



A LITURGY IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF
MARY BRUCE BATTE CORKERN

JULY 12, 1946 – JULY 6, 2021

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL
Episcopal/ Anglican

ZABRISKIE CHAPEL

3606 Seminary Road



Alexandria, Virginia

July 10, 2021

Burial of the Dead, Rite II at 1 p.m.

MARY BRUCE BATTE CORKERN

Mary Bruce Batte Corkern died peacefully in her sleep on July 6, 2021 of complications from Alzheimer's Disease.

She was born on July 12, 1946, and grew up in McKenney, Virginia. She attended Mary Washington College and the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. After college she moved to Washington and worked on the presidential campaign of Vice President Hubert Humphrey. She remained active in democratic politics for the next fifty years. She married Wilton Corkern in 1971 and they spent the first year of their marriage in Puerto Rico, where he was assigned by the Navy. They returned to Puerto Rico many times over the years.

Back in the Washington area, they lived in Alexandria. Mary Bruce worked as a financial journalist and then as the first woman appointed to the position of vice president at Freddie Mac. In 1987 she co-founded Mortgage Dynamics, Inc., a financial consulting firm, that eventually had offices in Virginia, Maryland, Texas, Florida, and Colorado.

After retiring, she and Wilton moved to a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay near Solomon's Island, Maryland, where she enjoyed entertaining, crabbing, fishing, boating, and swimming.

Mary Bruce also loved music (especially opera) and enjoyed singing in the choir at Immanuel. She did volunteer work with a number of organizations, including ALIVE! and Carpenter's Shelter.

Along the way, she wrote two cookbooks and managed to appear on stage with the New York City Opera, the Metropolitan Opera, and La Scala Milano - as a supernumerary, not a singer!

She is survived by her husband, Wilton Corkern, of Alexandria, her daughters, Molly Wagner (Richard Wagner) of New York City, and Sarah Pursel (Kyle Pursel) of Sapphire, North Carolina, and her sister, Cornelia Anne Roberts (Max Roberts).

Memorial contributions may be made in Mary Bruce's name to:



ALIVE!, Incorporated
2723 King Street / Alexandria, VA 22302
(703) 837-9300
info@alive-inc.org



THE MARY BRUCE CORKERN MEMORIAL FUND
Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
3606 Seminary Road / Alexandria, VA 22304
www.icoh.net
treasurer@icoh.net



Washington AIDS Partnership
1701 Rhode Island Ave NW Suite 03-108 / Washington, D.C. 20036
www.washingtonaidspartnership.org

“Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen”

PRELUDE: "Air on the G String"

Johann Sebastian Bach

"Salut d'Amour", Opus 12

Edward Elgar

"Pie Jesu" from Fauré's Requiem

Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns

"Für Elise"

Ludwig van Beethoven

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD, RITE II

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.

All please stand while the following anthems are said. (Book of Common Prayer, page 491)

Opening Sentences:

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.

Clergy: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Clergy: Let us pray.

Collect: O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Mary Bruce Batte Corkern, and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson: Wisdom 3:1-5, 9

read by Ms. Anne Courtney Howerton

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself.

Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

The word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 90: 1-12 Domine, refugium

read by Ms. Connie Vecellio

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday
when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even eighty; *
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
- 11 Who regards the power of your wrath? *
who rightly fears your indignation?
- 12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58

read by Ms. Colleen Davies

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.

For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: “Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

The Word of the Lord

Response: ***Thanks be to God***

All please stand

The Holy Gospel: John 5: 24-27

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John
Response: ***Glory to you, Lord Christ***

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life.

“Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.

The Gospel of the Lord
Response: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

Tribute and Reflections: Ms. Anne Fortney Riddell

The Homily: The Rev. Sam Sheridan

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

***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.

The Prayers:

led by The Rev. Susan D. Parsons

For our sister, Mary Bruce, 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 Mary Bruce, 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 to 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; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

The Celebrant concludes with the following collect:

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister, Mary Bruce, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. ***Amen.***

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people.

People: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory Anthem: "When I am laid in earth"

from the opera Dido and Aeneas

Henry Purcell

Ms. Tona Brown, violin

Mr. Daryl Ott, piano

THE COMMENDATION

The Clergy take their places at the urn.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, Mary Bruce, 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.

The Celebrant, facing the urn, says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Mary Bruce. 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

Closing Hymn 405: "All things bright and beautiful"

found in The Hymnal 1982

Royal Oak

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Repeat Refrain

he made their glow - ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ

People: *Thanks be to God*

Postlude: Alleluia

from Exsultate, jubilate

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of **Mary Bruce Batte Corkern** by her family.*



Both the Committal and a reception will begin immediately after this service.

For those who wish to attend the Committal, please follow the usher standing outside for a short walk to the Memorial Garden. The service is found on [page 10 of this bulletin](#), and should last approximately 15 minutes.

SERVING TODAY:

Officiant:

The Rev. Sam Sheridan
Assistant Rector
Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Assisting Clergy:

The Rev. Susan D. Parsons
Associate Rector
Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Readers:

Ms. Anne Courtney Howerton, niece
Ms. Connie Vecellio, friend
Ms. Colleen Davies, friend

Tribute and Reflections:

Ms. Anne Fortney Riddell, friend

Intercessor:

The Rev. Susan D. Parsons

Crucifer:

Ms. Karen Besser

Musicians:

Ms. Tona Brown, violin
Mr. Daryl Ott, piano

Ushers:

Mr. Tom Hewson
Mrs. Debbie Hewson
Mr. Jim Kurz
Mr. Marcus Rarick

Audio-Visual:

Mr. John L. Bednar

Gravesite Preparation:

Ms. Chris von Schoening

Altar Flower Arrangements:

Mrs. Candy Levin
Immanuel Flower Guild





THE COMMITTAL
MARY BRUCE BATTE CORKERN
July 12, 1946 – July 6, 2021



CELEBRANT Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me; I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Then, while earth is cast upon the urn, the Celebrant says these words

CELEBRANT In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister, Mary Bruce, 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 to her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace.

PEOPLE *Amen.*

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE *And also with you.*

CELEBRANT Let us pray

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 Celebrant adds additional prayers.

Grant, O Lord, to all who are bereaved the spirit of faith and courage, that they may have strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness and patience; not sorrowing as those without hope, but in thankful remembrance of your great goodness, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. And this we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Savior. *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*

The family is invited to place soil on the urn.

The Clergy then dismiss the people with these words:

CELEBRANT Alleluia. Christ is risen.
PEOPLE ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***
CELEBRANT Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
PEOPLE ***Thanks be to God.***



CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr. (ralexander@icoh.net) Rector
 The Rev. Susan D. Parsons (sparsons@icoh.net) Associate Rector
 The Rev. Sam Sheridan (ssheridan@icoh.net) Assistant Rector
 Dr. Jane Tavernier (jtavernier@icoh.net) Director of Music
 Shawn Rutledge (srutledge@vts.edu) Seminarian
 Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net) Treasurer
 Laura Snow (lsnow@icoh.net) Assistant Treasurer
 Sughra Bakhtiari (sbakhtiari@icoh.net) Bookkeeper
 Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net)..... Parish Administrator
 Gilma Balcarcel Nursery Coordinator
 Stuart Dahlinger Sexton

THE VESTRY

Kathryn Haskin..... Senior Warden, Co-steward: Social Justice
 Martha Shimkin Junior Warden: Administration
 Darrell Wilson Junior Warden: Buildings and Grounds
 David Atwood Adult Formation and Discipleship, Co-steward: Social Justice
 Harrison Clark Co-steward: Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
 Danette “Dani” Gentile Kauffman Stewardship and Planned Giving
 Kristi Kubista-Hovis Outreach, and Co-steward: Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
 Brooke Roberts..... Communications
 Phyllis Sims Fellowship, Senior Ministry
 Francine Wargo Worship
 Shawn Whitman Pastoral Care
 Rachel Wilson Youth Representative (nonvoting member)
 Candy Levin Register (nonvoting member)

SUMMER SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

10:30a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, Immanuel Chapel
 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

6:00p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
 Zabriskie Chapel Memorial Garden

Online
www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org
[Immanuel's YouTube channel](#)

PRIEST ASSOCIATES

The Rev. Dr. J. Barney Hawkins, IV
 The Rev. Dr. Ruthanna Hooke
 The Rev. Jan A. Maas
 The Rev. John R. Smucker
 The Rev. Canon Rosemari G. Sullivan
 The Rev. Dr. Francis H. Wade

RECTOR EMERITA

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Ann (Sam) Faeth



MISSION STATEMENT: Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition, striving to be in relationship with God and each other as Christ has taught us, actively attempting to sense and to serve God’s plan with great love. We are guided by Mark 16:15: “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel,” to learn, discern, and proclaim the Good News by being active ministers in the various communities where we live and serve.

Parish Office

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