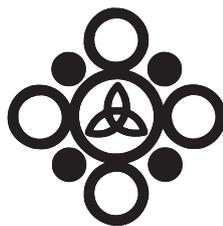


A Service in Memory and Thanksgiving for the Life of

BARBARA BAYLOR PORTER

February 7, 2026

2:00 in the afternoon



The
American
Cathedral
in Paris

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH
of the HOLY TRINITY



Concerning the Service

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all 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.



BARBARA BAYLOR PORTER

6 December 1935 - 18 February 2025

Barbara Baylor Cole was born on December 6, 1935, in South Bend, Indiana. After completing her education, she married and began working at IBM. Her first child was born, bringing her to the next chapter of her life: finding the right school for her daughter and in 1963, she discovered the work of Dr. Maria Montessori. Later she moved to Washington and studied with AMI Montessori teacher-trainer Margaret Stephenson. In 1966, she received her AMI Diploma from Mario Montessori, Dr. Maria Montessori's son. Before moving to Paris in 1969 to study Montessori for children with disabilities, she had already co-founded two Montessori schools in the U.S.

Supported by the then American Ambassador to France, Arthur K. Watson, and the encouragement of Henry Kissinger, in 1972 Barbara opened The Bilingual Montessori School of Paris at the American Cathedral, the first French/English bilingual Montessori program in France. Later, the school added a Toddler program and elementary class, with three campuses in Paris.

Barbara's family grew in Paris with the arrival of two children. She was known for the warmth with which she welcomed everyone into her home, and for the generous support she gave to many artists and musicians. Her four children and two grandchildren are among the thousands of children who have been welcomed to The Bilingual Montessori School. Barbara was not only passionate about the benefits of Montessori but also about bilingual education.

She was convinced that Montessori's vision of education was the most logical and richest approach to helping children reach their fullest potential while respecting their own individuality. She would often say it is the most beautiful gift you could give your child. Barbara remained committed to the Montessori philosophy until her death. She is greatly missed, but her legacy lives on. What began with just eight children in a rented room at the American Cathedral grew into something truly extraordinary, having a positive and lasting impact on thousands of children and families for more than fifty years.

ORDER OF SERVICE



Preludes

Nocturne in B-flat minor, Op. 9, No 1
“Moon River” from *Breakfast at Tiffany’s*
“Edelweiss” from *The Sound of Music*

Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849)

Henry Mancini (1924–1994)

Richard Rodgers (1902–1979)

Words: Oscar Hammerstein II (1895-1960)

The Entrance

All stand, as able.

The Officiant says

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 she 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.

The Collect for the Burial of the Dead

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant 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.

All are seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-3

Read by Nancy Janin

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

The reading concludes with The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing, as able.

Hymn: "The Lord's My Shepherd"

Crimond

1. The Lord's my Shep - herd; I'll not want. He
2. My soul He doth re - store a - gain; And
3. Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, Yet
4. My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In
5. Good - ness and mer - cy all my life Shall

5
makes me down to lie In pas - tures green; He
me to walk doth make With - in the paths of
will I fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
pres - ence of my foes; My head Thou dost with
sure - ly fol - low me; And in God's house for -

10

lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
 right - eous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.
 oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.
 ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

—Words from the Scottish Psalter 1650, based on Psalm 23

All may be seated.

The Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

Read by Caridad Duqué

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

The reading concludes with The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing, as able.

Hymn 671: "Amazing Grace"

New Britain

Scottish traditional melody, arranged by Robert Tamskill (b.1950)

Verses 1-3 sung by Charlie Scales

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!
3. The Lord hath promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

All join in the final verse:

4. **When we've been there
ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.**

All may be seated.

Reading from the Gospel: John 14:1-6

Jesus said, "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."

Eulogies

Susan Banon
Dianne Henning
Robert Lipscomb
Geneviève Devinat
Delphine Hagoulon
Alice Armstrong Scales

An Irish Blessing

Poppy Scales

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
May the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Hymn 405: "All things Bright and Beautiful"

Royal Oak

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings. *R.*
The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky; *R.*

The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,—
he made them every one. *R.*
He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well. *R.*

The Homily The Reverend Johnathan Denson

A period of silent reflection follows the Homily.

All are invited to stand, as able.

The Officiant says

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

The Apostles Creed *Said by all*

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.

Officiant

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

The Lord's Prayer

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 Prayers

Led by Nancy Janin

The people respond as indicated.

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

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

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

You raised the dead to life; give our sister eternal life. **Hear us, Lord.**

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of Heaven. **Hear us, Lord.**

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

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

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

After a period of silent prayer, the Officiant offers a concluding collect:

Father of all, we pray to you for Barbara and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant them an 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 Officiant begins the commendation, saying

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your 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 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.

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

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.**

Closing Hymn 376: "Joyful, Joyful, we adore thee"

Hymn to Joy

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
blooming meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

The Blessing

The officiant says a blessing over the people.

The Dismissal

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude: Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)



Participating in the Service

The officiant is The Reverend Canon Hailey Jacobsen, Canon Missioner of the Cathedral.

The homilist is The Reverend Johnathan Denson, Convocation Ministry Fellow.

The Acting Director of Music is George Nicholls.

The organist is Andrew Dewar.

The soloist is Charlie Scales.

The readers are Nancy Janin and Caridad Duqué.

*The eulogists are Susan Banon, Dianne Henning, Robert Lipscomb, Geneviève Devinat,
Delphine Hagoulon, and Alice Armstrong Scales.*

The Irish Blessing is read by Poppy Scales.

The intercessor is Nancy Janin.



*Immediately following the service,
all are invited to the Cathedral's Parish Hall
to celebrate the life of Barbara.*