



Vigil Service for Sister Barbara Kuhn

January 9, 2008

Welcome:

Opening Payer:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

May the God of hope give you the fullness of peace, and may the Lord be always with you.

And with your spirit.

Opening Hymn: All Creatures of Our God and King

1. All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing: Alleluia! Alleluia!
O burning sun with golden beam and silver moon with softer gleam:
Oh, praise God! Oh, praise God! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
2. Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds rich blessings on our way, Oh, praise God! Alleluia!
The fruits and flow'rs that verdant grow, let them God's praise abundant show.
Oh, praise God! Oh, praise God! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
3. O ev'ry one of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part, Oh, praise God! Alleluia!
All you who pain and sorrow bear, praise God and lay on God your care.
Oh, praise God! Oh, praise God! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer: (together)

Gracious God, you have called our sister, Barbara, from this earthly home to your eternal joy.

Jesus, your Son, wept when he heard that his friend Lazarus had died. You know our pain and heartache at the loss of our sister and friend.

Strengthen us in our sorrow; turn our emptiness to hope in your resurrection and in the belief that we will one day be united once again.

We make our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

Reading:

A Gift of Life and Death

Macrina Wiederkehr



I want my death to be a gift, a birth.
When in that final breath
I breathe myself back into God
I want to be drawn into you also,
into the world of stars and earth,
plants and animals.
into the roaring sea.
I want to be an intimate part
of the universe.
And so, as I am breathed back
into the heart of the world,
into the hopes and dreams
and joys of the people,
into the yearnings
and the tears and sorrows of this world,
my death will be a birth, and a gift.
Oh, just to be here visible, and unhidden,
alive with a hope that has no boundaries,
ever aware of the immense goodness
at my fingertips, within my reach,
receiving and sharing that goodness
midwiving it into being,
tasting the incredible truth, that
every day is a good day for living
and every day is a good day for dying.
I want my life to be a gift
so that my death can be a gift.



Psalm 16 (sung together)

Refrain: O Lord, you are the center of my life:
I will always praise you, I will always serve you,
I will always keep you in my sight.

1. Keep me safe, O God; I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord, "You are my God.
My happiness lies in you alone; my happiness lies in you alone." Refrain
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight; since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. Refrain
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even in safety shall my body rest,
For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. Refrain
4. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence,
At your right hand, at your right hand happiness forever. Refrain

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 5: 3-12

Canticle of Mary:

I acclaim the greatness of the Lord,
I delight in God my savior,
who regarded my humble state.
Truly from this day on
all ages will call me blessed.

For God, wonderful in power,
has used that strength for me.
Holy the name of the Lord!
Whose mercy embraces the faithful,
one generation to the next.

The mighty arm of God
scatters the proud in their conceit,
pulls tyrants from their thrones,
and raises up the humble.
The Lord fills the starving
and lets the rich go hungry.

God rescues lowly Israel,
recalling the promise of mercy,
the promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and Sarah's heirs forever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

Prayers of Intercession:

Sung Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Sharing our stories, reflections about Barbara...

With faith and hope we pray in the words Jesus gave us...

Our Father....

Closing Hymn: All Creatures of Our God and King (last verse)

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship God in humbleness,
Oh, praise God! Alleluia!
Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One!
Oh, praise God! Oh, praise God! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!





Sister
Barbara
Kuhn
former
St. Peter's
Kitchen,
discotheque

Lisa and
John Lewis Etter
2/2006

Feb. 20, 2006

Sister Barbara
Lisa Etter
John Etter

Confidential
meeting
at
Disney
World