

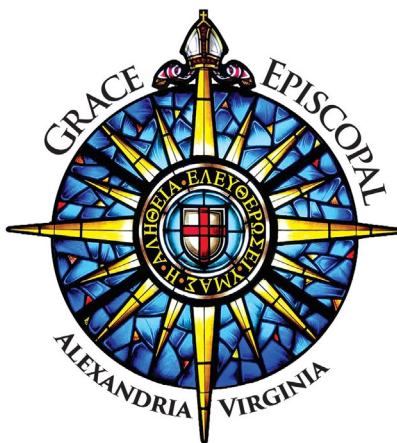
Burial of the Dead

Rite II

Thursday, July 13, 2023, 12 p.m.

Barbara Lee Simmons

November 8, 1935 – July 4, 2023



Grace Episcopal Church

3601 Russell Road

Alexandria, VA 22305

www.gracealex.org

Burial of the Dead

The people stand.

THE OPENING ANTHEM

BCP, P. 491

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.

THE COLLECT

BCP, P. 493

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Barbara Lee Simmons, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

Lector A reading from the Book of Lamentations.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.' The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject for ever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Lector Let us recite Psalm 23 together in unison.

The LORD is my shepherd; *
 I shall not want.
 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; *
 he leadeth me beside the still waters.
 He restoreth my soul; *
 he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.
 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; *
 for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; *
 thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:37-40

Priest The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The people are seated.

SERMON

Father Santiago Rodriguez

The people stand.

Officiant Together, let us pray in the words given us by our Lord Jesus Christ.
All **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

BCP, p. 497

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.

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 Officiant concludes with the following prayer.

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.**

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.**

THE BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

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

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Barbara Lee Simmons

November 8, 1935 – July 4, 2023

Barbara Simmons, loving wife, mother and grandmother passed away peacefully at her home on July 4, 2023.

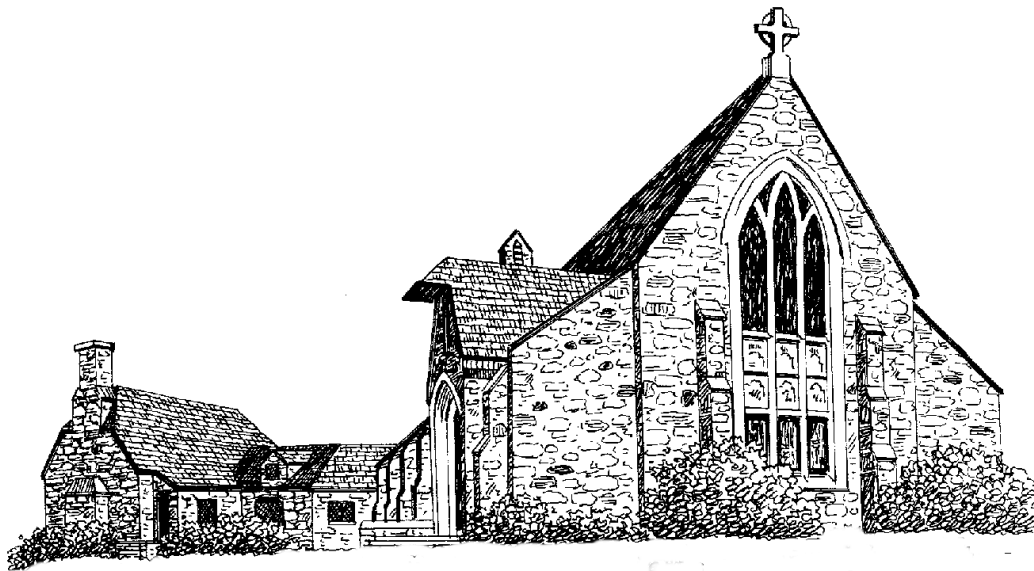
Barbara is preceded in death by her husband, Al Simmons, her sister Anna Snider and her brother William Snider. She is survived by her two children, Kevin Simmons and Cindy Thomas (Dennis), her granddaughters Sarah and Hannah Thomas and her niece, Susan Snider.

Barbara was born in Norfolk, VA and moved to Arlington, VA with her family where she met Al Simmons who she married on April 23, 1960. They bought a home in Herndon, VA in 1962 where they raised their two children and lived out their lives. Barbara was a wonderful artist, taking art classes and displaying her artwork in local art shows and festivals. She was an avid pro-football fan, loved watching tennis and was very involved in politics. Barbara's favorite pastime was learning about and identifying birds, filling her yard with bird feeders and bird houses, watching out for her favorite Bluebirds and going birding at Skyline Drive every fall with her husband.



Barbara's family is eternally grateful to Nancy Shaver for her love and support to Barbara and the family - especially for the kindness and tenderness at the end of her life.

In lieu of flowers, the family is suggesting donations be made in Barbara's name to one of her very favorite charities, Bread for the World (www.bread.org), 425 3rd Street, SW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20024



THOSE SERVING TODAY

Celebrant and Preacher
Acolyte

Father Santi Rodriguez
Stephanie Reed