

**MEMORIAL SERVICE OF PRAISE TO GOD
FOR
HIS BLESSINGS THROUGH THE LIFE OF**

Essie Kathleen (Miller) Fox



June 11, 2025 11:00 am
Born: August 31, 1925

**BAPTIZED IN CHRIST
June 4, 1955**

**CONFIRMED IN CHRIST
April 27, 1986**

**DIED IN CHRIST
May 30, 2025**

***“There is a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance...”***

Ecclesiastes 3:4

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE INVOCATION C: AMEN.

THE PASTORAL GREETING



P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: When we were baptized in Christ Jesus we were baptized into His death. We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.

THE SONG OF HOPE 763 When Peace Like a River



1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let
 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The

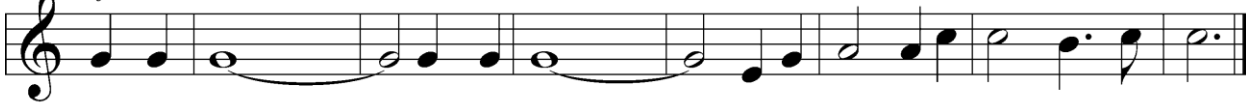


sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–88, alt. Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–76 Text and tune: Public domain

THE PSALM (Psalm 51)

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

C: ³ **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**

⁴ **Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.**

⁵ **Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

P: ⁶ Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

- C:** ¹⁰ **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**
¹¹ **Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**
¹² **Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.**
- P:** ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.
- C:** ¹⁵ **O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.**
¹⁶ **For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.**
- P:** ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. ¹⁸ Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem; ¹⁹ then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

THE RESPONSE

P: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

C: **HE IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA.**

P: Jesus, our confidence is in You.

C: **We know that You have won the victory over death.**

P: Even in the midst of our sorrow, we know Your love never fails.

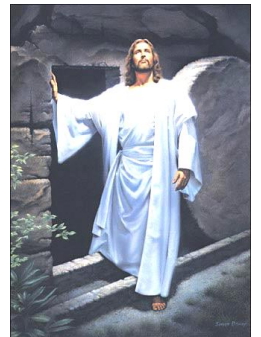
C: **Grant us comfort as we trust in Your resurrection promise.**

P: No one lives to himself, and no dies to himself.

C: **Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.**

P: Be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

C: **Amen.**



THE NEW TESTAMENT *Ecclesiastes 3* A Time for Everything

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

² a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

³ a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

⁴ a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

⁵ a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

⁶ a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

⁷ a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

⁸ a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

⁹ What gain has the worker from his toil? ¹⁰ I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A Time of Reflection

THE GOSPEL READING *John 14:1-6* Jesus Comforts His Disciples

¹**Do not let your hearts be troubled.**

Trust in God; trust also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me so that you also may be where I am.

⁴You know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me".

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.



A Time of Encouragement

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, You have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give Your whole church in heaven and on earth Your light and Your peace.

C: Hear us, Lord.

P: Help us, we pray, 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.

C: Hear us, Lord.

P: Grant us grace to entrust Kathy to Your never failing love which sustained her in this life. Receive her into the arms of Your mercy, and remember her according to the favor You bear for Your people.

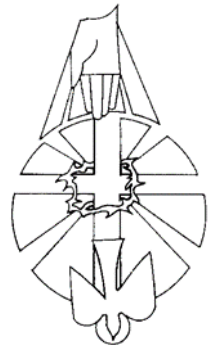
C: Hear us, Lord.

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 forever and ever. Amen.



Nunc Dimittis

P "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

**C Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.**

My own eyes have seen the salvation

which You have prepared in the sight of every people:

a light to reveal You to the nations

and the glory of Your people Israel.

Glory be 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.

Concluding Collect

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Commendation

P: Into Your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend to Your care, your servant, Kathleen Fox. Acknowledge, we humbly ask You, a sheep of Your own fold, a lamb of Your own flock, a sinner of Your own redeeming. Confident of your victory over sin and death—receive her into the arms of Your mercy.


Benedicamus and Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  give you peace.

C: Amen.

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com-fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
 3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
 4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
 plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
 guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
 soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
 me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 He lives, and I shall conquer death;
 He lives my mansion to prepare;
 He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
 Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

+ + + + +

Preacher: Rev. Christopher Fairbairn

Officiant: Rev. Jim Frusti

Pianist: Phil Kelly

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Following the committal prayers at the cemetery there will be a luncheon to follow at St. Paul Lutheran Church



Kathleen Fox

Kathleen Fox, age 99, of Hendersonville, North Carolina, a former longtime resident of Northville, passed away peacefully on May 30, 2025. She was born on August 31, 1925 in Clothier, West Virginia; daughter of Wayne and Myrtle (Green) Miller. Kathleen was united in marriage to Lewis E. Fox; they spent 49 years dedicated to their love until his death on April 22, 1996.

Kathleen was raised in Ottawa, West Virginia, and graduated from high school in Madison, West Virginia. After graduation, she moved to Michigan, where she found both her home and a welcoming community. She settled in Northville and lived there for many years before relocating to North Carolina in 2006 to be closer to her daughter.

Kathleen owned and operated California \$5 Pants in Lincoln Park and Ypsilanti for four years. She then acquired Kathy's Hair Salon in Detroit, where she also served as the owner and operator for another four years before deciding to dedicate her time to volunteer work.

Kathleen was a woman of deep faith and an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Northville. She contributed her time and talents in many ways, crafting banners for holidays and special occasions, participating in Bible study, and being a dedicated member of the Over 50's church group. For several years, Kathleen organized mission trips to Haiti and led the church's adopt-a-child program, ensuring children received much-needed clothing and supplies. Thanks to her leadership and dedication, the mission trips were always successful. She made sure the volunteers were well cared for, preparing delicious meals for them throughout their stay. While in Haiti, Kathleen also played a key role in building a church and school for the local community.

Kathleen was an avid reader, and every book in her personal library reflected her love for religious and inspirational literature. She also enjoyed crafting, painting, and stamping, often creating handmade greeting cards that she took great joy in sharing with family and friends. After moving to North Carolina, she remained just as active in her community, volunteering her time at the local food pantry. Kathleen had a heart of gold and was always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need. Her devotion and unwavering dedication touched many lives and will be deeply missed.

Kathleen is survived by her loving children, Lanny (Kathy Jo) Fox and Linda (William) Okler; her grandchildren, Maegan (Richard) Merrow, Lanny Fox II, Callie (Christopher) Kowalczyk, Madison Fox, and Adam Okler; and her great grandchildren, Samuel, Rowan, and Ailee. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her son Richard Stover, her brother Jesse Miller, and her sisters Christine Skyles and Agatha Stollings.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, June 10, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 West Dunlap, Northville. A funeral service will be held Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 11:00 a.m., instate at 10:00 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 201 Elm Street, Northville, MI 48167. Pastor Christopher Fairbairn will officiate the service. Kathleen will be laid to rest next to her husband at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. Following the committal prayers at the cemetery there will be a luncheon to follow at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate memorial contributions to:
St. Paul Lutheran Church 201 Elm Street, Northville, MI 48167.