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Barbara, and dry the tears of those who weep.

All: Hear us, Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

All: Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life.

All: Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

All: Hear us, Lord.

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

All: Hear us, Lord.

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

All: Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

All: Hear us, Lord.

Presider: Father of all, we pray to you for Barbara and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **AMEN.**

The Commendation

The Presider and other ministers take their places.

Presider: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

All: where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Presider: 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 did you ordain when you created me, saying, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.” All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Presider: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Barbara. 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.**

The Blessing

Presider: 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 Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach - us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

The immediate family will proceed to the memorial garden for the private committal service. They will then join the congregation downstairs at the reception.

A Reception Follows Downstairs in the Parish Hall

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Presider:

The Rev. Benjamin R. Badgett

Assisting Priest:

The Rev. Charles “Buck” Aiken

Organist:

Amos Goldie

Verger:

Paul Shane

Readers:

Matthew Young
Jill Fleishman

Intercessor:

Karen Hardison

Ushers:

Annette Spanel
Jim Contner

In Memoriam: Barbara Summers, former chief nursing officer

Barbara Summers, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, a pioneering nurse leader, mentor and champion of patient-centered care, died May 6, in Richmond, Virginia, surrounded by her family.

Summers served as MD Anderson's chief nursing officer and head of the Nursing division from 2003-2015, when she retired. Her leadership helped transform nursing into a strategic, academic and patient-driven force within the institution.

"Barbara's legacy is deeply embedded in the fabric of MD Anderson," says Peter WT Pisters, M.D., president. "Her leadership helped shape our institution's nursing excellence and patient experience programs. Barbara had an unwavering commitment to elevating the voice of nurses and making sure every patient received compassionate, expert care."

That impact is still visible in the foundation she helped build.

"Dr. Summers' imprint on nursing remains strong at MD Anderson and beyond, influencing our profession and discipline across the nation," says Kim Slusser, chief nursing officer ad interim.

"Much of what she built as chief nursing officer continues to shape how we practice today. Many of the nurses she mentored are still here, carrying forward her legacy. She will be greatly missed but her influence will continue to be felt and for that, we are forever grateful."

A nurse, mentor and 'LP'

Summers joined MD Anderson in 1997 and rose quickly through leadership roles. She was instrumental in the creation of MD Anderson's academic Department of Nursing and served as professor and its inaugural Chair. She led the development of the institution's Professional Practice Model and Nursing Practice Congress, and helped lead MD Anderson through multiple successful Magnet designations.

"Barbara was an unstoppable force in building the academic Department of Nursing. We have a department because of Barbara," says Joyce Damns, professor and inaugural member of the Nursing department. "She believed that nurses were not only caregivers, but leaders and scholars. Her vision elevated the role of nurses throughout the institution."

Early on in her career, Summers earned the nickname "LP"—short for "Leader of the Pack"—from colleagues at a previous hospital, where she was known for setting high standards and naturally stepping into leadership roles. It was a title given affectionately but aptly, as her leadership qualities were undeniable, even then.

At MD Anderson, she led with strength and conviction, never afraid to speak up or challenge the status quo. And while she was known for her fierce advocacy, she was equally known for her flair—always coordinating her shoes to perfectly match her outfit, a detail that continues to bring smiles to those who knew her.

Summers often described MD Anderson as "an institution that grabbed my heart and never let go," a sentiment that guided her unwavering commitment to enhancing nursing practice and patient care. She championed the advancement of clinical nurses, emphasized the importance of education and research in practice, and advocated for nurses to work at the top of their license—helping to prepare the workforce for the evolving demands of oncology care.

"Barbara always believed that when nurses succeed, patients do too," says her husband, George Summers. "She poured her heart into helping nurses thrive because they are the ones who are at the bedside 24 hours a day, making people feel safe and supported. For her, there was nothing more meaningful than seeing a nurse grow into their full potential. She did the best she could to support them —because that's what nurses and patients deserved."

Even in retirement, that passion never faded.

"She was so proud of MD Anderson and proud to have been a leader here," says Beth Garcia, vice president of Patient Experience. "Even after retirement, Barbara stayed engaged — offering advice, celebrating the progress of programs like patient navigation, and cheering on the nurses and APPs caring for her."

Facing cancer with grace and love

Diagnosed with pancreatic cancer nearly two years ago, Summers was cared for by colleagues she deeply respected, then grew to love during her cancer experience, including Robert Wolff, M.D., professor of GI Medical Oncology, and physician assistant Kelli Nugent.

Meagan O'Brien, nurse care consultant, supported her throughout treatment and witnessed firsthand how Summers continued to influence others — even as a patient.

"Wherever we went, nurses and leaders would stop to thank Barbara and share how she had impacted their careers," says O'Brien. "They'd say, 'You inspired me to lead,' or still remember what you told me as a new nurse.' Barbara remembered every one of them and would light up with pride. There's a generation of nurse leaders who credit her with shaping their paths. She didn't just lead — she inspired lasting change in the people around her."

Summers expressed ongoing gratitude for her care team, calling her final 22 months "the best of our lives," according to her husband George.

"What struck me about Barbara was her realistic optimism, quality of life as her North Star in treatment decisions, and her deep gratitude for the expert care and advice she received from the MD Anderson community," says Wolff.

"They leaned in to living," says Garcia. "She and George took trips, spent time with family and never missed a chance to say 'I love you.' Barbara was a model—not just for how to live with illness, but for how to make thoughtful, loving choices about how to die."

About a month before her passing, Summers chose to enter hospice care at home — a decision she made early and shared openly. Her family cared for her with love and intention, fulfilling her wish to be surrounded by family in peace and comfort.

Summers is survived by her husband of 46 years, George, and a devoted circle of family, friends, colleagues and former mentees who continue to carry her legacy forward.

A celebration of life will take place in the coming weeks in her hometown of Richmond, Virginia. For those unable to attend in person, a Zoom option will be available. Further details will be shared soon.

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.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that “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.”

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. 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.



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