

A Memorial for  
Robyn Cook Butler  
December 10, 1950 – October 6, 2026



Saturday, October 24, 2026  
Twelve O'clock in the Afternoon

Grace Episcopal Church  
Bath, Maine  
[www.gracebath.org](http://www.gracebath.org)

# A Memorial Service for Robyn Cook Butler

## Prelude

## Opening Anthem

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Officiant* I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For if we live, we live unto the Lord; and if we die, we die unto the Lord. Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

## Opening Hymn 280

The strife is o're, the battle done

Victory

*Antiphon (at the beginning)*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Ped.*

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -  
2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their  
\*3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es  
4 He closed the yawn - ing gates of hell, the bars from  
5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

1 ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph  
 2 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shout of ho - ly  
 3 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our  
 4 heaven's high por - tals fell; let hymns of praise his  
 5 sting thy serv - ants free, that we may live and

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

*Antiphon (at the end)*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Ped.*

Words: Latin, 1695; tr. Francis Pott (1832-1909), alt. Music: *Victory*, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594); adapt. and arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

## The Collect

*Officiant* The Lord be with you,

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Officiant* O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Robyn, and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## The Liturgy of the Word

**The First Reading** Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Graham Curtis

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*All*      **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Psalm. Psalm 23, King James Version**

*Liz Prest*

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.

### **Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

*Florencia Butler*

*Reader* A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*All*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his  
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 \* 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me  
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.  
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

*The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.*

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus. Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony* 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919). Harmonization Copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press.

## The Gospel of John 6:37-40

*Officiant.* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John +  
*All* 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.

*Officiant*    The Gospel of our Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

## Remembrance

Tom Butler

## Poem The Reading Mimi

Bennett Curtis

*Original poem is The Reading Mother by Strickland Gilliland*

Lindsay Curtis

I had a Mimi who read to me  
Sagas of pirates who scoured the sea,  
Cutlasses clenched in their yellow teeth,  
"Blackbirds" stowed in the hold beneath.

I had a Mimi who read me lays  
Of ancient and gallant and golden days;  
Stories of Marmion and Ivanhoe,  
Which every grandchild has a right to know.

I had a Mimi who read me tales  
Of Gelert the hound of the hills of Wales,  
True to his trust till his tragic death,  
Faithfulness blent with his final breath.

I had a Mimi who read me the things  
That wholesome life to the grandchild heart brings--  
Stories that stir with an upward touch,  
Oh, that Mimi were such!

You may have tangible wealth untold;  
Caskets of jewels and coffers of gold.  
Richer than I you can never be--  
I had a Mimi who read to me.

## Homily

The Rev. Misty Kiwak

## The Navy Hymn

Please remain seated.

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!

Lord, guard and guide the ones who fly  
Through the great spaces in the sky.  
Be with them always in the air,  
In darkening storms or sunlight fair;  
Oh, hear us when we lift our prayer,  
For those in peril in the air!

## The Lord's Prayer

*Officiant* And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

*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 of the People

*Intercessor* In the rising of the sun and when it sets,

*People*        **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,

*People*        **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* In the opening of the buds and the rebirth of spring,

*People*        **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,

*People*        **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* In the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn,

*People*      **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* So long as we live, she too shall live, for she is part of us,

*People*      **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* In the beginning of the year and when it ends,

*People*      **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* When we are weary and in need of strength,

*People*      **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* When we are lost and sick at heart,

*People*      **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* When we have joys we yearn to share,

*People*      **We remember Robyn.**

*Intercessor* So long as we live, she too shall live, for she is part of us,

*People*      **We remember Robyn.**

*Officiant* Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with Robyn all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Commendation**

*Officiant* Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,

*People*      **where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*Officiant* Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

*Officiant* Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Robyn.

Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine 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.**

## Blessing

*Celebrant* Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind; And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Dismissal

*Officiant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Closing Anthems

*Officiant* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and giving life to those in the tomb.

The Sun of Righteousness is gloriously risen, giving light to those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Christ will open the kingdom of heaven to all who believe in his Name, saying, Come, O blessed of my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you.

Into paradise may the angels lead thee; and at thy coming may the martyrs receive thee, and bring thee into the holy city Jerusalem.

## Closing Song

**Rockin' Robin**

*Bobby Day*

She rocks in the tree tops all day long  
Hoppin' and a-boppin' and singing his song  
All the little birdies on Jaybird Street  
Love to hear the robin go tweet tweet tweet

Rockin' robin, tweet tweet tweet  
Rockin' robin' tweet tweetly tweet  
Blow rockin' robin  
'Cause we're really gonna rock tonight

Every little swallow, every chickadee  
Every little bird in the tall oak tree  
The wise old owl, the big black crow  
Flappin' their wings singing, go bird, go

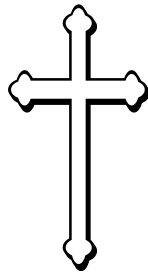
Rockin' robin, tweet tweet tweet  
Rockin' robin' tweet tweetly-tweet  
Blow rockin' robin  
'Cause we're really gonna rock tonight

Pretty little raven at the bird band stand  
Told them how to do the bob and it was grand  
They started going steady and bless my soul  
She out bopped the buzzard and the oriol

Rockin' robin, tweet tweet tweet  
Rockin' robin' tweet tweetly tweet  
Blow rockin' robin  
'Cause we're really gonna rock tonight

She rocks in the tree tops all day long  
Hoppin' and a-boppin' and singing her song  
All the little birdies on Jaybird Street  
Love to hear the robin go tweet tweet tweet

Rockin' robin, tweet tweet tweet  
Rockin' robin' tweet tweetly tweet  
Blow rockin' robin  
'Cause we're really gonna rock tonight



### Service Participants

|              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Officiant    | The Rev. Misty Kiwak Jacobs |
| Crucifer     | Ginny Butler                |
| Remembrance  | Tom Butler                  |
| Readers      | Graham Curtis               |
|              | Liz Prest                   |
|              | Florencia Butler            |
|              | Bennett Curtis              |
|              | Lindsay Curtis              |
| Intercessor  | Carrie Strasburger          |
| Ushers       | Judi & Bob Mansfield        |
| Organist     | Greg Caron                  |
| A.V. Manager | Sharon Steele               |

*Hymns are from The Hymnal 1982, unless otherwise noted, and reprinted under the Riteseries License. Podcast/Streaming License #A- 726319 OneLicense.net Worship materials come from the Book of Common Prayer unless otherwise noted. The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA and used by permission. The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Sourced from The Lectionary Page: <http://lectionarypage.net>*

*Please join the family after the service in Tubbs Hall for a reception.  
Thank you to Sheila O'Grady for organizing the reception.*



**My Grandma's Hands, n.d.**

My grandma's hands are soft and warm,  
They hold me close through every storm.  
They knead the dough and stir the pot,  
And find the itches I forgot.

My grandma's lap is just my size,  
For stories full of dragon skies.  
She reads them slow, she reads them twice,  
And always makes the bad guys nice.

My grandma's garden grows so tall,  
With sunflowers leaning on the wall.  
She lets me dig and splash and play,  
And never minds my muddy day.

My grandma's eyes are crinkly-bright,  
They twinkle when she hugs me tight.  
And though her hair is silver-gray,  
She's young at heart in every way.

So when I'm grown and big and strong,  
I'll sing my grandma's bedtime song.  
I'll keep her love inside of me,  
As big and deep as any sea.